



VCREA

Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance



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LED Lights: Save Brighter

About VCREA

VCREA is a Joint Powers Agency composed of public agencies working in collaboration to address good energy stewardship through integrated demand side management practices in the Ventura County region.

Ventura Partnership

The Ventura Partnership encompasses the cities of Camarillo, Fillmore, Moorpark, Ojai, Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Santa Paula, Thousand Oaks, and Ventura to support energy efficiency improvements in public agencies and throughout the community.

Our Website and Newsletter

Energy Leader is a quarterly publication published to provide valuable resources and information regarding energy efficiency in the Ventura County region. To sign up to receive our newsletter by e-mail, please log on to www.vcenergy.org. VCREA is your one source resource for energy efficiency.

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LEDs, or light emitting diodes, are the ideal first-step equipment change solution to help save energy. Depending on your type of business and day-to-day operations, lighting usage can be 20 to 50% of your energy demand, according to the U.S. Small Business Administration. With the reduced purchase price and widespread adoption, LEDs are becoming a prioritized option for energy efficiency solutions.



Homeowners are also taking advantage of LED-based lighting as a safe choice for home installation. Southern California Edison has compiled resources to help businesses and homeowners navigate the benefits of LED lighting, including a [business LED lighting guide](#) and a [residential indoor lighting buyer's guide](#).

LEDs are the most energy-efficient, cost-effective and safe lighting choice on the market today. According to the U. S. Department of Energy, Energy Star®-Qualified LED lights use at least 75% less energy and last 25 times longer than incandescent lighting. Energy consumers in

Ventura County can benefit from LED lighting through decreased energy costs, lower temperatures, reduced maintenance, more productivity, greater safety, and color spectrum

availability. Switching to LED lighting works for homes and businesses and helps achieve greater energy savings. For more resources, visit the SCE Energy Tips page at www.sce.com/energytips.



UPCOMING VCREA OUTREACH

Oct 3 - Moorpark County Days

Oct 10 & 11 - Conejo Home and Garden Show

Oct 18 - Thousand Oaks Street Fair

Oct 24 - LED Holiday Light Exchange, County of Ventura Pollution Prevention Ctr

Nov 7 - LED Holiday Light Exchange, Camarillo United Methodist E-Waste Event

Nov 20 - LED Holiday Light Exchange, City of Thousand Oaks HHW Event

Nov 21 - LED Holiday Light Exchange, Simi Valley HHW Event

Dec 5 - LED Holiday Light Exchange, Ventura Government Ctr

Ways to Save Energy Tools

New Ways to Save Energy Tools

SoCalGas® has an interactive tool to help consumers find ways to save energy and money. By logging on and signing up for with My Account, energy customers can click on the Ways to Save tab to access energy tools. To get an energy analysis, residents and businesses need to simply answer a few questions, then the tools can help create an energy action plan, track and update progress and analyze natural gas usage toward energy-efficiency.

The [Personalized Energy Savings Tools offered to Businesses through Ways to Save](#) include:

- **Custom recommendations.** Based on your responses to the energy survey, you'll see your business' unique energy-saving options.
- **Benchmarking information.** Compare your business' energy use to other businesses of similar size and location.
- **Programs and rebate information.** See how participating in energy-saving programs fits into your business action plan.

The [Personalized Energy Savings Tools offered to Residents through Ways to Save](#) include:

- **Custom recommendations.** Based on your responses to the energy survey, you'll see your household's unique energy-saving options.
- **Neighborhood comparison.** See how your home's energy use compares to that of homes in similar neighborhoods.
- **Choose your lifestyle plan.** Are you a do-it-yourself kind of homeowner? Or do you like to involve the whole family? Pick the lifestyle plan that best fits you, your home, and your budget.
- **Programs and rebates.** Find out what recommendations in your savings plan qualify for rebates or other incentives.
- **Know your carbon footprint.** Find out what your carbon footprint is by using the Carbon Calculator. Get recommendations on reducing your footprint and help the environment.



New Small Business Technologies Funding Opportunity

EERE National Laboratory Impact Initiative

The Small Business Vouchers Pilot is a new mechanism to fund DOE National Laboratories to provide technical assistance and collaborative R&D opportunities for small businesses. These five Energy Department National Laboratories were selected to lead the \$20 million pilot:

[Oak Ridge National Laboratory](#)
[National Renewable Energy Laboratory](#)
[Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory](#)
[Sandia National Laboratories](#)
[Pacific Northwest National Laboratory](#)



Vouchers will be given to competitively selected small businesses working to develop clean energy technologies. Learn more and for participation information visit EERE at www.sbv.org.

