



## Fact Sheet

The Rural Renaissance Roadshow  
October 25-27, 2023  
Bentonville, Arkansas  
<https://ruralrenaissance.com>

### Who should attend?

Rural cooperative, county and municipal, and civic leaders who want to use clean energy, EVs, energy efficiency, resilience, and regenerative agriculture to build thriving local futures and are looking for project ideas, partners, and community connections.

### Program Highlights

- Opening celebration at Crystal Bridges, Bentonville's renowned museum, featuring local music and a farm-to-table dinner.
- Presentations and book signing from Island Press authors including Liz Carlisle, author of *Healing Grounds: Climate, Justice, and the Deep Roots of Regenerative Farming*.
- Sixteen educational sessions with topics including agrivoltaics, energy efficiency and rural housing equity, building rural resilience, and connecting corporate clean energy purchases with rural economic opportunity.
- Technical support and funding-focused project development sessions with partners including The Milken Institute's Community Infrastructure Center.
- "Taste of Bentonville" group dinners and a gospel breakfast celebrating rural leadership.

### Select Speakers

- **Dr. Greg Barron-Gafford**, Professor of Food, Energy, and Water Resilience Solutions at the University of Arizona and a global leader in agrivoltaics.
- **Keith Dennis**, President of the Beneficial Electrification League, which serves rural electric cooperatives with programs and technical support, including help applying for Inflation Reduction Act funding.
- **Josh Ewing**, Director of the Rural Climate Partnership, which serves small towns and rural communities with grantmaking and technical support to spur sustainable job development.
- **Adaora Ifebigh**, Senior Director of Impact at Sol Systems LLC, a visionary leader in connecting renewable energy projects directly with local community benefits.
- **Bill Inman**, Vice President of Member and Strategic Services, Aiken Electric Cooperative.
- **Autumn Long**, Director, Appalachian Solar Finance Fund, a regional financial and technical assistance provider.