

What is a Home Energy Makeover?

Home energy costs are climbing, and some homeowners believe that there is nothing to do but pay higher utility bills. However, energy-related home improvements are a one-time cost that can save you money every month for as long as you own your home. The Energy Upgrade California in Los Angeles Home Energy Makeover Contest is designed to showcase the positive cash flow nature of home energy upgrades.

So what exactly is a home energy makeover? It's a comprehensive, "whole house" solution for making your home greener and more energy efficient, resulting in a GreenPoint rated certification for your house.

For example, many homes leak hot air in the winter and trap heat in the summer, making us crank up the heat or air conditioning. That's like watching hard-earned cash fly out the leaky doors, windows and ceilings of inefficient houses. Some rooms just never get warm or cooled. You might even think you need a new air conditioner or furnace. But if you seal and insulate your house first to keep the heat in during winter and the heat out in summer, you'll save on heating and cooling—and you might not need a new unit. Or, your new unit could be smaller than your old one. A truly upgraded house can lead to many benefits, such as reduced utility bills, improved comfort and indoor air quality, and possibly higher resale value.

The home improvements made on the winning homes will be based on what demonstrates the best examples of energy-efficiency for those houses and could include some or all of the following:

- Sealing air leaks and ductwork
- Adding new insulation in attics, walls and floors
- Insulating water pipes
- New heating and cooling systems
- High efficiency storage gas or tankless water heaters
- Ventilation fans
- Energy-efficient hardwired interior and exterior lighting fixtures
- Water-conserving improvements
- Other energy-efficient improvements that are permanent or "fixed" to the house

You'll find more information about these elements in the Home Energy Tour on the home page.



ENERGY UPGRADE CALIFORNIA IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY HOME ENERGY MAKEOVER CONTEST

OFFICIAL CONTEST RULES

Do I need to purchase anything to participate in this Contest? No purchase is necessary to participate in this Contest. Contest applicants are considered to be “**Participant**” for purposes of these rules. Energy Upgrade California in Los Angeles County, including Los Angeles County, its consultant team, and Electric & Gas Industries Association (EGIA) are considered to be “**Contest Administrators**” for the purposes of these rules. Product manufacturers and distributors, retailers, installing contractors and service providers are considered to be “**Sponsors**” for the purposes of these rules.

Who is conducting this Contest? EGIA is conducting this contest as part of the Energy Upgrade California in Los Angeles County program, funded through the US Department of Energy ARRA funds through the Better Buildings Program award.

Who can participate in this Contest? Individuals who:

- Are 21 years of age or older at time of the Contest; and
- Legally reside, occupy and own a home physically located in Los Angeles County

Who cannot participate in this Contest? Individuals **or** their Family/Household members who:

- Live outside Los Angeles County
- Are employed by, are a family member of, or are a household member of an employee of Los Angeles County, Energy Upgrade California Los Angeles County stakeholder team, EGIA, Sponsors, an electric or gas utility that serves Los Angeles County, and promotional companies or advertising agencies involved with this Contest (or their affiliates or subsidiaries). For the purposes of these rules, “**Family Members**” are considered to be spouses, parents, children or siblings. “**Household Members**” are considered to be persons living at the same street address, either full or part time, whether or not they are legally related.
- Live in attached homes, Rental tenants, multifamily building owners and tenants, commercial buildings, manufactured homes, or mobile homes.

When will this Contest begin and end? This Contest will begin on March 1, 2011 and will continue thereafter through March 31, 2011.

How can I participate in and win this Contest? Submit a completed application for the Energy Upgrade California for Los Angeles County Home Energy Makeover at www.energyupgradeca.org/lahomemakeover or by mail to Energy Upgrade California Makeover Contest, 3800 Watt Avenue, Suite 105, Sacramento CA, 95821. The application must include the Participant’s name, address, phone number, electric, gas and water utility provider, information about their home and its size, and the approximate total dollar amounts spent in 2010 on electric, gas and water utility service (if applicable). By submitting an application, Participant agrees to let their electric, gas and water utility company provide their 12 month cumulative consumption data to contest administrators in order to gauge the overall energy and water consumption of the home. NO audio or video entries will be accepted. ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY 11:59 pm PT on March 31, 2011. It may be necessary for contest administrators to conduct a site inspection as a part of the evaluation process. All Participants must make the designated home available for the site inspection at a mutually agreeable date and time in order to qualify. Only one entry per household will be accepted; multiple entries will void all such additional entries. Entries that are incomplete or illegible for any reason are void and will not be accepted.

