

For Immediate Release

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*High-res photos available upon request

Energy Efficient Solar Panels to Power Kreider Farms' Chicken Houses

The \$2 million, environmentally friendly project honors Earth Day, April 22nd

MANHEIM, Pa. – (April 21, 2014) – Committed to establishing earth-friendly farm practices for future generations, Lancaster County's Kreider Farms is launching a solar power project that will increase energy efficiency for its four Manheim chicken houses, which are the most state-of-the-art egg processing facilities available in the United States. Set to begin this month in conjunction with Earth Day on April 22nd, the \$2 million project is slated to be complete by mid-summer.

Kreider Farms has partnered with MBC Development of Schuylkill Haven and A1 Energy of Manheim, to install solar panels onto the roofs of its four chicken houses. The chicken houses, each of which measures about the size of a football field, will utilize 100 percent of the power from the solar panels for its needs, which encompass everything from fans and conveyors to lighting.

"This project is just the latest example of how Kreider Farms make 'green' technologies an important part of our operations," said Ron Kreider, president and CEO, and third-generation family leader of Kreider Farms. "Over the years, we've invested millions of dollars into eco-friendly, high-tech facilities in an effort to improve the quality of our products and reduce our environmental footprint, which helps to preserve farmland."

"The solar panels will generate almost a megawatt of usable energy. That's enough to power approximately 100 residential homes," said Jim Miller, president of MBC Development. "Solar panels are evolving and these new models are approximately 15 percent more efficient than ones we installed 3 years ago – a significant increase."

Kreider Farms distributes farm fresh dairy products to retailers and wholesalers from Virginia to New England. Egg varieties include white, brown, organic and cage-free.

About Kreider Farms

Founded in 1935, Kreider Farms is one of Pennsylvania's largest dairy farms, supplying fresh, high-quality eggs, milk, drinks and premium batch-churned ice cream. Headquartered in Manheim, Pa., this third-generation, family-owned and operated company includes more than 2,500 acres for its egg-laying chickens and cows, as well as a milk bottling and ice cream plant. Kreider Farms' mission is to achieve excellence in delivering low-cost, high-quality products; to be good neighbors and stewards of the land; and to operate clean, efficient and state-of-the-art facilities. Kreider Farms offers farm tours as part of its effort to educate the public about sustainable farming. For more information, please visit www.kreiderfarms.com or [Facebook.com/kreiderfarms](https://www.facebook.com/kreiderfarms).

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