

2013 Solar Homes Tour The Road to Net Zero Energy





2013 Solar Homes Tour

The Road to Zero-Net Energy

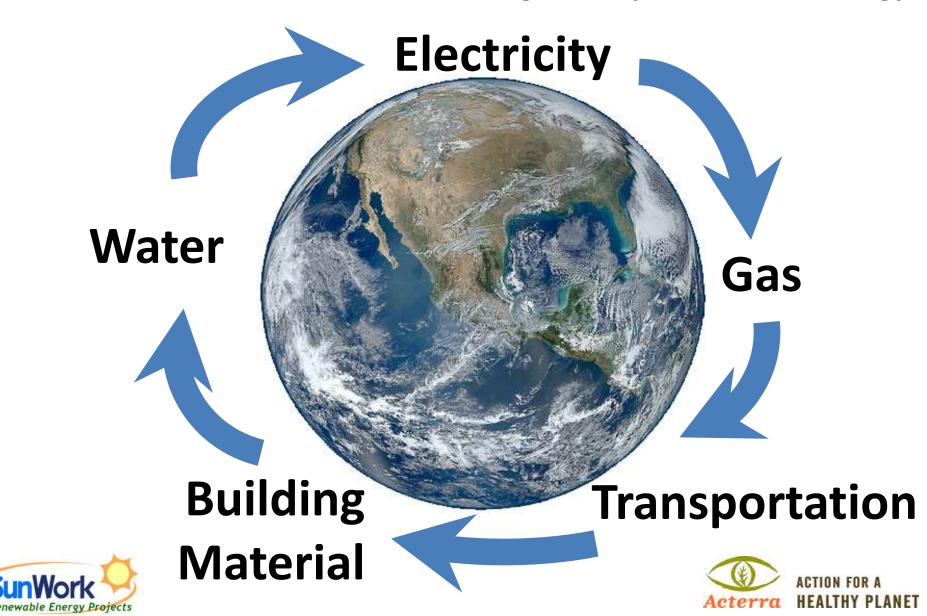
- Zero-Net Energy What is it?
- Solar PV how it works and purchasing tips
 - Mike Balma, SunWork
- Green@Home Program
 - Debbie Mytels, Acterra
- City of Palo Alto Utilities programs, rebates
 & EcoHome demonstration
 - Lindsay Joye, PE
- Review of tour homes and maps
 - Mike Balma, SunWork
- 1pm Solar Homes Tour opens





Energy Use Around the Home

Tour homes demonstrate dramatic savings - many are net zero energy



Net Zero Energy Home Many Definitions

Electric Only – Simple Case

- Annual consumption of electricity is "0"
- -Typically covered by Solar electric PV (producing more energy in summer & less in winter)
- Ability to run the meter backward is called net metering

Electric and Gas - Calculations Required

- Purchase Carbon Offsets
- Generate over 100% Solar PV





Net Zero Energy Home Key to Success Before Solar

- ✓ Tight building envelope
- ✓ Insulation everywhere
- ✓ Efficient heating & cooling
 - Radiant floor
 - > Heat pump
- ✓ Efficient appliances & no vampires







Passive House Certified

- ✓ Tight envelope less than .6 air exchanges per hour
- ✓ Fresh air with heat recovery ventilator > 75% efficient
 - ✓ Annual heat requirement ≤ 15 kWh/m2/year
 - ✓ Primary energy ≤ 120 kWh/m2/year

"ACTIVE" FEATURES

. SOLAR PANELS GALORE

EVERY SOUTH & WEST FACING ROOF SURFACE COVERED IN SOLAR PANELS FOR 15/W OF ENERGY FROM THE SUN. THE ROOFS WERE DESIGNED TO MAXIMIZE THIS POTENTIAL.

2. GREYWATER RECYCLING

WATER USED IN THE HOUSE IS CAPTURED AND REUSED IN THE LANDSCAPE (EXCLUDING TOILET & KITCHEN SINK WATER)

RAINWATER HARVESTING

ALL WATER FALLING ON THE HOUSE IS CAPTURED AND STORED FOR REUSE IN THE LANDSCAPE, THE TOILETS, AND EVEN THE WASHING MACHINE! THAT MEANS THE LAUNDRY WILL SMELL LIKE A SUMMER RAIN, NATURALLY!

4. KEEP ENERGY USE DOWN

"HIGH-EFFICACY LIGHTING" (LED LIGHTS) THROUGHOUT FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY. MOTION SENSORS TURN OFF LIGHTS AND WATER HEATING IN UNATTENDED SPACES

RECYCLED MATERIALS -

THESE BRICKS ARE RECYCLED FROM A BUILDING RECENTLY DEMOUSHED AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY WHICH, FOR THIS OWNER, ALSO DOUBLES AS AN ALMA MATER!



