



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

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Also this month

Home & Garden Show

March 15-17, 2013 at Sonoma County Fairgrounds

FRIDAY 8, MARCH 2013

Energy Independence Program is Moving Next Month!

We're all very excited about our upcoming move to the County of Sonoma's Administrative Center next month. The new location will provide our customers and contractors more convenient access to other County departments such as the County Clerk, Auditor-Controller-Tax Collector, and Permit Department.



The new location, at [2300 County Center Drive, Suite 105A in Santa Rosa](#), will consolidate the County's Energy and Sustainability programs, allowing our partner program, Sonoma County Energy Watch (SCEW), to join us. SCEW is a partnership between Sonoma County and Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) that provides energy efficiency services to local governments, nonprofit organizations and small businesses.

We're planning an Open House for late April or early May, date to be determined. Stay tuned, as you're invited to help us celebrate our new location!

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Connect with us



It's Our Birthday! 4 Years of Energy Independence!

The Energy Independence Program of Sonoma County was launched on March 25, 2009 and will be celebrating four years of operation. The Program provides resources, rebates, incentives, contractors, and financing options to help property owners save energy, save money, and live comfortably.

Contact Us

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(707) 565-6470 Phone
(707) 565-6484 Fax

In the past four years, we have:

- Funded \$60,187,799 in projects
- Financed projects on 1762 residential properties
- Financed projects on 58 commercial properties
- Financed 8.2 MW of Solar PV installations

www.sonomacountyenergy.org
sceip@sonoma-county.org

- Funded local jobs in 86% of financed projects
- Created or retained 732 jobs

Forward to a friend



Know someone who might be interested in the email? Why not [forward this email to a friend](#).

We are very excited to continue supporting Sonoma County in our goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and educate the public on how to accomplish this goal, in addition to creating local jobs and generating revenue for local businesses.



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Sonoma County's 25th Annual Home & Garden Show

Join the Energy Independence Program at this year's [Home & Garden Show](#) held at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds March 15th through March 17th. In addition to home improvement, home decor, gardening, and pools, there are financial, health, recreation and many other exhibitors throughout the fairgrounds.



Come talk to Program staff and participating contractors about your home or business and how to save energy and save money. The Energy Independence Program booth is located in [Grace Pavilion \(#112/113\)](#). Show hours are Friday noon - 7pm, Saturday & Sunday 10am - 6pm. Discounted admission is available [here](#).

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Residential CSI Program Status Update

PG&E has received enough projects in the residential sector of the California Solar Initiative (CSI) to reach the Step 10 megawatt (MW) target. However, due to project cancellations, rebate applications will continue to be accepted until all funds are exhausted. See PG&E's [website](#) for additional details. This will not affect Healdsburg Electric Utility customers where incentives are still available.



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Windsor Efficiency PAYS® Receives National Award

The Windsor Efficiency PAYS® program received national recognition in January for modeling an exceptional efficiency program that saves both energy and water.



The 'Program of Promise' award came from the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy and the Alliance for Water Efficiency. The two organizations collaborated to recognize a total of 12 top programs across the US, Canada and Australia including five exemplary award winners and seven honorable mentions. Windsor Efficiency PAYS® was one of the seven honorable mentions, as was the City of Santa Rosa for its ozone laundry program.

Windsor Efficiency PAYS® offers water and energy upgrades to Windsor homeowners and renters without upfront costs. The PAYS® program works because it allows participants to 'Pay As You Save,'® with no loan and no debt associated with repayment for select upgrades. Possible upgrade measures include high efficiency clothes washers, refrigerators, toilets, hot-water recirculation pumps, showerheads, and drought-resistant landscaping. After installation, participants pay a surcharge on their water bill with the assurance that their estimated savings on combined utility bills (energy and water) will exceed the bi-monthly water surcharge.

Windsor Efficiency PAYS® is mainly focused on single-family home owners. However, renters may also participate, one of the unique aspects of the program. In the first few months of the program, 219 multi-family units installed efficiency upgrades, quickly exceeding the program's goal of 200 multi-family units. The number is expected to exceed 300 units in the next few months. This kind of success is uncommon for efficiency programs across the US.

Interested Windsor residents are encouraged to contact a Windsor Efficiency PAYS® Certification Agent at the Sonoma County Energy Independence Program at (707) 565-6472 or to visit the program web site at www.WindsorEfficiencyPAYS.com.

The Windsor Efficiency PAYS® program is a joint effort of the Town of Windsor, Sonoma County Regional Climate Protection Authority, and the U.S. Department of Energy. Program partners include: Sonoma County Water Agency, Sonoma County Energy Independence Program (SCEIP), Climate Protection Campaign, Bottom Line Utility Solutions, Water Management, Inc., Sonoma Mountain Landscape, Niagara Conservation, Standards of Excellence, and Chilipepper Sales.

Using water bills to implement PAYS® was an idea originated by Climate Protection Campaign technical consultant Ned Orrett while working on Sonoma County's Community Climate Action Plan in 2007. PAYS® is one of three powerful financing tools on which Sonoma County is focusing. SCEIP and Sonoma Clean Power are the other two. More information about this is available at www.coolplan.org.

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Contractors' Corner

**Energy Independence Program
Monthly Contractors' Forum -**

Thursday, March 21st from 4-5:30pm.
At this month's forum, Sheila
Berger will present a short training on
the PACE Financing Online
Application Process.

**Find Out How Energy Upgrade
California Can Help You Build
Your Business!** Free [Webinar](#) -
March 19th from 2 to 5pm

**Modeling Plants & Systems
(Combined High Rise and Low
Rise).** Free multifamily webinar for
Raters and energy consultants.
Wednesday, March 20th from 10:30am
to 12pm. Register [here](#).

Certified Green Building Professional Training - Wednesday, March
20th from 8am to 5pm & Thursday, March 21st from 8am to 5pm. This free
training will be held at 1330 Broadway, 4th Floor, Suite 400
in Oakland. Register [here](#).

Sustainable Napa County is hosting “**Overview of the Commissioning
Process for New and Existing Buildings,**” a free [PG&E class](#) on Friday,
March 22nd from 9:30am to 4:30pm. The class will be taught by Ryan Stroupe
of the Pacific Energy Center at the Board Room at the Gasser Foundation at
433 Soscol Ave., Napa. Refreshments and lunch will be provided for this full
day session.

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