
County Executive Office
LIVING SUSTAINABLY
Quarterly Newsletter
Issue 2 | February 2021



New Year's resolutions are goals that people set for themselves in order to improve their lives or make themselves better. Research shows that as many as 50 percent of adults in the US make resolutions; however, fewer than 10 percent actually keep them for more than a few months. Following are some resolutions to consider in order live to a more sustainable lifestyle in 2021. These resolutions are so simple that you are sure to keep them!

***Don't leave your lights on.** A simple step that can make a big difference on your electric bill.

***Take shorter showers.** Shorter showers mean less hot water and less hot water means lower electric or gas bills.

***Use more power strips.** Even when electronics aren't turned on, they still use power when they are plugged in. Rather than constantly unplugging electronics, use a power strip that you can plug multiple things into and turn off all at once.

***Get a programmable thermostat.** With a programmable thermostat, you can save energy and money by setting your heat and air conditioning to run only when you need it.

***Invest in efficient light bulbs.** Ditch those incandescent light bulbs that use too much energy and can get hot. Rather, use energy-efficient LEDs. You will safely use less energy and your electricity bill will go down.

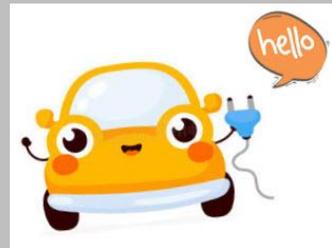
***Wash full loads.** Most of the energy used by washing machines and dishwashers goes toward heating the water. Washing only half loads wastes money, so be sure to wait till you have a full load.

***Improve your ductwork.** Bad connections or even holes in ductwork can leak hot or cold air. By sealing and insulating your ductwork, you can prevent air leakage and improve airflow.

Ventura County is in the Fast Lane When it Comes to Electric Vehicle Efforts Thanks to \$2.5M in Funding

Exciting NEWS

The Ready, Set, Go Electric Ventura County EV Blueprint implementation grant application, submitted by Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance (VCREA), was recommended for funding by California Energy Commission staff. Five projects were identified in the application and VCREA's grant partners include Mixteco/Indigena Community Organization Project, Gold Coast Transit District, City of Thousand Oaks, and the County General Service Agency. Total budget to implement all five projects is \$3.9M, including a \$1.4M match from all partners, with \$2.5M in Energy Commission funding. Click [here](#) for more details.



**Check Out a Do-It-Yourself (DIY)
Home Energy Savings Toolkit**

3C-REN, Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance and local libraries throughout the Tri-County have partnered to launch a **Home Energy Savings DIY Toolkit** program. Each DIY kit includes tools to help measure a home's current energy use, along with helpful tips on ways to make homes more energy smart. These kits include free items to keep like LED lightbulbs, low-flow showerheads, and other items to help homes use less energy and water.



Starting **FEBRUARY 16th**, you can check out the DIY toolkits at Ventura County libraries and use the kit's free tools and supplies to complete home DIY projects. When finished, the kits can be returned. The free DIY Home Energy Savings Toolkit will give you the knowledge, tools, and equipment to improve your home with easy upgrades.

Visit 3C-REN's **Home Energy Savings** web page to learn more about the program. To find a kit near you click [here](#).



Got Questions About Solar?

Community Environmental Council's 2020 Solarize Ventura County was offered in partnership with Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance, County of Ventura, and the cities of Ventura, Thousand Oaks, and Camarillo. More than 80 households participated last year. Previous Solarize Ventura County programs have already helped 225 homeowners go solar. It may be winter; however, now is the perfect season to consider going solar. Check out this [website](#) for more information and to **sign up** to receive updates about future



Support Local GREEN Businesses

Now more than ever, local businesses need your support. Check out these local businesses that have been certified by the Ventura County Green Business Program.

Solarize Ventura County program dates. Contact April Price at aprice@cecmail.org for more information.

Why Become Certified



Find A Business

Ventura County Climate Emergency Council

Adoption of the Ventura County 2040 General Plan by the Board of Supervisors on September 15, 2020 resulted in the formation of the Ventura County Climate Emergency Council (VCCEC). The purpose of the VCCEC is to advise the Board on climate action planning and implementation of the Climate Action Plan (CAP) goals, policies, and programs. Each Board member nominated a representative to the Council in addition to three representatives from the designated disadvantaged communities identified in the 2040 General Plan. **Learn More**

Clean Power Alliance's New Power Share Program Provides 100% Solar Energy at a 20% Discount on your Bill



Clean Power Alliance launched its new Power Share program, which can help its residential customers save on their electric bill, while receiving 100% clean energy.

Help Guide Southern California's Energy Future!

Low-income residential customers who live in participating communities can now enroll to receive a 20 percent discount on their electric bill. This discount is in addition to any discounts

Clean Power Alliance is seeking interested community members from Los Angeles and Ventura Counties to serve on its volunteer Community Advisory Committee that will help inform

already being received from **CARE or FERA financial assistance programs**. You can benefit from local renewable energy, while helping lead the way to a greener future.

the growth of Southern California's newest, locally operated clean energy provider. Get the details **here** and apply today!

Get more details **here** and see if you're eligible.



TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL ENERGY NETWORK

SAN LUIS OBISPO • SANTA BARBARA • VENTURA



3C-REN's **Energy Code Coach** offers free, professional, and friendly consultation for building professionals online, over the phone, or in the field/office.

Our team of local experts are Central Coast professionals with years of experience in the construction industry.

We understand your needs and can answer your technical questions about modeling and compliance reporting, with the references and resources to support you, your department, or your entire firm.

Upcoming Events

Residential Additions and the Energy Code
February 10, 2021

Green Real Estate Marketing

February 15, 2021

Introduction to Passive House
February 16, 2021

Heat Pump Water Heaters for Energy Code-Private Sector
February 17, 2021

and more.....

To Learn More and Register



County of Ventura
CEO Sustainability Division
800 S Victoria Ave #1940
Ventura, CA 93009
sustainability@ventura.org