"PASSIVE" FEATURES

THE GOAL HERE IS TO CONTROL.
THE AIR FLOW MECHANICALLY
THROUGH AN "HRV" (HEAT
RECOVERY VENTILATOR), TO DO
THIS ALL EXTERIOR PLYWOOD
CONNECTIONS (WALLS, ROOFS,
INTERSECTIONS WITH WINDOW
AND DOORS OR OTHER
PENETRATIONS), ARE SEALED WITH
ONE OF 2 TYPES OF SPECIAL TAPE

2. SUPER INSULATE IT

IN ADDITION TO STANDARD
WALL INSULATION, THE EXTERIOR
PLYWOOD (WALLS AND ROOF)
AND BASEMENT CONCRETE
FOUNDATION WALLS & FLOOR
ARE WRAPPED IN A RIGID
FOAMBOARD INSULATION LAYER.

3. CONTROL THE OPENINGS

TO PREVENT THE INTERIOR TEMPS FROM REQUIRING HEAT OR A/C TO MAINTAIN COMFORT. TRIPLE-PANE LOW-E WINDOWS WITH PASSIVE-HOUSE RATED FRAMES (REDUCED AIR LEAKAGE) ARE STRATEGICALLY LOCATED TO ALLOW DESIRABLE WINTER SOLAR HEAT GAIN IN, WHILE KEEPING UNDESIRABLE SUMMER HEAT OUT.

KEEP IT DRY

BECAUSE THE HOUSE IS SEALED SO TIGHTLY, SIDING IS UNDERLAYED WITH A "RAINSCREEN FABRIC" TO ALLOW WATER & CONDENSATION TO EXIT BEFORE IT CAN CAUSE A PROBLEM.

Home Electrification

COOKING

40% efficient Gas cooktop





\$2000

85% efficient induction cooktop

GE

2X

WATER HEATING

58% efficient
Gas water
heater





\$2000

Heat pump Water heater

Efficiency: 100% – 300%

2X - 5X

GE, 190 L, Energy Factor: 2.4

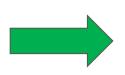
HEATING/COOLING



200% efficient AC



80% efficient Gas furnace



Source: Indra Ghosh



\$8500

Rheem, 3 Ton 16 SEER HSPF 10 5KW, Aux

Air Source Heat pump

Efficiency: 200% – 400%

2X – 4X

Hot Water Heating

Gas vs Hybrid Electric

	Palo Alto*	Palo Alto*	
	Gas (60% eff.)	Hybrid Electric	
Initial \$ after rebates	\$1,200	\$2,100	
Fuel (10 yr)	<u>\$2,015</u>	\$1,845 Costs more,	
Net Cost over 10 yr	\$3,215	\$3,945 but saves Co	02
Added Cost		\$730 over 10 years	
CO2 (kg) emissions/yr	1,224	0	
CO2 (kg) saved/yr		1,224/yr	

	PG&E*	PG&E*		
	Gas (60% eff.)	Hybrid Electric		
Initial \$ after rebates	\$1,200	\$1,800		
Fuel (10 yr)	<u>\$2,317</u>	\$2,700 Costs more		
Net Cost over 10 yr	\$3,517	\$4,500 but saves (
Added Cost		\$983 over 10 years		
CO2 (kg) emissions/yr	1,224	387		
CO2 (kg) saved/yr		837/yr		

^{*} Hot water for family of three; spreadsheets available at http://carbonfreepaloalto.org

Home Heating Electrification

Efficient Gas Furnace vs Heat Pump

	Palo Alto	PG&E
Heat Pump Cost vs Gas Furnace over life of system	23% more	23% more
CO2 reduction	100% less	81% less

Heat pump offers easier upgrade of AC

^{*} Spreadsheets available at http://carbonfreepaloalto.org

Zero Net Energy Home California Leadership

In 2020

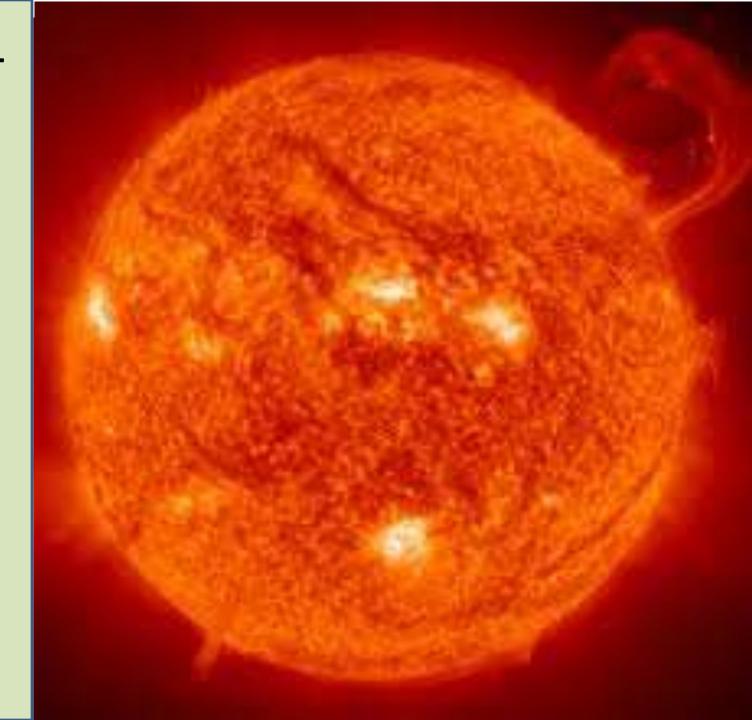
all new residential construction
in California
will be required to be
Zero Net Energy

California Energy Commission Goal supporting AB32





WE ARE ALL SOLAR POWERED



Free Renewable Solar Energy Delivered Daily



Reasons To Install Solar?

