Northwest Hazelnut Company is one of the largest processors and marketers of hazelnuts in North America and has been in business for over 30 years. In fact, the state of Oregon produces 99 percent of the country's hazelnut crop, and makes up 4 percent of the market worldwide. Powering a processing plant that needs to keep up with this high demand is a big expense. The facility’s high energy consumption, coupled with the appeal of customers to purchase products from sustainable organizations, spurred Northwest Hazelnut’s decision to go solar.

Earthlight Technologies, a SunPower Commercial Dealer, completed the installation of a 435-kilowatt high efficiency solar power system at their Hubbard facility in July. The system is expected to save Northwest Hazelnut more than $1.6 Million over the next 25 years in utility costs, about $60,000 per year. With the energy savings and government incentives the solar panel system is estimated to offer a payback within five years.
Lone Oak Farms

Salem, OR - Lone Oak Farms is a grass seed production farm located in the Silverton Hills. Running multiple seed cleaning facilities throughout the summer runs up their electrical bill. Earthlight designed a three-sided pole structure that fits enough solar panels to eliminate the farm’s electric bill and doubles as a storage shelter. This project received maximum tax rebates and a $38,000 USDA Grant.

Kuenzi Turf & Nursery

Salem, OR - Myron Kuenzi, owner of Kuenzi Turf & Nursery wanted to maximize his return on solar and was able to qualify for all available incentives. With large coolers, lighting and irrigation wells on the site, there is a large demand for power equaling an expensive bill. Thankfully, the solar is calculated to reduce the load by 93% annually. This nursery applied for and received a $50,000 USDA Grant!