



# How to Set Up Off-Grid Living in Costilla County, CO

A Practical Guide by EM LAND ONLINE

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## Living Off the Grid – Your Way

At EM LAND, we help people like you build a life of freedom, independence, and deep connection to nature. Many of our properties in Costilla County, Colorado are ideal for off-grid living — offering the perfect setting for a homestead, RV life, or sustainable retreat. Here's what you need to know to get started:

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### 1. Water Access ●

There is **no city water hookup** on these properties — which gives you full control over how you want to source and manage water.

**Common options include:**

- **Drilling a private well** – Costs vary but typically range from \$5,000–\$15,000 depending on depth and contractor.
- **Cistern system** – Large tanks filled by water delivery or rainwater collection.
- **Water hauling** – Available locally, often used with a 1,000–2,500 gallon tank.

☐ **Good to know:** The land is in a well-drained area, **not in a flood zone**, and suitable for installing any of these systems.

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### 2. Power Supply ⚡

Costilla County is a popular place for solar setups thanks to its sunny climate.

**Off-grid power options include:**

- **Solar panels with battery storage** – Quiet, efficient, and sustainable.
- **Generators** – Often used as backup power.
- **Wind turbines** – Less common, but possible depending on location.



□ **Tip:** Many landowners start small with a portable solar system, then scale up as needed.

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### 3. Waste & Septic Systems ♻️

There's no public sewage, so waste management is handled privately — and the county provides clear guidelines.

#### Popular options:

- **Septic system** – Standard for cabins and permanent homes. Requires a permit and professional installation.
  - **Composting toilets** – Great for RVs or eco-conscious setups.
  - **Holding tanks** – Often used temporarily during construction or RV stays.
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#### Bonus: Community & Access

Although these properties feel remote, they're located **near other developed parcels**, making setup easier and giving you a sense of community — without losing your privacy.

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#### Final Thoughts

Building off the grid is a rewarding journey — and in Costilla County, the process is friendly to homesteaders and RV dwellers alike. Whether you're looking to start fresh, travel more, or build a legacy for your family, we're here to help you make that dream a reality.

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#### Want help planning your setup?

We're happy to share resources, connect you with local contractors, and walk you through the first steps.

Best regards,  
Efrat Meiri