

ACTION PLAN WORKSHEET

Topic 4: Improve Buildings

Resources at coolpetaluma.org/action/buildings



Goal 1: Reduce water & power needs



Conserve water indoors:

- HABIT Schedule free Water-Wise House Call
- Find and fix plumbing leaks !
- Install low-flow fixtures
- Install low-flow appliances 🏠
- On-demand hot water re-circulator 🏠

Reduce power load:

- HABIT Dress for the season !
- HABIT Adjust thermostat & turn things off
- Search for phantom power 🤖
- HABIT Use clothes line for drying
- Install LED light bulbs

Improve building performance:

- HABIT Use window coverings
- Seal air leaks 🏠 !
- Add insulation 🏠 !
- Install efficient windows 🏠
- Install a cool roof 🏠

Goal 2: Electrify to get off gas



Update water & space heating:

- Use portable heat pump HVAC
- Switch to electric fireplace
- Install heat pump water heater 🏠
- Install heat pump HVAC 🏠

Update kitchen appliances:

- Switch to electric kettle
- Switch to induction hotplate/cooktop
- Switch to electric oven

Update other equipment:

- Switch to electric clothes dryer
- Switch to electric yard equipment
- Switch to electric grill

Goal 3: Be thoughtful with resources



Choose cleaner energy source.

- Pick Sonoma Clean Power Evergreen 😊
- HABIT Use power during non-peak times
- Install solar power 🏠
- Install battery system 🏠

Reuse water:

- HABIT Capture water from sink & shower
- Install greywater system 🏠

Conserve materials:

- HABIT Refurbish before replace 🏠 🗑️
- Use low-carbon concrete 🏠

Your own ideas:

Get engaged

Take Stock:

- Review water & energy bills !
- Get an energy audit
- Make electrification plan 🏠

Get Inspired:

- Watch/read/listen to learn more
- Visit the Advanced Energy Center 😊
- HABIT VOTE to support safe & equitable transport !



Key

- ! Extra important
- 😊 Have some fun with it
- 😊 Extra cool
- 🏠 Building owner responsible
- 📅 Add to calendar to repeat

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Why?

It takes a lot of energy, water, and material to construct and run our buildings.

Improving our existing structures and being mindful of new construction can greatly reduce climate-harming pollution, reduce our expenses over time, and save resources for future generations.

Did you know?

Toilet leaks are often silent and can waste hundreds of gallons of water per day, making the toilet the number one cause for a high-water bill.

A one thousand square foot roof can collect over 600 gallons of water with just one inch of rain!

Natural gas is actually about 85% methane – a super-potent greenhouse gas. On its way to your house, it escapes into the atmosphere through leaks in the pipelines. Once burned, it releases dangerous indoor air pollutants like carbon monoxide and formaldehyde into your home.

Notes & action items from our gathering:

Blank area for notes and action items.

Take stock at home:

Current utility usage:

Water: _____ cubic feet/yr Gas: _____ therms/yr Electricity: _____ kWh/yr

Goal utility usage:

Water: _____ cubic feet/yr Gas: _____ therms/yr Electricity: _____ kWh/yr

Highest months:

Water: _____ Gas: _____ Electricity: _____

Tip: For water, 1 cubic foot = 7.48 gallons.

Indoor household water needs can typically be met using 25-50 gallons per person per day.