# What Homeowners Should Know

When installing solar or powering a detached structure (like a garage or shed), we may need to run electrical lines between buildings. There are two safe and common options:

## YOUR INSTALLATION OPTIONS

| Trenching (Underground) | Aerial Wiring (Overhead) |
|---|---|
| • Wiring is buried below ground<br>• Less visible after installation<br>• Involves digging and restoring the area | • Wiring runs through the air between structures<br>• Faster installation with minimal disruption<br>• Visible but neatly installed |
| **Best for:**<br>• Grass or dirt areas<br>• Homeowners who prefer a clean, hidden look | **Best for:**<br>• Avoiding disruption to driveways, concrete, or obstacles<br>• Avoiding digging |

## WHY THIS MAY BE NEEDED

We use trenching or aerial wiring when:

- A detached structure doesn't have sufficient power
- Existing wiring isn't safe or up to code
- Current conduit or pathways can't be reused

## WHAT TO EXPECT

### If Trenching Is Used

- Utility lines are marked before digging
- Trench is typically 18–24 inches deep
- Trench path is determined by shortest path while taking into consideration obstructions and landscaping
- Trench is typically backfilled once install is complete, unless township requires an open trench for inspections
- If left open, we will set up a safety zone around the trench
- Yard is restored as reasonably as possible

**Note: Some minor landscape changes may occur. We cannot guarantee grass seed will take.**

### If Aerial Is Used

- Wires are installed overhead (at least 12 ft from grade)
- A support mast may be added for proper clearance
- Typically completed faster than trenching

## CAN THIS BE AVOIDED?

Sometimes! We always check if we can:

- Use existing wiring or conduit
- Tie into an existing panel
- Reuse a previous trench

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