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Tool lending library grows!

In September 2010, SCEIP launched its Tool Lending Library (TLL), the first of its kind in Sonoma County. It was created to assist those participating in the green energy occupation training program. Individuals entering into these specialty energy occupations need to have the tools and equipment necessary to perform the work. A complete set of necessary equipment can cost upwards of \$15,000.



The TLL loans energy testing tools free of charge to qualified Sonoma County professionals. We also provide advice and application notes for some of the tools. The tools in the library are used primarily on residential projects, although some tools are utilized for both residential and commercial. Others are specific to a commercial application. These tools are only made available to qualified Sonoma County home performance professionals, energy analysts, raters and specialty contractors. The tools focus primarily on promoting the performance and efficiency of existing energy systems.

In late 2011, SCEIP received additional grant funds to purchase more tools for the library. We now provide more specialized tools and equipment for residential as well as for commercial energy analyses. These new tools can be seen on the [TLL webpage](#) and are now available for loan.

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Also this month

Important Dates

Holiday closures: January 16th – Martin Luther King Day; February 13 – Lincoln's Birthday; February 20 – Presidents' Day

Non-residential project disbursement deadline: January 24th, 4:00pm

Contractor Conference: January 20th 7:30am - 3:00pm at Wells Fargo Center for the Arts

FHFA to begin rulemaking for PACE financing

According to Sonoma County Counsel, the Ninth Circuit ruled December 21, 2011 denying FHFA's request to stay the beginning of notice and comment rulemaking until after the appeal of the preliminary injunction. This means that an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking should be issued by the agency on or around January 20th, and we all will have 60 days to comment. The Court did grant the stay of any issuance of a final rule until after the appeal is concluded.



The SCEIP website now hosts "[Resources for Municipalities](#)," a landing page that provides resources specifically for agencies, organizations, policy-makers and community leaders interested in Property-Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs and policies. Visit this page to access a document library of sample program documents, a "how-to" replication manual, archived presentations and other resources. Although still under development, content will be added weekly with a construction completion date of March 31, 2012. The page is located under the "Resources" tab on the home page.



January Municipal Webinar

- On Wednesday, January 18, 2012 at 11:00 am PST, SCEIP and PACENow will host a webinar, "Marketing PACE to the Commercial Sector." David Hodgins of LA County and Richard Chien of San Francisco County will share their experiences and lessons learned from the implementation of commercial PACE programs in their jurisdictions.
- Registration will begin January 9th. Contact Sheila Berger at sheila.berger@sonoma-county.org or (707) 565-6470 for information.

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Energy efficiency is good for your health

Sealing ducts and air leaks helps prevent known triggers for asthma (mold and dust mites) and other medical conditions from contaminating the air in your home. The diagnosis of asthma in the U.S. has more than doubled since 1980 and represents a major cost, as well as a cause of missed work and school. In some cases, eliminating just one asthma-induced visit to the emergency room can pay for the energy efficiency measures. Many of our homes act like giant Petri dishes, creating ideal conditions for mold growth, with an HVAC system that acts as a dispersion system for contaminants. Efforts to manage the humidity levels of the home, as well as air leakage points, reduce the likelihood of spreading contaminants.



Sonoma County homeowners can get up to 100% rebated on a home energy analysis, which will show you all the ways you can make your home healthier and more comfortable, while saving money and energy. Contact SCEIP at sceip@sonoma-county.org or (707) 565-6470 to find out more.

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Contractors' Corner

PACE Financing and Energy Upgrade California Contractor

Conference

Friday, January 20, 2012 at Wells Fargo Center for the Arts, 50 Mark West Springs Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95403

7:30 a.m. to noon - Conference and Roundtable

1:00 to 3:00 p.m. - Optional Contractor Resource Workshops



Breakfast and lunch will be provided

Sponsored by Pacific Gas & Electric and the California Energy Commission

Who should attend

- Sonoma County raters and contractors providing services in energy efficiency, water conservation, and renewable energy generation

Purpose of the roundtable:

- The California Energy Commission invites you to participate in roundtable discussions and recommendations about PACE Financing and Energy Upgrade California -- and how to strengthen the government/business collaboration.
- To provide you and your crew with the resources and support you need to take advantage of PACE Financing and Energy Upgrade opportunities through SCEIP, and to help grow your business.
- To provide "on the ground" feedback to the California Energy Commission about what motivates property owners to move ahead with efficiency and renewable projects and what prevents them from doing so.
- This event is generously underwritten by Pacific Gas & Electric and the California Energy Commission which helps us offer it to you and another representative from your company AT NO CHARGE!

Bring your good ideas and an open mind to join in on a candid discussion. Watch for your official "evite" coming to your inbox soon and reserve your spot by the RSVP date! For more information: Contact SCEIP at (707) 565-6470 or sceip@sonoma-county.org

Trainings

Keep up to date with training opportunities by visiting the [Training Resources](#) webpage on our website.

Energy Analysis Rebates

Home energy analyses must be completed and all paperwork and invoicing turned in to SCEIP no later than close of business Friday, March 30th to qualify for the 100% rebate.

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