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**DURING DROUGHT, WINDSOR EFFICIENCY PAYS® WINS 2014  
GREEN CALIFORNIA LEADERSHIP AWARD**

*The Town of Windsor's conservation program helps lower residents' water and energy costs by installing efficient fixtures and drought-resistant landscaping using a unique on-bill repayment method.*

Windsor, Calif. — The Town of Windsor has been awarded a 2014 Green California Leadership Award for Windsor Efficiency PAYS®, a Town sponsored water conservation program that has been helping Windsor residents install water saving devices and landscaping since October of 2012. With recent calls from local officials for voluntary reductions in water use of 20 percent because of the drought, the award from the Advisory Board of the Green California Summit in the category of Water Management highlights how important water conservation is to the Town.

"The Town of Windsor is pleased to offer our residents an array of options like PAYS® so they can do their part in reducing water use and helping us reach our conservation target during the drought," said Town Vice Mayor Steve Allen, Windsor's representative for the Sonoma County Regional Climate Protection Authority.

Windsor Efficiency PAYS® features a unique on-bill repayment arrangement that allows customers to enjoy efficiency upgrades for homes and apartments with no out of pocket expense for most measures, and no loan or debt associated with repayment. Participants pay a surcharge on their water bill to cover efficiency upgrades with the assurance that their estimated savings on combined utility bills (energy and water) will exceed the bi-monthly water surcharge. Customers that move can simply transfer any remaining surcharge payments and associated bill savings to the successor customer at the service location where the measures remain installed. Once the repayment term is complete the customer benefits from 100 percent of the utility bill savings.

Each year, public sector sustainability in California is recognized at the Leadership Awards Ceremony during the [Green California Summit](#). This year's awards,

capturing outstanding initiatives and programs in eight different categories will be presented at the Summit's Awards Reception on April 8 at the Sacramento Convention Center, Sacramento, California. Now in its eighth year, this unique conference highlights the wide range of policies, programs, strategies and technologies that are being implemented to preserve the natural resources of the Golden State.

The leadership awards were established to recognize outstanding environmental achievements by cities, state agencies and other government entities in California. The topics and winners are chosen in cooperation with the [Summit's Advisory Board](#), and award categories range from sustainability in transportation projects to energy and water efficiency and waste management. All nominated projects are publicly financed and executed and have a measurable benefit to the natural and human environment.

"Windsor Efficiency PAYS® provides a real win for local residents and the Town," says Mike McGuire, 4<sup>th</sup> District County Supervisor. "Windsor residents can enjoy new efficient products while saving money and helping the Town achieve its voluntary water reduction goals to ease the drought emergency."

Since its launch, the PAYS® program has retrofitted over 430 single and multifamily residences in Windsor, saving over 6.2 million gallons of water annually. Windsor residents interested in participating in Windsor Efficiency PAYS® can get more information by calling (707) 565-6472 or sign up to be contacted online at [www.windsorefficiencypays.com](http://www.windsorefficiencypays.com).

*(Windsor Efficiency PAYS® was developed by the Town of Windsor in partnership with the Sonoma County Regional Climate Protection Authority, the Sonoma County Water Agency, the Sonoma County Energy Independence Program, and the Sonoma County Climate Protection Campaign.)*

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