1) Environmental Benefits



2) Economics \$



3) Independence



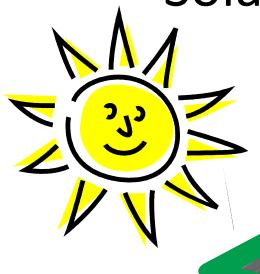
New inverter allows access to energy from solar panels (up to 1500 Watts) when grid is down



4) Technology Interest

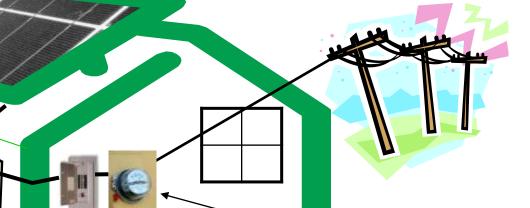
Knowing why you want to go solar will help you make choices and keep the big picture in mind





1) Solar panels convert sunlight into direct current (DC) electricity

5) Power from the utility is automatically provided at night and during the day when your demand exceeds your solar production



2) Inverter convertsdirect current (DC) into alternating(AC) current for home electricity use& keeps track on solar output

Place <u>inverter in cool shady location</u> for efficiency & longer life

3) Existing electrical panel distributes solar electricity to the house

A separate shut off switch may also be required

4) Utility meter spins backward when solar power production exceeds the house demand and power is sold back to the utility

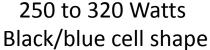
Considerations in Selecting Solar PV

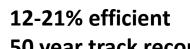
aesthetics, efficiency/space, track record

Monocrystalline (Single)



250 to 320 Watts





Polycrystalline (Multi)



240 to 300 Watts Semi-uniform blue color

50 year track record

Check SVTC for Environmental Report Card - solarscorecard.com/2013

Amorphous (Thin-Film)



80 to 150 Watts Uniform black color

8 - 14% efficient Newer to market Lower cost

Requires more roof space

Roof Condition and Type

Roof should be in good condition

- 15 20 year life remaining
- Ideal to install solar on new roof



More **Expensive to** Install Solar

- Composite shingle
- Standing seam metal roof
- Shake if new and not brittle
- Tar and gravel flat (not including tilting)
- Cement tile
- Spanish tile
- Shake if old and brittle

