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## Also this month

**Upcoming Events - July & August 2011** 

20 July 2011 Pathways to Clean Energy

27 July 2011 - 14 August 2011

SCEIP Booth (131) in Grace Pavilion at Sonoma County Fair.

11 August 2011 7:30-9:30 am

"Scaling Up Renewable Energy in Sonoma County" <u>Business for</u> <u>Clean Energy Breakfast</u>

**12 August 2011** Contractor Forum

24 August 2011

Pathways to Clean Energy

WEDNESDAY 20, JULY 2011

## SCEIP Program Enhancements as of July 1st



## 10% Efficiency Requirement

Beginning July 1, 2011, if you wish to make improvements to your property that include

renewables (i.e. solar panels) and you will be financing through SCEIP, you will be required to reduce your energy use by 10% prior to being able to install renewables. You may choose either the "basic" or "advanced" Energy Upgrade California path to achieve the 10% reduction. We will be providing Energy Analysis Rebates to help you determine where to start. More information will follow on our website, but you may wish to visit Energy Upgrade California for information on rebates and incentives available.

### Elimination of five-year term

As a result of minimal use and to improve administrative efficiency, the 5-year term bonds were discontinued July 1, 2011. Bonds for 10 and 20 years are currently available.

#### Local Bid Requirement

To promote the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors' goal of enhancing job developement, SCEIP has a local bid requirement as of July 1, 2011. If first bid is from out of the area contractor, a second bid from a local contractor will be required. This requires the Participating Contractor to comply with the terms of SCEIP operations. See guidelines.

### **Contractor Standards of Conduct**

In the interest of consumer protection, a <u>Standard of Conduct</u> has been developed and is required for all contractors doing work which is financed by SCEIP.

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## Rebates Available for Energy Analyses



The first step toward making your home more energy efficient and comfortable is finding out how well your house is performing - the good and the bad. An Energy Analysis is a science-based approach to finding where your home may be leaking energy and money.

#### A <u>Home Energy Analysis</u>:

- Provides a customized evaluation of your home's energy use
- Uses cutting edge technologies
- Identifies specific opportunities to stop wasting energy
- Qualifies for up to \$750 in rebates available now

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## Visit SCEIP at the Sonoma County Fair



Come to this year's Sonoma County Fair from July 27 through August 14. Visit the SCEIP booth (#131) in the Grace Pavilion. We will have loads of information on Energy Upgrade California, cool giveaways, and the amazing House of

Pressure! Stop by at noon, 2pm and 4pm daily for demonstrations. See you there!

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## Santa Rosa Energy Workshops



## July 20th and Aug. 24th - <u>Pathways to Clean</u> Energy

Located within the Santa Rosa Downtown Market from 5-8:30pm. Solar and efficiency vendors will be on hand to discuss projects for Sonoma County homeowners.

#### August 10th - Clean Energy Series

Residential PG&E rebates – Come learn about available rebates to make your home more energy efficient!

More information for these events can be found on the Clean Energy Advocates website <a href="http://www.srcity.org/cea">http://www.srcity.org/cea</a>

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## Easy Summertime Energy Saving Tips

## Turn up your thermostat



Set your thermostat to 78 degrees when you are home and 85 degrees or off when you are away. Using ceiling or room fans allows you

to set the thermostat higher because the air movement will cool the room. Always take into account health considerations and be sure to drink plenty of fluids in warm weather. (Save 1% - 3% percent energy per degree, for each degree the thermostat is set above 72 degrees)

## Be a speedy chef

Nothing is more energy efficient for cooking than your microwave. It uses two-thirds less energy than your stove.

## Push a button to wash your dishes

Surprise! Your dishwasher uses less water than washing dishes by hand. Then let dishes air-dry to save even more!

## Fill up the fridge

Having lots of food in your fridge keeps it from warming up too fast when the door is open. So your fridge doesn't have to work as hard to stay cool.

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## Do You Want to Join Climate Corps Bay Area?



SCEIP, in partnership with Energy Upgrade California (EUC), is partnering with Climate Corps Bay Area for 2011-12 and looking for interested candidates who want to become a Climate Corps Bay Area

Member with SCEIP and EUC to take on the role of GHG Analyst. This Member will serve with our organization as an AmeriCorps volunteer for 10 months. The role of our Climate Corps Bay Area member will be to collect and evaluate the home energy consumption analysis data of SCEIP participants using EnergyPro software to determine energy savings and greenhouse gas emission reductions. This member will also assist with the marketing, education and outreach of Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs in Sonoma and Marin Counties.

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## Watch the New Energy Upgrade California Video



California homeowners Shirley and Mark Brewer have decided to upgrade their home through EnergyUpgradeCA.org. Energy Upgrade California is the one-stop-shop for

home improvement projects that lower your energy use, conserve water and natural resources, and make your

# Sonoma County Businesses Leading the Way in Solar & Energy Efficiency



What do an asphalt plant, a college and a goat-cheese maker have in common? All were among 10 Sonoma County businesses recognized for their unique use of solar and their energy-efficiency measures. PG&E and the organization

Solar Sonoma County honored the businesses on June 28 at the Solar Leaders Circle, an awards celebration for leadership in sustainable business practices and their contribution to solar and carbon offsets. The event was co-sponsored by SCEIP and was held at Paradise Ridge Winery in Santa Rosa. "The point of the awards is to highlight different businesses from different industries and show the wonderful work they're doing to reduce their carbon footprint," said PG&E spokeswoman Brandi Ehlers. "These businesses are on the leading edge of solar technology."

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