

# Environmental Benefits of Clean Energy

Clean energy promotes a **cleaner, more sustainable future for our planet** by mitigating the environmental and public health impacts of fossil fuel power plants. Our nation awaits the continued **powerful, diverse benefits for all.**



## Improves Air Quality

Clean energy reduces reliance on fossil fuels and **prevents harmful toxins from being released into our air and water**, helping to mitigate widespread environmental and health concerns.



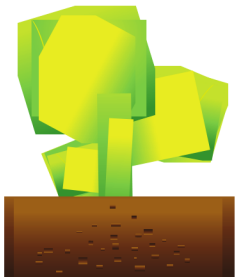
## Saves Water

Unlike coal and natural gas power plants, clean energy does not require large amounts of water for cooling. In 2023 alone, clean energy helped **save more than 228 billion gallons of water!**<sup>2</sup>



## Reduces Carbon Emissions

Clean energy has helped avoid more than **467 MILLION metric tons of carbon emissions** from fossil power plants in the U.S. That is the same as taking more than **101.6 MILLION cars off the road.**<sup>2</sup>



## Improves Soil Health

Solar panels provide shade that reduces soil temperature and water evaporation rates, **improving moisture retention and reducing erosion.**<sup>1</sup> Wind turbines increase air flow around the soil, **drawing out carbon dioxide that crops use for photosynthesis.**<sup>3</sup>

| Address  | Office       | Web                   | Date      |
|--|--------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| 570 Asbury Street, Suite 201, St. Paul, MN 55104 | 651.644.3400 | CleanGridAlliance.org | 4/24/2024 |

1. "Photovoltaics & Farmland: How Solar Power Enhances Rural Ecosystems." ACP, American Clean Power Association, Feb. 2023, [https://cleanpower.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/ACP\\_Solar\\_and\\_Farmland.pdf](https://cleanpower.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/ACP_Solar_and_Farmland.pdf).

2. "Renewable Energy State-by-State Fact Sheets." ACP, American Clean Power Association, 16 Feb. 2023, <https://cleanpower.org/facts/state-fact-sheets/>.

3. Takle, Gene. "Wind Farms Impact Crops." AgUpdate, 1 Apr. 2018, [https://www.agupdate.com/agriview/news/crop/wind-farms-impact-crops/article\\_bb057e6c-e58b-5990-b4d5-62640803121f.html](https://www.agupdate.com/agriview/news/crop/wind-farms-impact-crops/article_bb057e6c-e58b-5990-b4d5-62640803121f.html).