

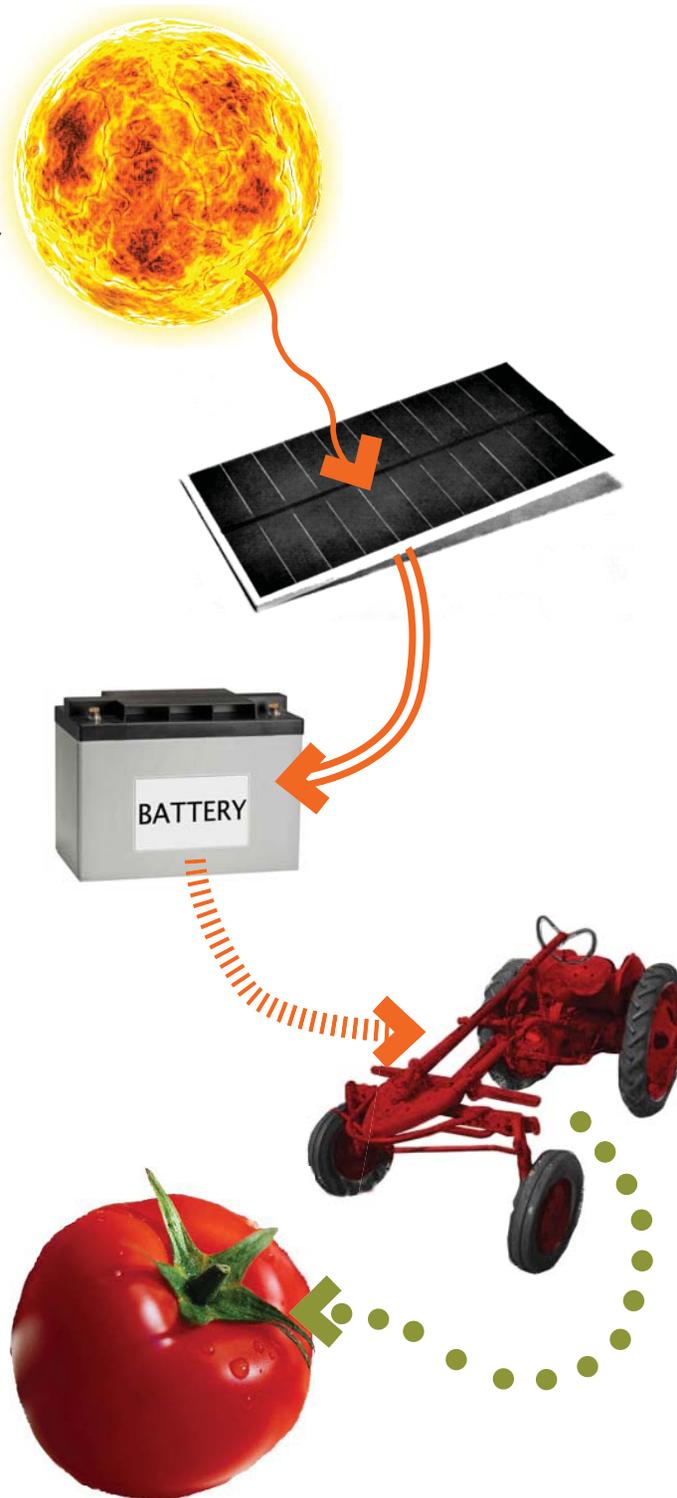
## The Community Farm of Ann Arbor's Solar Powered Tractor

At the Community Farm of Ann Arbor, we're taking small steps toward reducing our dependency on non-renewable energy sources. Our first project is the Solar Powered Tractor.

The focus of this project is the conversion of a gasoline-powered Allis-Chalmers "G" Cultivating Tractor into an electric one, with the tractor's battery recharged by Photovoltaic panels. The "G" is a unique tractor, because its engine is located in the back of the vehicle which makes it very easy to take apart and modify. Not manufactured since 1955, our "G" is getting a new lease on life with an electric motor and battery system that replaces the engine and gas tank.

We want to share our experiences and acquired knowledge with others in order to help make renewable energy mainstream. Do come by the Farm to see the project! Kindly call first (734-433-0261); we want to make sure we'll be available to show you around.

See you on the Farm!!!



### Conversion Process:

1. Remove the gas tank, engine, and original battery box from the tractor.
2. Install the electric motor and attach it to motor plate and pulley system.
3. Install the new larger battery box, batteries, battery cables, controller and contactor (a contactor is just a big switch).
4. Mount the solar panels, a charge controller, and a fused DC "on/off" switch to frame and place it in an appropriate location.

When not being used to charge the tractor batteries, the Photovoltaic panels can be used to charge other equipment, including batteries to run lights in the buildings, operate an electric fence, charge portable power tools, etc.

For more information please see:  
[www.communityfarmofaa.org](http://www.communityfarmofaa.org)  
or call: (734) 433-0261

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**Funding Information:**

The CFAA's Solar Powered Tractor was funded by a Michigan Energy Office's Community Energy Project Grant.

Additionally, countless hours of volunteer time (and extra needed funds) were donated by many of the Farm's renewable energy enthusiasts.

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The Community Farm of Ann Arbor's



**Solar Powered Tractor**