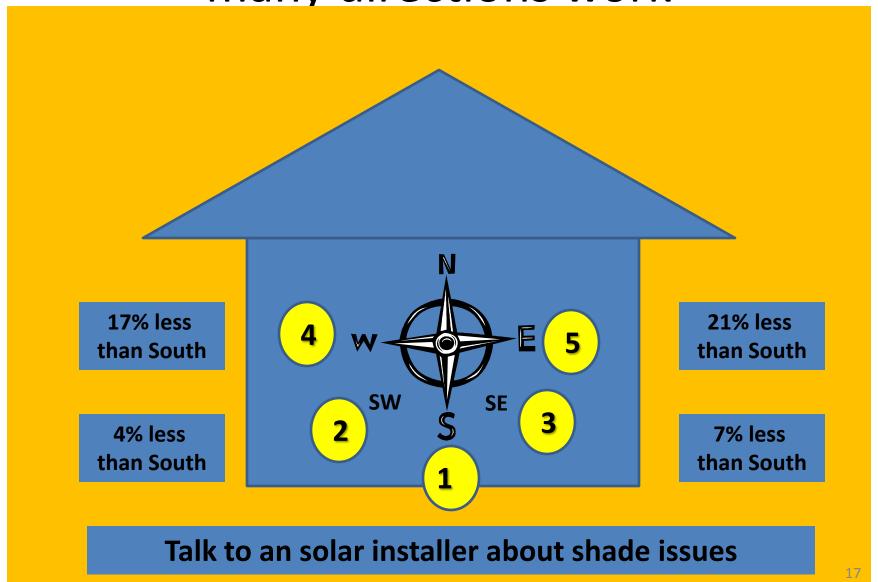


- Slate
- Hardie shake



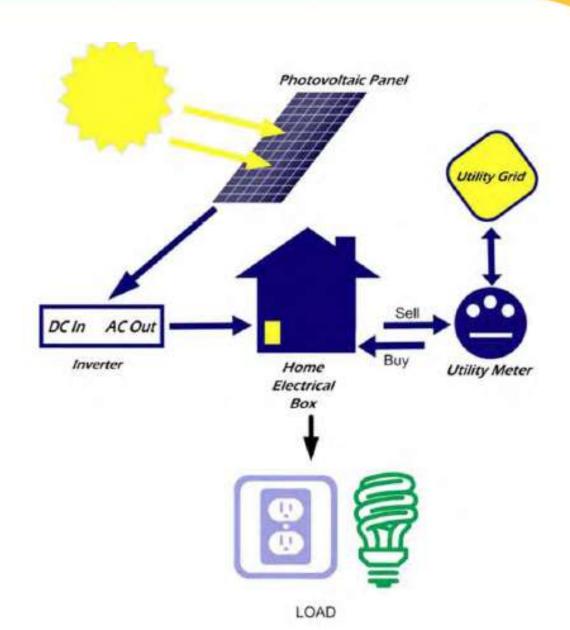


Optimal Roof Direction is South - many directions work -

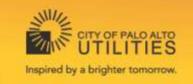


Utility Billing for PV Customers





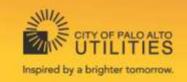
NET METERING Monthly Billing



 Utility electric meter only measures the difference between generation and consumption = net energy

When monthly electric consumption EXCEEDS
the amount generated, you pay for the net
energy based on retail rates

NET METERING



Monthly Bill Credits

 When monthly electric consumption is LESS than the amount generated, you receive a bill credit based on the same retail rates

 Bill credit can only be used to offset future electric consumption charges

NET SURPLUS ELECTRICITY



Annual Settlement

- Definition: If annual kWh generation > annual kWh consumption, the difference
- Every 12 months you have a settlement option
 - Option A: cash out last 12 months of net surplus kWh Value is based on wholesale net surplus rate (5.841¢/kWh)
 - Option B: continue to carry net metering credits forward Value is based on full retail rates (9.5-18.9¢/kWh)
- Change your election once a year, but can only cash out last 12 months of surplus electricity

Financial Examples Electric Bill Averages \$150

Palo Alto Customers						
Ave. monthly	System size	Cost after rebate & tax	First year savings	% of Electricity generated by	Payback	<u>Tax Free</u> Rate of Return
electric bill	kW AC*	credit	\$ per year	solar	in vears	over 25 years
\$150	4.5	\$18,000	\$1,240	59%	12	8%

PG&E Customers						
Ave. monthly electric bill	System size kW AC*	Cost after rebate & tax credit	First year savings \$ per year	% of Electricity generated by solar	Payback in vears	Tax Free Rate of Return over 25 years
\$150	4.5	\$20,500	\$1,550	86%	12	9%

Based on Clean Power Estimator; www.gosolarcalifornia.ca.gov/tools/clean_power_estimator.php

^{*} Note, this is for kW AC (many installers quote in kW DC which is higher)

Solar Lease/Power Purchase Agreement Can Be Attractive

- Pay set price just for solar energy produced
- Immediate reduction in energy bill (if >\$130/month)

Benefits

- Low up front cost (varies from \$0 to \$1000)
- Company will replace components they fail (Inverter)
- System monitored company motivated to improve
- Annual cleaning may be included

Potential Issues

- Can I transfer agreement to another homeowner?
- Any costs to transfer agreement?
- Who pays for removal if I reroof?

Solar PV Purchasing Tips

- 1BOG.org (1 Block off the Grid)
 - Sign up for group purchase discount; no obligation
 - No significant geography restrictions
 - Price adders for roof type and technology choices
- Check for discounts from your employer or credit union
 - Example, discounts for HP, Google, San Jose city employees
- Check contractor license and BBB rating
- > Keep the big picture in mind why am I doing this ©

Option for Low Electricity Using Homes

Sunwork.org – non profit

- Customers with low electricity bill
 - averaging less than \$130/mo
- Trained volunteers
- Also Installations for other non profits (e.g. Rebuilding Together Redwood City)

Benefits

- Faster payback (15% to 30%)
- Provides hands on experience for future green collar workers







SunWork Volunteer Training for Solar Installation

- Two dates Nov 23 & 24
- 3 hours
- In Palo Alto
- Electrical theory
- Solar power basics
- Construction safety and best practices



Email interest to info@SunWork.org





ACTION FOR A SUSTAINABLE EARTH

Green@Home: A free energy-saving program for Palo Alto residents

Debbie Mytels
Associate Director, Acterra
debbiem@acterra.org



About Acterra

43 year old, Palo Alto non-profit



- •Bringing people together to create local solutions for a healthy planet
- •Creating opportunities for ordinary people to make a difference

"If it ain't fun, it don't get done!"