How do I win? A panel of qualified judges, comprised of Energy Upgrade California in Los Angeles County, EGIA and Sponsor representatives will evaluate entries based on energy use per square foot within the home. From that group a minimum of 20 finalists (“**Finalists**”) will be selected based on a more in-depth telephone interview to determine compatibility with the contest’s marketing requirements. Finalists will each receive a free energy assessment on site, in their homes conducted by an Energy Upgrade California Incentive Program Participating Contractor. Homes will be modeled using utility-approved simulation software to determine a performance package of improvements designed to save a minimum of 20% of the home’s energy use. A GreenPoint Rater will also assess the viability of each home’s additional scope required to obtain a GreenPoint Rated certification. After review, contest judges will choose a minimum of 6 winners (“**Winners**”); one home in each of the 5 LA County supervisorial districts and a grand prize not based on location. The Winners’ homes must each be a structurally sound residence and meet all technical requirements as determined by Sponsor and the general contractor. All determinations by the judges will be final. Contest Winners will be selected on or around May 1, 2011.

What can I win? A minimum of 5 winners will receive approximately \$10,000 of free energy and water efficiency improvements for their home. One winner will receive approximately \$50,000 of free energy and water efficiency measures for their home. The goal is to improve each home’s energy and water efficiency. Improvements may vary depending on each Winner’s individual circumstance; The contractor providing the assessment will determine the work scope required by each home in order to achieve a minimum of 20% energy reduction following the Energy Upgrade California program process. The specifics of the Prize will be determined solely by Contest Administrators and Sponsors. Any changes and/or upgrades made to the Winner’s home are subject only to the warranties of the manufacturer and installing contractor. Contest Administrators do not make any representation or extend any warranty for such upgrades or changes, which are to be accepted “as is” and without warranty.

What are my odds of winning this Contest? The odds of winning depend on the number of entries received and an evaluation by the judges. Homes will be chosen based on pre-contest energy and water use, scope of improvements defined per house, geographic location, and cooperation by the homeowner to act as a case study and public spokesperson in future media opportunities.

How will I be notified? Finalists and Winners will be notified by telephone, mail or e-mail, based on the information provided on the contest entry form. Names of Finalists and Winners will be listed at www.energyupgradeca.org/lahomemakeover on or before May 1, 2011. Only the individual who is declared the Winner may claim the Prize.

Will I be responsible for paying taxes on the prize? Other than expressly stated in prize descriptions in these Rules, all federal, state, local, and/or other taxes, without limitation, including income taxes, are sole responsibility of the Winner. Winner will receive a 1099 form from the Contest Administrators for the total approximate retail value, as stated herein, of the prize he/she won in the calendar year it was won.

What are my responsibilities as the Prize Winner? The Prize Winner will be required to provide:

- Signed Acknowledgement, Waiver, Indemnification and Release (to be provided by Sponsors)
- IRS Form W-9
- Proper Identification (passport, driver's license, or other form of government-issued picture identification)
- Other documentation Sponsors may require

Under what conditions will a Prize Winner be disqualified and an alternate winner selected?

- If he/she cannot be reached after a reasonable effort has been made for five (5) business days following the Prize announcement;
- If he/she is found to be ineligible;
- If he/she declines to participate in the Final Round; or
- If he/she does not comply with these Rules

What else do I need to know about this Contest? This Contest is subject to the following additional rules:

1. **Prize Substitutions.** Prizes may not be redeemed, exchanged or otherwise substituted. **PRIZES ARE NON-TRANSFERABLE**
 2. **Contest Administrators Decisions.** Decisions of Contest Administrators with respect to this Contest shall be final in all regards. Contest Administrators reserve the right, in their sole discretion, to change, alter and/or modify these rules at any time, including the substitution of a prize of equal or greater value. Such change, alteration and/or modification shall become effective upon the broadcast of the same by Contest Administrators.
 3. **Privacy.** Contest Administrators have the right to modify, use in perpetuity on any media, assign to any third parties and or dispose of entries. Once submitted, entries become the sole property of the Contest Administrators and will not be returned.
 4. **Promotional Use of Winner's Identity.** By participating in this Contest, you grant Contest Administrators and their designees permission to use your name, picture, likeness, past, present, and future energy use, biographical information, statements, address (city and state) and/or voice in any manner for any marketing, advertising or promotions, whether telecast, published, or used in other medium (including but not limited to posting on the web), and to maintain such name, picture, likeness and/or voice in a database for future use, all without additional remuneration, all to the fullest extent permitted by law.
 5. **Technical Problems.** Neither Contest Administrators nor their agents and representatives shall be responsible for:
 - Any technical difficulties including, but not limited to lost, late, misdirected, incomplete, garbled phone calls, limited calling, dropped lines, busy phone lines, computer error or any technical malfunctions of the telephone network, illegible or mutilated correspondence, inability to access Contest via the Internet due to hardware, software compatibility, server and/or any other condition beyond the control of Contest Administrators;
 - Inability of the online portion of the Contest to run as originally planned, including but not limited to tampering or infection by computer virus. Contest Administrators at their sole discretion, reserve the right to cancel, modify, or suspend the Internet portion of the Contest and conduct any or all drawings from all salvageable eligible entries received.
 6. **Contest Cancellation/Suspension.** Contest Administrators reserve the right, in their sole discretion, to cancel or suspend this Contest in the event Contest Administrators cannot preserve the security or proper administration of this Contest or for any other reason in Contest Administrators' sole and absolute discretion.
 7. **Trademarks.** Any trademarks, tradenames, and/or tradestyles used in this Contest are the sole property of the respective owners of such trademarks, tradenames, and/or tradestyles and are used herein solely for identification purposes.
 8. **Legal Preemption.** This Contest is subject to all applicable federal, state and local laws and to these Rules. This Contest is void where prohibited by law.
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9. **Acknowledgements.** By participating, you agree:
- To be bound by these Rules and the decisions of Energy Upgrade California in Los Angeles County, including Los Angeles County, its consultant team, and EGIA (or their designated representative), which are final and binding in all respects and to waive any right to claim ambiguity with the Rules;
 - To waive any right to claim ambiguity with these Rules;
 - To indemnify and hold harmless the Contest Administrators and Sponsors from any and all liability resulting or arising from the Contest;
 - To release all right to bring a claim, action, or proceeding against the Contest Administrators and Sponsors;
 - That Contest Administrators and Sponsors shall have no responsibility or liability in connection with disputes over procedures or with respect to use of any prizes (including property loss, damage, personal injury, or death);
 - That any person attempting to defraud or in any way tamper with this Contest will be ineligible for prizes and may be prosecuted to the full extent of the law; Contest Administrators reserve the right to seek damages for violations;
 - That all expenses and use of the Prize not specifically mentioned herein are the sole responsibility of the Winner;
 - That Contest Administrators are not responsible for multiple entries, entries that are entered by other than human means or by other mechanical means or for entries that are late (including delayed data transmissions), tampered with, illegible, mutilated, forged, mechanically duplicated, mass machine printed, postage due, misdirected, incomplete, destroyed, lost, photocopied entries or entries otherwise not in compliance with these Rules and such entries will be disqualified;
 - That in no event shall Contest Administrators and Sponsors be liable for any special, incidental or consequential damages associated with the Contest.
11. **Disputes.** As condition of participating in this Contest, the Participant agrees that any and all disputes which cannot be resolved between the parties, and causes of action arising out of or connected with this Contest, shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action, exclusively before a court located in California having jurisdiction. Further, in any such dispute, under no circumstances will Participant be permitted to obtain awards for, and hereby waives all rights to claim punitive, incidental or consequential damages, including reasonable attorneys' fees, other than Participants' actual out-of-pocket expenses (*i.e.* costs associated with entering this Contest), and Participant further waives all rights to have damages multiplied or increased.
12. **Acknowledgement/Waiver/Indemnification/Release.** Winners of any Prize shall be required to execute the attached Acknowledgement, Waiver, Indemnification and Release prior to his or her receipt of such Prize.
13. **Rules/Winners List.** Official Rules will be posted at www.energyupgradeca.org/lahomemakeover during the Contest entry period. Following the Contest entry period, Winners will be announced at www.energyupgradeca.org/lahomemakeover.

IMPORTANT - PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

CONTEST ADMINISTRATORS SPECIFICALLY DO **NOT** WARRANT, GUARANTEE OR IN ANY WAY ASSURE, VOUCH FOR OR UNDERWRITE THE WORK DONE BY CONTRACTORS PERFORMING WORK ON THE HOME NOR THE PERFORMANCE OF ANY EQUIPMENT/APPLIANCE INSTALLED. CONTEST ADMINISTRATORS DISCLAIM ANY AND ALL EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES OR REPRESENTATIONS OF ANY KIND OR NATURE REGARDING THE HOME REMODELING/REPAIRS AND EQUIPMENT/APPLIANCES OR ANY ASPECT THEREOF, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, MERCHANTABILITY, MATERIAL, MANUFACTURE, WORKMANSHIP, DESIGN, FITNESS FOR ANY PARTICULAR PURPOSE, VALUE, CONDITION, OPERATION OR PERFORMANCE. IN NO EVENT SHALL CONTEST ADMINISTRATORS BE LIABLE FOR ANY SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES.