Small Business Voucher (SBV) Pilot Program

Purpose	Solve critical small business technical barriers through lab partnerships
Selection and Project Management	National labs for selection and DOE for project management
Topics	Subprogram areas are pre-determined based on funding availability for pilot
Timing of Announcement	Three cycles for pilot anticipated: FY15 Q4, FY16 Q1, and FY16 Q2
Total Funding Available	\$20M (Fiscal Years 15 and 16; ~ 100 vouchers)
Size of Award	Up to \$300K per voucher
Engagement	Lab actively conducting outreach about their capabilities throughout pilot

Winter Energy-Savings

1. **Automate:** Get automatic timers, motion/daylight sensors, programmable systems and raise thermostat settings to the highest comfortable temperature.
2. **Turn Off:** Plug appliances into power strips and turn off the switch when not in use. Turn off lights when you leave the room.
3. **Use Appliances at Optimal Settings:** Check the temperature settings on freezer, refrigerator and hot water heater. Run fully loaded washing machine and dishwasher at night. Air dry clothes and dishes. Maintain appliances for optimal efficiency and replace air conditioner filters regularly. Reduce daily pool filtration by 30 minutes.
4. **Eliminate Leaks:** Get your house checked for leaks. Seal ducts, patch holes in walls and ceiling, install weather-strip, seal and caulk to leaky doors and windows and install foam gaskets behind outlet covers, and increase your attic insulation to at least R-38. Check your faucets and plumbing and fix and leaks or holes.
5. **Check for Rebates and Ratings:** When upgrading appliances and equipment, always check the websites below for rebates and efficiency rating to get the best product for your home or business. Always dispose or recycle appliances properly.
6. **Measure Your Use:** Knowing how much you use helps track your savings! Electricity monitor meters, like the Kill-a-Watt Meter, measures energy use. Sign up with each utility for online billing.

More Energy-Saving Opportunities

Rebates Guide:

www.sce.com/rebates

Buyers Guide:

www.socalgas.com (search Buyer's Guide)

Energy Upgrade California:

www.energyupgradeca.org

Energy Savings at Home Tool:

www.energystar.gov/campaign/home

Weatherization for Building Durability

October is **National Energy Awareness Month** and October 30th is **National Weatherization Day**. Fall is a great time to consider simple solutions to preserve and shield buildings, and their interiors, from the effects of the mix of wind, sun, heat, cold, wetness and dryness exposure from weather changes. Sealing air leaks, holes and cracks, adding caulk and weather stripping to leaking doors and windows, and even switching to more durable LED light bulbs are quick ways to save energy and money. Investing in the long-lasting comfort of your home has year-round pay offs.



Prepare your home or office for increased resilience, improved indoor air quality, and help reduce energy usage with more in-depth weatherization. Take your efficiency goals further with an energy audit to identify and track usage, conduct whole building air sealing and insulation for moisture control and proper ventilation and install energy efficient equipment for heating, cooling and water heating. Check out the weatherization page from the U. S. Department of Energy at <http://energy.gov/energysaver/weatherize>. Learn more about DIY weatherization projects to improve the durability of your home or office by visiting <http://energy.gov/energysaver/articles/energy-saving-do-it-yourself-projects-just-got-easier>.

sce.com/ctac

socalgas.com/erc

vcenergy.org

Resources to Reduce Your Electric Bill

Southern California Edison wants you to know about the many resources available to help reduce your monthly energy costs. You may qualify for one of more of these solutions.

California Alternate Rates for Energy

You can receive a discount of approximately 30 percent on your monthly electric bill, if you meet this program's income qualifications. **(800) 447-6620**

Energy Assistance Fund

We help by providing you with up to \$100 toward your SCE energy bill, if you meet the program's income qualifications. This assistance is available to you once during a 12-month period. **(800) 205-8596**

Energy Savings Assistance Program

You can receive free energy-saving appliances and services, such as refrigerators, air conditioners, home weatherization, lighting, and a smart power strip at no cost if you meet the programs' eligibility and income requirements (not all services are available in all areas). **(800) 736-4777**

Family Electric Rate Assistance

If you have three or more individuals in your household, and exceed your baseline electricity usage by over 30 percent, you can receive a discount on your energy bill by meeting the program's income requirements. **(800) 447-6620**

To learn more about these helpful programs, please visit sce.com/billhelper.

These programs are funded by California utility ratepayers and administered by SCE under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.

Education and Training Resources

Southern California Edison: Offers training and workshops at two Energy Education Centers (Irwindale and Tulare), in addition to online webinars. **To enroll** and for more information visit www.sce.com/ctac or www.sce.com/workshops

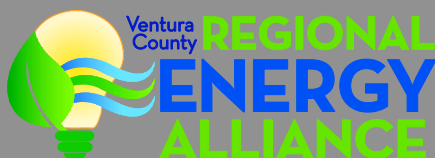
Highlighted courses offered this quarter include: Zero Net Energy, Go Solar California! Webinar For Residential and Commercial, Pump and Water Delivery courses, Lighting Technologies Series, HVAC/R Systems and Technologies Trainings and Certifications, Foodservice Technologies Training, Electrical Training Workshops, Commercial and Industrial Benchmarking, Building Envelope, Construction and Software Training.

SoCalGas: Offers Commercial and Industrial, Sustainability and HVAC seminars at the Energy Resource Center (Downey). **To enroll** and for more information visit www.seminars.socalgas.com

Highlighted courses offered this quarter include: NATE Certification Training Series, Gas Engines Seminar, Certified Green Building Professional Training, Boiler Water Treatment for Energy Efficiency, Energy Smart Landscapes Sessions, and Best Practice Design for High Performance Recommendations Building Enclosures.

ENERGY STAR: Offers a variety of information and tools through the ENERGY STAR Training Center. **To enroll** and for specific courses and more information visit esbuildings.webex.com

California Energy Commission: Offers webinars on current energy efficiency programs and rulings. **To enroll** and for more information visit www.energy.ca.gov/efficiency/ and click on the Notices & Workshops link.



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Our Partners



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