



Save energy. Save money. Live comfortably. Go green.

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New Energy Assessment Rebate for Home Upgrades in Sonoma!

Beginning July 1, 2013, If your project involves participating in the Energy Upgrade California Advanced Home Upgrade, you are eligible to receive an additional \$300 assessment rebate through the Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN). These assessment rebates will be available through December 2014.



Advanced Home

Upgrade: The existing Energy Upgrade California - Advanced Path will remain the same but will include an additional \$300 assessment rebate for homeowners who complete the full upgrade. Rebates from PG&E will still range from \$1,000 - \$4,500. If the homeowner chooses, the assessment rebate can be paid directly to the contractor.

In addition, there is also the **California Statewide Home Energy Rating Incentive Program:** Sonoma County home owners that have completed an Energy Upgrade California project financed through PACE are eligible to apply for a Home Energy Rating incentive. Incentives of \$400 are available from the California Center for Sustainable Energy (CCSE) and the California Energy Commission (CEC) to offset the cost of a HERS II Home Energy Rating. Click [here](#) to learn more.

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Also this month

Greentivities!

Date: July 25 through August 11

Location: Sonoma County Fairgrounds

Energy Independence Program Monthly Contractors' Forum

Date: Wednesday, July 17, 2013

Time: 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Location: 2300 County Center Drive, Suite A212 (La Plaza Building A, upstairs conference room), Santa Rosa,

Energy Upgrade California Sonoma Flex Pilot Extended to July 31st

Due to on-going interest and the Regional Climate Protection Authority's (RCPA) goal to provide homeowners with continued access to these

California

Energy Upgrade CA Program Participation Workshop

Date: Tuesday, 16, 2013
Time: 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Location: Online

PG&E Online Course: Consumer Protection - Before and After Purchasing a Solar PV System

Date: Tuesday, 30, 2013
Time: 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Location: Online

Click [here](#) to learn more.

incentives, they have extended the Incentive Reservation Applications Deadline to July 31st, 2013 by midnight and the Completion Forms and Supporting Documents Deadline to August 31st, 2013 by midnight.



All projects must be completed with post-upgrade completion forms and supporting documentation received by August 31st. If you are unable to complete your project by August 31st or you do not submit a complete project, they will not be able to award an incentive to your project and you will be required to re-apply to the Home Upgrade Incentive program taking into account any new program requirements. If you have a project in the pipeline and are concerned you will not be able to meet this deadline, please contact the staff at RCPA 707-565-5373.

The Flex Path Pilot is part of Energy Upgrade California.

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Connect with us



Contact Us

2300 County Center Dr., Suite A105
Santa Rosa, California 95403-3009
(707) 565-6470 Phone
(707) 565-6474 Fax
www.sonomacountyenergy.org
sceip@sonoma-county.org

PACENow Releases Annual Report

PACENow, the consensus driven non-profit and national advocate for Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing, released their annual report this month. The report highlights the progress of the broad PACE marketplace; using Sonoma County as a leading example for commercial and residential projects.



According to the report, PACE programs are now available in 30 states, accounting for 80% of the nation! The Santa Rosa Plaza was the first large-scale commercial project in California, funded through the Sonoma County Energy Independence Program. With an assessment of \$463,411.00, the 699,000 square foot Plaza installed a Cool Roof to reduce energy costs, decrease their carbon footprint and responsibly create jobs.

Click [here](#) to view the full report or visit the website at www.pacenow.org

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Miscellaneous Energy Loads Eat \$70 Billion of U.S. Energy Annually

The American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE) recently published a report analyzing energy usage of outdated devices and equipment that are commonly found in US homes and businesses. Old TV's, computers, scanners, ceiling fans, elevators, etc., use approximately 7.8



quadrillion Btus each year, accounting for more energy used in Mexico, Australia, New Zealand and 200 other countries! These devices, that do not fit into traditional energy-use categories such as lighting, HVAC, etc., are known as Miscellaneous Energy Loads (MELs).

The good news is that MELs present a great opportunity for energy-use improvement in the U.S. The ACEEE report on "power-hungry" devices aims to establish standards and recommends approaches to encourage manufactures, utilities, businesses and homeowners to upgrade their products. Click [here](#) to view the report or visit the ACEEE website at www.aceee.org.

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Greentivities: Last Call for Volunteers!

Want to share your passion for sustainable living with others in a fun environment?

The Energy Independence Program is seeking energetic, creative volunteers to assist with the Greentivities event at the Sonoma County Fair this summer. This fun, interactive event is designed to promote and educate on



ways to recycle, reduce, conserve, and live more sustainably. Each volunteer will get a free fair pass & parking for each volunteer day, along with an additional entry pass to share, or use later. Volunteering at Greentivities may also qualify for community service hours.

Volunteers should be 16+ years of age, have good communication skills and enjoy working with people. The fair runs July 25 through August 11 from 11am - 10pm daily. Volunteer shifts are 4 hours. Volunteer orientation will be held July 18th. For more information, contact Anita Adams at anita.adams@sonoma-county.org or 707-565-2160. You can also sign up online by clicking [here](#).

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Contractors' Corner

**Energy Independence Program
Monthly Contractors' Forum** This
Month: Jane Elias will present
prospective changes in the Sonoma
County PACE marketplace.

Date: Wednesday, July 17, 2013
Time: 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Location: 2300 County Center Drive,
Suite A212 (La Plaza Building A,
upstairs conference room), Santa Rosa,
California
***If you arrive after 5 p.m., please
call (707) 565-6470 for entry to
the building.***



**Energy Upgrade CA Program
Participation Workshop**

Date: Tuesday, 16, 2013
Time: 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Location: Online

Description: Find Out How Energy Upgrade California Can Help You Build
Your Business!

As a business owner, you're always looking for new ways to build out your
services and get new clients. Energy Upgrade California can help you do just
that. Your local utility providers are offering attractive rebates to homeowners
who use a participating contractor to install energy efficiency upgrades. These
rebates are for up to \$4,500 per home!

Join us for a free Participation Workshop where you'll learn how to get
involved, gain visibility with homeowners who are looking for contractors
doing the work, and make the most of program rebates and incentives. You'll
learn valuable information about:

- Home performance and Energy Upgrade California
- How to participate in the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) service
territory
- Marketing support and outreach activities
- Contractor and Rater enrollment process and requirements
- Jobs reporting and rebate application
- Field mentoring, quality assurance, and safety

Customer Support
Participant Hotline: 1-866-970-7348
Enrollment: enrollment@builditgreenutility.org
General: info@builditgreenutility.org

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Tips to Save Energy and Money While Keeping Cool This Summer...

Use your windows to block out the heat and let cool air in: During the
day, make sure your windows and blinds are closed to keep the hot air out and
allow for indoor shading. When the air outside is cooler than the air in your

home, open windows to encourage natural ventilation.

Efficiently manage your thermostat: Make sure to set the thermostat to a higher temperature (around 78 degrees F) or turn it off completely when you leave the home. When you are home, try turning the temperature up just a few degrees - even one degree will save energy and money. It is important to remember that setting the thermostat at a lower temperature will not cool your home faster.



Efficiently manage your cooling appliances: It is important to make sure that your AC and other cooling devices are working properly and maintained. It is important to remember to keep appliances that put off heat such as lamps, dryers, dishwashers, etc. away from your cooling appliances. If possible, try not to use these appliances at all during hot days.

Click [here](#) to read more energy saving tips brought to you by the U.S Department of Energy.

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