

## Stonehill College - Solar Farm

**"The solar field is an extension of Stonehill's Catholic commitment to care for creation and sustainability. It gives further indication of our commitment, on every level, to preserving the resources that are in our care for future generations."**

— Rev. James Lies, C.S.C., Stonehill's VP for Mission



### Fast Facts:

**Location:** Easton, MA

**System Owners:** Marina Energy, Solect Energy

**System Sizes:** 2.7 MW, 52 kW, 87 kW, 257 kW

**Number of Panels:** 9,132 panels

**Technical Details:** Pole-mounted array using ET Solar panels, Schletter, Inc. mounting hardware, and inverters from Solectria Renewables.

### Client Overview

Stonehill College is a private, four-year college hosting approximately 2,500 students. The college is located on 375 acres in Easton, MA. Stonehill has a history of environmentally friendly projects, including its Stonehill Goes Green initiative that includes single-stream recycling, composting, retrofitting buildings with motion sensors and energy-efficient lighting, and water conservation efforts. The college's Freshmen Green Kits also encourage incoming students to adopt a more sustainable lifestyle.



### Challenge

Stonehill knew it could cut its electricity costs dramatically by implementing a solar energy solution, but as a non-profit, Stonehill is ineligible for the state and federal incentives available to many businesses in Massachusetts.

### Solution

Stonehill partnered with Solect and Marina Energy, LLC, to deploy a 3.1 MW solar energy solution (totaling four systems) on its campus. Stonehill struck a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Marina Energy for the solar field and Solect Energy for the pole barns, under which Marina & Solect own the systems and sells the energy produced to Stonehill at a highly reduced rate.

### Results

The four solar PV systems installed at Stonehill College are expected to cover 24% of the college's electricity use. The project is one of the largest undertaken on a college campus in New England. Overall, the college is **expected to save more than \$3.2 million in electricity costs over the course of the 15-year PPA.**