How Green@Home Works

- Trained volunteers make scheduled visit to your home
- Free to all Palo Alto residents ONLY
- Install basic energy-saving devices
- Sign up on-line at www.acterra.org/green@home
 Or call Lisa at (650) 962-9876 x350
- Volunteers Wanted:
 - Next training: October 29 & Nov. 5



Volunteers Do Basic Tasks & Educate





Water Temperature



Showerhead



Faucet Aerators



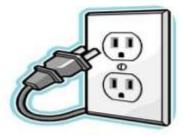
Refrigerator Temperature



Clothesline



Door Weatherstipping



Outlet gasket



Additional HouseCall Actions

- Review utility bill
- Energy Audit: Measure energy usage throughout house and identify ways to save
- Suggest additional devices to install or conservation habits to adopt
- Receive packet of info about community resources
- Create customized energy saving plan
- Yard sign to show participation



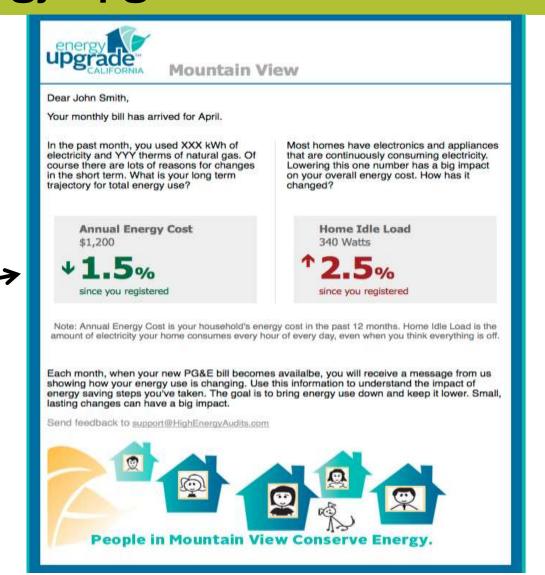
Energy Upgrade Mountain View

- Free, City-sponsored program
- Provides an on-line diagnosis of where your home energy goes
- You get customized recommendations on how to save at YOUR home
- Phone support and home visits if needed
- Sign up at <u>www.energyupgrademv.org</u>
- Next public workshop: October 10, 7:00 pm MV City Hall



After You Sign Up for EUMV Energy Upgrade Mountain View

- Your Home
 Energy Profile
 On your EUMV home
 page
- Monthly email updates
- Track your energy use over time





Silicon Valley Energy Watch

An Acterra program for the rest of Santa Clara County – need to have PG&E SmartMeter

Starts Nov. 1

- On-line diagnosis of YOUR home energy waste
- Customized recommendations

Phone support and home visits for those with high potential for savings

Contact Lisa Dorn to sign up:

<u>lisad@acterra.org</u>

City of Palo Alto Utilities



Lindsay Joye, P.E., Marketing Engineer

- Energy conservation and solar programs
- Rebates and incentives
- EcoHome

REBATES AVAILABLE



Residential Energy Assistance Program (REAP) û Refrigerator Recycling &

Free Water Saving Devices &

Water-Wise House Call Program A

Landscape Rebates

High-Efficiency Clothes Washer Rebates @

High-Efficiency Toilet (HET) Rebates

Appliance Rebates

Power Strips

Attic and Wall Insulation

Solar Attic Fans

Water Heaters

Heating and Air Conditioning

Pool Pumps

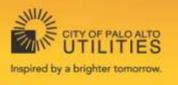
Solar Water Heating Program

Renovation & New Construction Rebate Program

PV Partners Program



Suitable for Renters



For More Information

Visit www.cityofpaloalto.org/utilities or call (650) 329-2241 for assistance.

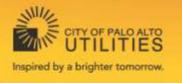
To qualify for the Landscape Rebate Program, you must participate in a Water-Wise House Call and receive a written Notice to Proceed prior to beginning your landscape project. To schedule a Water-Wise House Call, sign up online at www.valleywater.org or call (800) 548-1882.

