

Coming soon to your community:

Energy Retrofits for Homes/Businesses

Lower energy bills, job creation, and climate protection are the win-win-win goals of a new countywide building retrofit/renewables program.

Designed to stimulate the local economy through energy retrofitting, the program will address both economic recovery and greenhouse gas reduction through a one-stop retrofit service for residential and commercial properties that includes:

- Building energy analysis to identify clean energy opportunities,
- Financing package including financing options and rebate/incentive/tax credits, and
- Access to certified contractors who participate in quality-assurance programs.

Accessible

The new retrofit program will provide property owners with an affordable and accessible package of services that integrates building science technology with renewable energy analysis. The program will assist property owners with making sound financial and project decisions that meet their needs. In addition, property owners will be able to hire certified providers to ensure high quality retrofit results.

Science-Based

The retrofit program will deliver market services to support property owner satisfaction using science-based techniques including energy analysis to identify all energy saving opportunities; guidance on optimum sequence of project tasks, known as "loading order;" and monitoring of pre-/post-utility bills to verify energy savings results.

Multiple Benefits

Energy retrofitting offers property owners a variety of benefits:

- Lower utility bills,
- Improved comfort
- Improved indoor air quality
- Improved building durability
- Increased property value
- Local job creation in building and renewables industries
- Economic recovery as retrofit dollars move through the local economy creating more tax revenues and improved cash flow across all business sectors
- Reduced dependence on foreign oil
- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions from homes and businesses.

*Building retrofits
lower energy bills,
create jobs, and
protect the climate.*

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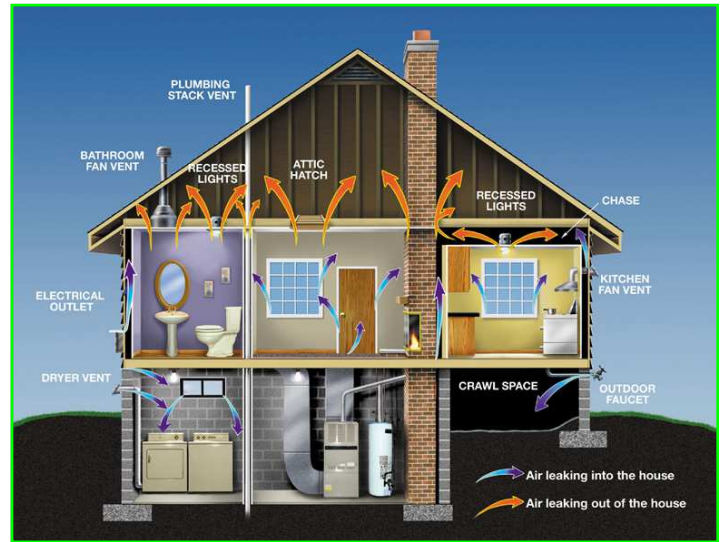
Collaborative

Sonoma County governments, agencies, industry partners, and community groups are collaborating on a comprehensive effort that coordinates local resources for economic recovery and climate protection. Local entities are using existing resources to build a compelling value proposition for Sonoma County property owners. Some of these innovative new resources include the Sonoma County Energy Independence Program, City of Santa Rosa's Sustainable Circle database of local resources, the Sonoma County Energy Action Web site, and the forthcoming Clean Energy Advocate program.

Precedent-Setting

Sonoma County has set a series of regional and national precedents for collaboration and forward-thinking initiatives:

- 2002 — All ten local governments committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions,
- 2003 — Local governments determined emissions baselines for their municipal operations,
- 2004 — Climate Protection Campaign (CPC) determined the total County emissions as a baseline for monitoring GHG reduction progress,
- 2005 — Local governments set a countywide GHG target,
- 2008 — CPC published the *Community Climate Action Plan* (www.coolplan.org),
- 2009 — Local governments established the Sonoma County Regional Climate Protection Authority to coordinate government climate protection efforts,
- 2009 — The County of Sonoma established the first Assembly Bill 811 property-tax assessment financing program called the Sonoma County Energy Independence Program
- 2009 — The County of Sonoma, City of Santa Rosa, City of Rohnert Park, and City of Petaluma collaborate to fund an innovative countywide retrofit/renewables program.



The countywide retrofit program is funded by local governments and coordinated with programs such as the Sonoma County Energy Independence Program and Sonoma County Energy Watch to ensure property owners have the information, services, and financing they need to improve their property's energy performance, and enjoy the benefits of lower energy bills and increased comfort.

The retrofit program is funded by federal economic stimulus money directed by the County of Sonoma and the cities of Santa Rosa, Petaluma, and Rohnert Park to support local economic recovery, job creation, and the Sonoma County GHG reduction target (i.e., 25 percent below 1990 levels by 2015). The program is coordinated by the Sonoma County Regional Climate Protection Authority in conjunction with the Climate Protection Campaign.

The design and implementation of the retrofit program will be developed by a consulting team led by Brian Gitt/Bevilacqua-Knight, Inc. and includes experts from Build It Green, KEMA Services, Inc., Heschong-Mahone Group, Inc., and Davis Energy Group. The design phase will include stakeholder input and collaboration with existing programs; the retrofit program is anticipated to be available to the public in April 2010.

The countywide retrofit/renewables program is underwritten by the County of Sonoma and the cities of Santa Rosa, Rohnert Park, and Petaluma with funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program.

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