



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

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Windsor's water efficiency program lauded, extended another year by Windsor Town Council

Windsor's innovative water conservation program has been lauded by Town Council members.

By a unanimous vote, the Windsor Town Council agreed to extend the successful water conservation program through June, 2014.

Last year, two Council members voted against the pilot program when it was first implemented. It nevertheless passed 3-2.

Since the program's implementation, Windsor residents are reporting greater water efficiency and conservation, and significantly lower water bills. Low-flow toilets, showerheads, and converting lawns to drought-resistant landscaping are some of the options offered by the program, without any upfront cost.

Homeowners and renters pay for the upgrades over 5 - 15 years with a small surcharge on their bill, thus avoiding upfront costs.

A key selling point of the program is significant savings on a participant's water-sewer, bill guaranteed to outpace monthly surcharges.

More than 300 residential customers have enrolled and are currently saving an average of \$30 per month on their bi-monthly utility bills, and an average of 10,000 gallons annually per household.

For more information, contact Windsor Efficiency Pays® at (707) 565-6472.



Also this month

Our new location...

Feel free to drop by and check out our new offices if you

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didn't have a chance to attend our Open House on May 2nd.

We are now located at 2300 County Center Drive, Suite A105, Santa Rosa, California. Same phone number (707-565-6470); same fax number (707-565-6474), and same website, www.sonomacountyenergy.org.

Attention Healdsburg Property Owners and Contractors!

The City of Healdsburg offers rebates to its electric utility customers for a large number of energy efficiency improvements. Many of these may be used in tandem with PG&E rebates for double savings!



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

Both commercial and residential property owners can receive a free, on-site energy analysis of their building. This no-obligation, no-cost visit by energy professionals will provide a checklist of possible ways the property owner can improve the energy efficiency of the building, thereby saving on utility bills, becoming more comfortable inside, and lowering their carbon footprint.

Rebates are available for many improvements such as residential and commercial lighting and air conditioning and residential appliances, weatherization, pool pumps and electric water heating. Solar PV rebates are also available.

For more information, visit www.ci.healdsburg.ca.us/rebates or call (707) 431-3122.

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Forward to a friend



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

Electronic Bicycle Locker Dedication scheduled for Thursday, May 9th

Join us for the Electronic Bicycle Locker Dedication ceremony on "Bike to Work Day", Thursday, May 9th from 8:30 - 9:00 a.m. near the intersection of Administration Drive and Ventura Avenue at the County Administration Center.



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Also scheduled will be a Gold Resolution presentation recognizing May as "National Bike Month", and proclaiming Thursday, May 9, 2013 as "Bike to Work Day" in Sonoma County.

In addition, Mike Conway will be recognized as the 2013 "County of Sonoma Bike Champion" for his dedication to bike commuting and being an inspiration to fellow employees.

The funding for the electronic bicycle lockers has been provided through grants from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and the

Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

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"Why I retrofitted my home!" Homeowners explain why they upgraded and how they have benefited

Although benefits of home upgrades are well known for saving money, increasing comfort, and doing the right thing, the process is still foreign to many.

A local team of participants in the local Leadership Institute for Ecology and the Economy program, which included Energy

Independence Program staff member Brian Yuen, produced a short video of Sonoma County residents who have gone through the process and talk about it in their own words. You may even recognize some of our home owners who also happen to be local climate protection community leaders.



Watch the video [here](#).

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"Bike to Work Day" after-party scheduled for 5 p.m. Thursday -- Don't miss it!

Join the Climate Protection Campaign, Trek Bicycle Store, and the Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition for



an after-party starting around 5:00 pm at Trek's parking lot on the corner of Mendocino Avenue and 7th Street, downtown Santa Rosa.

The fabulous Hubbub Club will play. Win a bike in the drawing, enjoy a meal from the food trucks, and be in our big group photo (shoot at ~6:00).

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Energizer stations will be ready for "Bike to Work Day" bikers starting at 5 a.m. this Thursday

Thought about biking to work this Thursday?

There is a list of energizer stations -- from Cloverdale to Sonoma -- that await bicyclists on Thursday, some open as early as 5 a.m., as the intrepid pedal their way to the office. Stop to rehydrate, have a snack, or pick

up some cool give aways!

See the 2013 Sonoma County
"Bike to Work



Day"
additional information and a map of all the hosted energizer stations.

[Website](#) for

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Energy Independence Program's May 2nd Open House a success!

Thanks to those who
attended our Open House on
Thursday, May 2nd. It was a
great celebration and a
wonderful way to launch our
new location on County
Center Drive.



Shown to the right are Jose
Obregon, General Services
Director; Supervisor David Rabbitt (2nd District); David Sundstrom, Auditor-
Controller/Treasurer-Tax Collector and SCEIP Program Administrator;
Veronica Ferguson, County Administrator; and Jane Elias, Energy
Independence Program Manager.

Drop on by for a tour of our new offices if you weren't able to come to the Open
House. We look forward to working with you!

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Contractors' Corner

Energy Independence Program Monthly Contractors' Forum --

This Month - A presentation by Sheila Berger, Assistant Program
Coordinator, about SCEIP's website, www.sonomacountyenergy.org, and
upcoming changes that will make it more accessible and user friendly.

Coming in June - Martyn Dodd will provide an update on upcoming
changes to Title 24, Existing Residential, beginning in January 2014. Please
RSVP at sceip@sonoma-county.org, since we expect a full house!

EUC Online Participation Webinar, scheduled for Tuesday, May 21st,
2013, 2 - 5 p.m. For more information call 1-866-970-7348, or to register go

[here](#).

Solar Sonoma County is offering PV Grounding and Bonding training on Tuesday, May 21st in a four-hour course that covers the basic requirements and focusing on the specific installation requirements found in Article 690 or the National Electrical Code® (NEC®). The class is based on the 2011 Edition of the NEC® and will include a preview of the changes made for the 2014 Edition. Registration is free, the class is from 8 a.m. to 12 noon, and a light breakfast and coffee will be provided. For more information and to register go [here](#).



PG&E Commercial Workshop: Financial Analysis of Energy-Efficiency Projects, Thursday, May 30th, 2013, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., at the Sonoma County Water Agency, 404 Aviation Blvd., Suite 200, Santa Rosa, California. Free continental breakfast and lunch provided. To learn more, or to register for free, go [here](#).

Clean Energy Advocate Series, held the 4th Wednesday of every month, 6 - 7 p.m., Solar Sonoma County, Sonoma Mountain Village, 1300 Valley House Drive, Rohnert Park, California. For more information, go [here](#).

2nd Annual EUC Contractor Exchange, is scheduled for Tuesday, June 4, 2013, 7 a.m. - 5 p.m., San Ramon Valley Conference Center, 3301 Crow Canyon Road, San Ramon, California. Registration and networking at 7 a.m., breakout sessions, marketing and social media sessions, with the focus on making your business grow and key concepts for business success. Registration is required and space is limited. To register, go [here](#).

Additional trainings:

- PG&E Energy [Education Classes](#)

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"For us, it was about thermostat wars."

"Now our home is comfortable year-round; it's warm in the winter and surprisingly cool in the summer. Plus, it reduced our energy bills and consumption by over 50%."



- Tiffany and Scott Bagala, Santa Rosa

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2300 County Center Dr., Suite A105, Santa Rosa, California 95403-3009 . ph (707) 565-6470 . fax (707) 565-6474