EcoHome





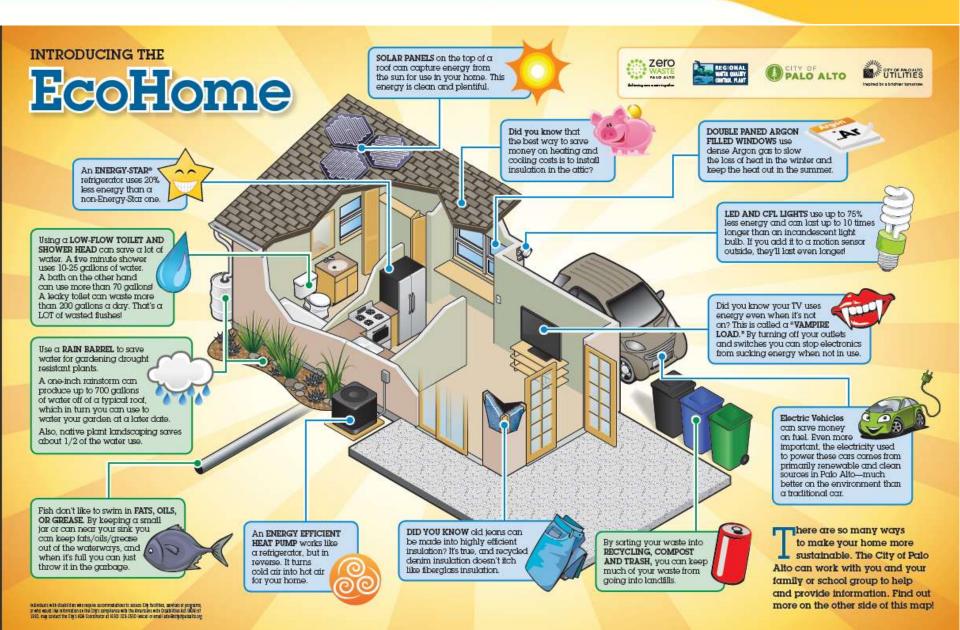
EcoHome



Located next to the Girl Scout House, behind the Lucie Stern Community Center.



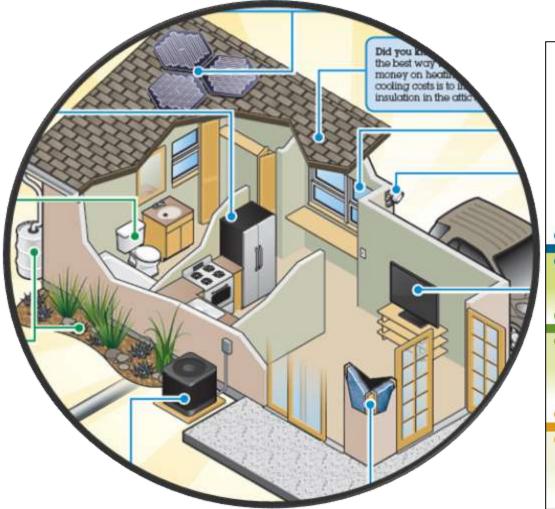


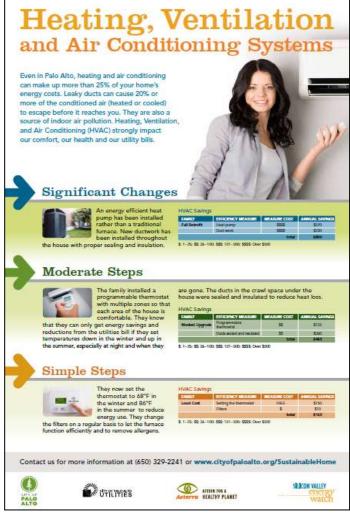




Project ideas are categorized into 3 levels of effort:

Simple, Moderate or Significant steps, with costs and savings listed for comparison







2013 Solar Homes Tour *The Road to Zero Net Energy*

MAP: goo.gl/maps/HCE2C







EcoHome, 10 am-3 pm

354 Poe Street, 12:30 (new)

Net zero energy – all electric

Net zero energy – all electric

373 Oxford Ave, 12:30 (new)

314 Stanford Ave, 12:30

Magic community

1001 Emerson St.

Outside & main room

3498 Janice Way (outside)

Net zero energy; electric+EV

Net zero energy – all electric

3110 Bandera Dr. (outside)

Net zero energy; electric+EV

(long steep driveway)

(new)

Outside Only

871 Robb Ave

1111 Fife Ave, 12:30

1305 Middlefield

Solar Homes Tour

Χ

Χ

Χ

Χ

Rainwater

harvest

Greywater

Rainwater

Indoor

grey water

Greywater

irrigation

Χ

Rain catch

plan -100%

irrigation

Recycled counters

• Blue jean insulation

Radiant heat/cool

ceilings

• EV curbside charger

• Green garden

Tight, super

insulated envelope

SunWork PV install

Tesla; Fiat EV, LEDs

Green construction

Radiant heating

Energy monitor

• PV flexible design

Radiant heat/cool

Exterior shading

Tesla long distance

charging experience

• High eff gas furnace

Calan	Danaina	Hook	Heet	
(Homes	open 1 to	5pm,	unless no	ted)
	Coud to 2		TOT LITTLE	, y

Χ

Χ

Χ

Mini-

Split

Χ

(HRV)

Χ

X

Χ

Χ

SunWork Renewable Energy Projects	The Road to Zero-Net Energy							
	(Homes open 1 to 5pm, unless noted)							
							T_	Τ

	Calan	Calan	Danaina	Hast	Haak	\A/a+au		
	(Homes open 1 to 5pm, unless noted)							
Renewable Energy Projects	The Road to Zero-Net Energy							
SunWork	Dotal Homes Tour							

Water

X +

Hybrid

Χ

passive

in

process

Χ

active

Χ

passive

Χ

17.6

kW

4.2

kW

14

kW

4

kW

3.5

kW

6

kW

5.8

kW

6.9

kW

ACTION FOR A HEALTHY PLANET

(Homes open 1 to 5pm, unless noted)									
MAP: goo.gl/maps/HCE2C	Solar PV	Solar Hot Water	Passive House Design	Heat Pump	Heat Recovery (HRV)	Water Efficiency	E V	Other features	

