

Your Guide to an Energy Efficient Smart Home

San Mateo County Office of Sustainability

Stay enrolled and opt-up to ECO100 with Peninsula Clean Energy. With the default option ECOplus, you're getting cleaner energy at lower rates. Customers can opt up to ECO100 for 100% renewable energy. <https://www.peninsulacleanenergy.com>

Go online and identify energy waste in your home through Home Energy Analytics. You'll learn the areas of potential energy waste and recommended solutions. Want more? Then engage with an energy coach to dig deeper into the data. <https://www.hea.com/smc>

Get a Home Energy Score for your home. Find out how energy efficient your home is compared to other homes and receive cost-effective energy solutions to improve your home's efficiency. <https://betterbuildingsolutioncenter.energy.gov/home-energy-score>

Contact an advisor or find a contractor through the Bay Area Regional Energy Network's Home Upgrade Program. Go over the rebate options, select a contractor, identify a scope of work, or learn about the latest home technologies to improve your home's performance. <https://www.bayrenresidential.org>

Get help funding your project using Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Financing. PACE financing is a long-term financing option that is repaid on your property taxes over a period up to 20 years. If you sell your home before then, the loan payments can be transferred to the new owner. Property owners receive 100% financing of improvement costs for efficiency upgrades, rooftop solar, water conservation measures, and more. <http://www.smcsustainability.org/energy-water/programs/>

Consider installing a Smart Thermostat to maximize the efficiency of your heating & cooling system. A smart thermostat is Wi-fi enabled and can ensure your home is the right temperature for you. https://www.energystar.gov/products/heating_cooling/smart_thermostats

Set your lights to welcome you home with Smart Lighting. Use smart lights with built in sensors which turn lights on only when someone is present in a room and keep them off otherwise. https://www.energystar.gov/products/smart_home_tips/smart_lighting

Propel your family to the future with Smart Appliances. Smart appliances offer you new functionality that can enable added convenience and more energy savings. <https://energy.gov/energysaver/shopping-appliances>
https://www.energystar.gov/products/smart_home_tips/smart_appliances

Check out an Energy & Water Saving Library Toolkit. The toolkit contains supplies and measuring devices that will help you lower your utility bills while saving precious resources. Available to check out at libraries countywide. <http://www.smcsustainability.org/programs>

Go solar or buy an electric vehicle. Get discounts from select vendors through November 15, 2018 from Bay Area Sunshares. <http://www.bayareasunshares.org/>

Use less than \$100 of electricity a month? SunWork, a local non-profit, can make solar power work for you. Get a free solar installation quote. <http://sunwork.org/>





Water Conservation Tips



1. Replace your old toilets and save money with every flush

The City of Burlingame offers a rebate of up to \$100 when you replace your old toilet with a qualifying high efficiency toilet. Eligible toilets must be on the MaP Premium HET list and use less than 1.1 gallons per flush. For program details and application, please visit <http://bayareaconservation.org/rebates/toilets>.



2. Test your toilets for leaks at least once a year.

Toilet leaks can be silent! To test your toilet, put a dye tablet (or food coloring) in the tank. If color appears into the bowl without flushing, then there is a leak.



3. Use a WaterSense® labeled showerhead.

They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month. Need a new showerhead? Check out the Home Energy and Water Saving Toolkit at the Burlingame Public Library for free water conservation devices.



4. Always wash a full load of dishes in your dishwasher.

Dishwashers typically use less water than washing by hand. In the market for a new dishwasher? Buy a certified Energy Star dishwasher to save even more water and energy.



5. When upgrading your clothes washer machine, purchase an Energy Star model.

For a list of certified Energy Star products, visit www.energystar.gov. In the meantime, continue washing clothes in full loads and wash your dark clothes in cold water to help keep your clothes retain their color.



6. Reduce the amount of turf grass in your lawn.

Convert your water-intensive turf lawn into a beautiful, California native garden. The California Department of Water Resources is offering a rebate of up to \$2,000 (while funds last), visit www.SaveOurWaterRebates.com for program rules.



7. Convert your sprinkler system to a drip irrigation system.

Installing a drip system is more efficient than a sprinkler system since it efficiently delivers water straight to your plants' roots. If you aren't able to install a drip system, consider replacing your sprinkler heads with micro-spray heads that use less water.



8. Install a rain barrel to store water for future use.

Don't let good water go to waste! The City offers a rebate of up to \$100 off a qualifying rain barrel. Visit <http://bawasca.org/conserv/rebates/barrels> for complete rules and application. If you're new to rain barrels, attend a free landscape workshop. Upcoming classes are posted at www.bawasca.org/classes.



9. Spread a layer of organic mulch on your plants.

Applying a minimum of 2 inches of mulch to your shrubs helps reduce the need for frequent irrigation, increases plant health, and discourages weed growth.



10. Monitor your water bill for unusually high water use.

Your water bill and water meter are tools that can help you discover leaks.

