

**BUSHNELL TOWNSHIP**  
**MONTCALM COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION AND SYNOPSIS OF ORDINANCE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS GIVEN that at a regular meeting held on July 12, 2022, the Township Board for the Township of Bushnell adopted Ordinance No. 071222 entitled:

**AN ORDINANCE REGULATING SOLAR FARMS THROUGHOUT  
BUSHNELL TOWNSHIP.**

THE EFFECT OF ORDINANCE NO. 071222 IS SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Title. This Ordinance may be cited as the Bushnell Township Solar Farm Ordinance.

Section 2. Purpose. The purpose of this Ordinance is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the Township; provide for the safe, effective, efficient, and orderly operation of solar farms within the Township; protect and preserve historic agricultural and recreational activities within the Township; protect and preserve the Township's environmental and ecological assets, wetlands, and other ecological and environmentally sensitive areas; protect and preserve the open spaces, views, and rural aesthetics of the Township; and to provide regulations that balance the often-competing interests of property owners, their neighbors, and the community.

Section 3. Definitions. Provides definitions to be used throughout the Ordinance.

Section 4. Solar Farms. Prohibits solar farms without a Township permit.

Section 5. Permit Application. Sets forth the Township permit application process.

Section 6. Permitting Process. Sets forth the Township permit approval process and requires a public hearing prior to the approval of any Township permit.

Section 7. Site Plan Modifications. Sets forth the approval authority for minor and major modifications to an approved site plan.

Section 8. Solar Farm Requirements. Imposes requirements on solar farms regarding height; minimum parcel size; buffering; greenbelt screening; lighting; glare; fencing; noise pressure level; location of collection lines, wires, conduits, cables, transmission lines, and gen-tie lines; knock boxes; governmental permits; compliance with other laws; planting; drain tile; and catastrophic event notification.

Section 9. Escrow Account. Sets forth the requirements regarding the Township permit application escrow.

Section 10. Decommissioning Financial Security. Sets forth solar farm decommissioning financial security requirements.

Section 11. Insurance Requirements. Sets forth Township permit holder insurance requirements.

Section 12. Decommissioning. Sets forth solar farm decommissioning requirements.

Section 13. Joint and Several Liability. Provides that the Township permit holder and landowner are jointly and severally liable and responsible for ensuring compliance with this Ordinance and that either party may be cited and held responsible for a violation of this Ordinance.

Section 14. Violation and Penalty. Provides that violation of this Ordinance constitutes a municipal civil infraction punishable by a fine of not less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) and not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) in addition to costs of prosecution and any other costs permitted at law; that each day during which any violation continues is deemed a separate offense; that a violation of this Ordinance is declared to be a nuisance per se subject to abatement; and that the Township may pursue other remedies available at law or equity.

Section 15. Enforcement. Provides that the Montcalm County Sherriff's Department, the Michigan State Police, the Township Ordinance Enforcement Officer, and any other individual or entity designated by resolution of the Township Board are authorized to enforce this Ordinance and that any individual or entity authorized to enforce this Ordinance may enter onto the solar farm and conduct an inspection of the solar farm in order to ensure compliance with this Ordinance.

Section 16. Conflict. Provides that nothing in this Ordinance will conflict with other Township ordinances, except as otherwise stated, and nothing in this Ordinance will conflict with the laws of the State of Michigan.

Section 17. Repealer. Repeals all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance to the extent of any such conflict.

Section 18. Savings Clause. Provides that provisions of the Ordinance are severable, and if one provision is declared void it will not affect the remainder of the Ordinance.

Section 19. Effective Date. States that this Ordinance is effective upon the expiration of the 30th day following its publication in the manner required by law.

THIS ORDINANCE WILL BE EFFECTIVE THROUGHOUT BUSHNELL TOWNSHIP

A TRUE AND COMPLETE COPY OF THIS ORDINANCE MAY BE OBTAINED, INSPECTED, COPIED, OR REVIEWED AT THE TOWNSHIP CLERK'S OFFICE AS FOLLOWS:

Location: 2983 East Boyer Road Fenwick, Michigan 48834  
Hours of operation: By appointment  
Contact information: (989) 248-3349 or  
[bushnelltwpclerk@cmsinter.net](mailto:bushnelltwpclerk@cmsinter.net)

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Louise Belyou  
Township Clerk