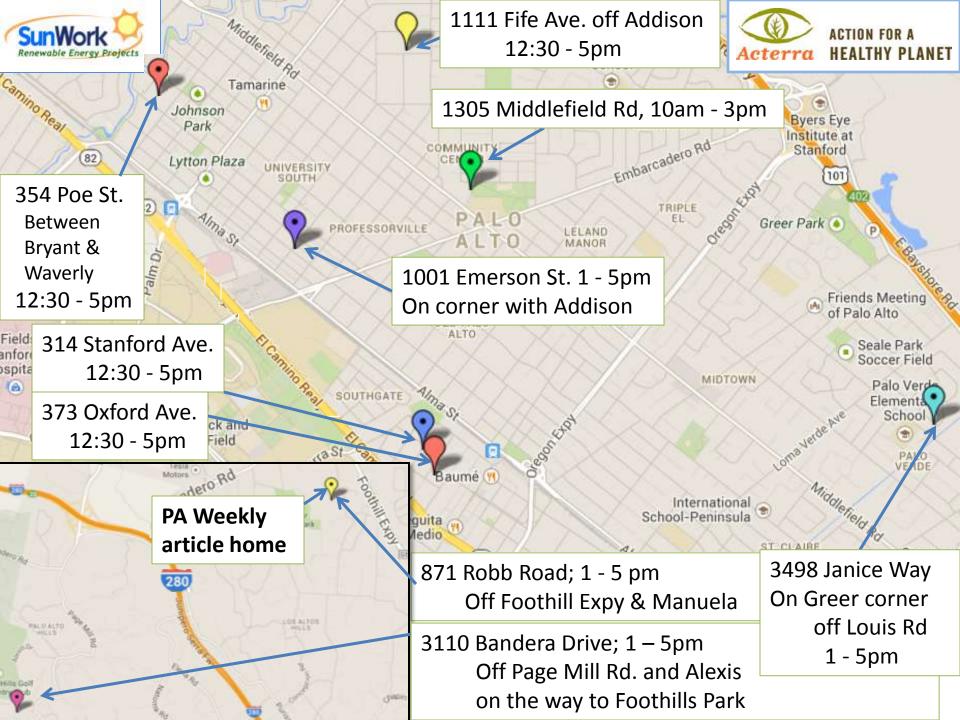
Design

Χ

X

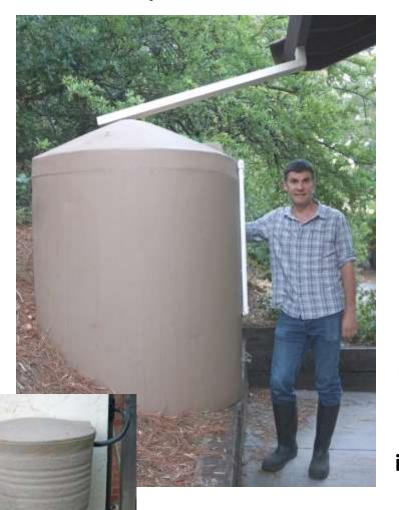
Χ

Χ



3110 Bandera Dr. - Solar Homes Tour

(near Foothill Park, steep driveway)





ProgressiveTube passive solar hot water system 40 gallon integrated collector system - no moving parts -

- 6.9 kW Solar PV covering 100% of electricity needs including Tesla EV

Rainwater harvesting – 50 & 300 gallon Plans for 1500 gallon storage covering 100% of irrigation needs

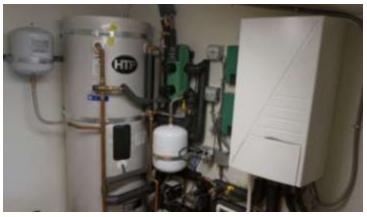


871 Robb Road – 2013 Solar Homes Tour

Passive Home – Zero-Net Energy including EV



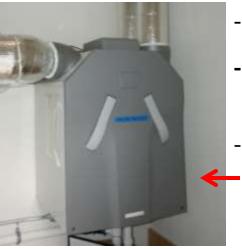
Active Solar Hot Water panels - tank and control system (below)



- Passive design with intelligent overhangs & house placement
- 20 panels, 5.8 kW (DC) Solar PV using SunPower panels



- Heat recovery ventilator (HRV)
 provides fresh air & improved
 climate control, while saving energy
 - Arkin Tilt Architects





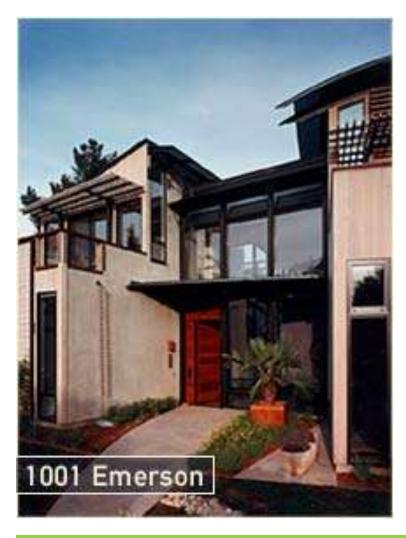
3498 Janice Way – 2013 Solar Homes Tour



TED energy
monitor shows
energy usage by
electric circuit in
real time,
remotely

- 6 kW (DC) Solar PV using 25 US made Sharp panels on flat roof covering 100% of electrical needs including EV (Leaf)
- SolarEdge DC Optimizers improve energy production during shading; PV designed for flexible expansion
- Copperheart passive solar hot water system with Integrated Collector Storage (ICS)

1001 Emerson Ave – Solar Homes Tour

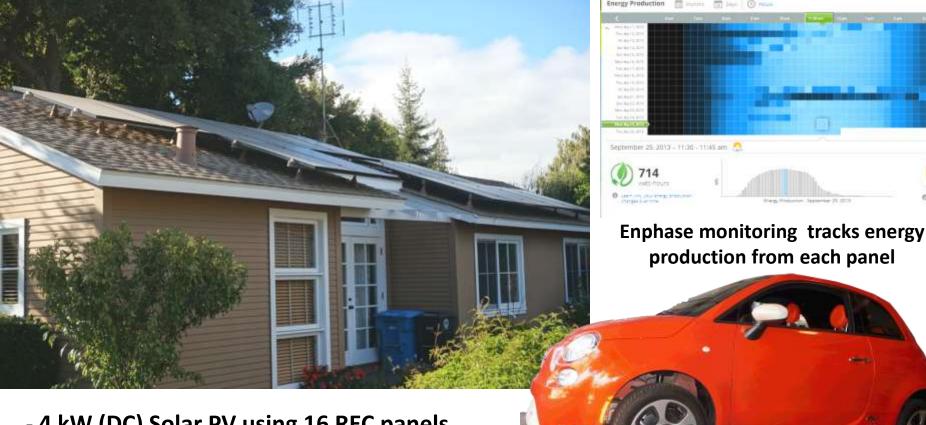


- Green Building Materials
 - Bamboo flooring
 - Flyash concrete
 - FSC Certified decking & siding
 - Recycled carpet
 - Recycled glass tile
 - Recycled demolition waste
- 3.6 kW Solar PV
- Grey water recycling system
- Hydronic radiant heating

www.sandraslater.com

1111 Fife Ave – 2013 Solar Homes Tour

Open 12:30 to 5pm



 4 kW (DC) Solar PV using 16 REC panels installed by SunWork, it covers 100% of electrical needs excluding EVs (Telsa & Fiat)

- Micro-inverters improve energy production when shaded

- SolarTube and skylights for indoor lighting



373 Oxford Ave – Magic House Passive House – Zero Net Energy

Open 12:30 to 5pm



Insulated Concrete Formed walls (ICF) for massive, airtight, super insulated envelope & reduced thermal bridging

- 15 kW Solar PV
- Solar hot water
- SolaTubes & skylights
- Heat pump heating & cooling
- HRV
- Use of thermal mass
- Reclaimed wood/brick

Some construction in progress



314 Stanford Ave - Project Green Home Adventures in Deep Energy Efficiency

Beyond Platinum LEED, Zero Net Energy & Passive Home

- 5.9 kW PV system for ZNE & 8,000 miles of Electric Vehicle (EV) driving
- Ultra, ultra low flow toilets
- Nation's 1st residential curbside EV charger
 & EV Rides (BMW & Leaf)
- CA's 1st kitchen sink greywater system
- Inductive stove & uber-insulation











354 Poe Street - Passive House

Open 12:30 to 5pm

Solar Panels

- 17.6 kW on all roof surfaces

Recycled Materials

- Bricks from Stanford

Greywater Recycling

Rainwater Harvesting



Sealed Tight

Heat RecoveryVentilator (HRV)for fresh air

Super Insulated

Including basement and

Control Openings

Passive-Houserated frames &3 pane windows

Keep it Dry

- "Rainscreen fabric" allows moisture to exit

Some construction in progress

Ferguson Garber Young Architects

Tips for the Tour

- Pick your homes based on the features of interest
- Note some homes are open <u>outside only</u>
- Check open times on the homes
- May be smart to start with homes further away to avoid crowds





Ride and Drive an EV

- In front of Lucie Stern
- And at Stanford Ave. home







Thanks to Co-Sponsors

- City of Palo Alto Utilities
- Electric Auto Association of Silicon Valley
- Loma Prieta Chapter of the Sierra Club
- Lorna Fear, Visual Cue Thermal Imaging
- American Solar Energy Society
- NorCal Solar Association

• Slides at SunWork.org & Acterra.org next week





ENJOY THE TOUR

ON THE ROAD TO ZERO-NET ENERGY

