

# What is Electrification?

Electrification is the replacement of gas appliances (furnaces, water heaters, dryers, stoves) with all-electric heat pump and induction technology. Paired with opting up to 100% renewable energy through our local community energy providers (EBCE, MCE, and others), we can eliminate the use of fossil fuels in the home!

## Why?

We have the power to tackle climate change. By electrifying our homes and reducing our use of natural gas, we are tackling the second largest source of greenhouse gas emissions (first is transportation). Thanks to community choice energy providers in the Bay Area, we can easily choose 100% clean electricity for our homes and shrink our carbon footprint!

## How?

Electrification can be done in manageable steps, one at a time or all at once. The best time to electrify is when you replace an appliance or remodel a kitchen or home. You can do it on any budget, and often for an overall cost savings. Whether you can spend \$5 or over \$5,000, there are options for everyone to move off of natural gas.

## Ready to move **entirely** off of fossil fuels?

### Single-Family Homes (1-4 units)

- > Plan ahead to assess and potentially upgrade your electrical panel.
- > Most older East Bay homes have electrical panels with limited capacity (60-150 amp service). Discuss with your electrician or contractor to determine an appropriate panel size based on future need, including potential rooftop solar or electric vehicles.
- > If you already have permanent electric heating (i.e. electric baseboard or air source heat pump), change your PG&E baseline allowance to reduce your electricity bill.

### Multifamily Units (5+ units)

Share these resources with your landlord/building owner:

- > Bay Area Multifamily Building Enhancements (BAMBE): Energy efficiency rebates, no-cost energy consulting, and low interest financing for multifamily property owners. Reduced energy use lowers operating costs for property owners and increases comfort and energy affordability for tenants. Serving all 9 Bay Area Counties.
- > MCE Multifamily Program and MCE Low Income Families & Tenants (LIFT) Pilot Program. Available in MCE service area: Marin County, Napa County, unincorporated Contra Costa County, many cities in Contra Costa County, and the City of Benicia.



ecology center

August 2019

With generous support from the Berkeley Rotary Club

# ELECTRIFICATION

# 101

Your Roadmap  
to a  
**Clean Energy  
Home**

## ACTION 1

**Understand your energy mix and choose 100% carbon-free/renewable with your local community choice energy (CCE) provider:**

PG&E's default power mix contains non-renewable and unsafe sources such as natural gas and nuclear. With renewable energy through your CCE, you can get off fossil fuels by opting up online, which takes just a minute!

Use your PG&E account number and 'opt up' by visiting your CCE's website:

- > Alameda County: East Bay Community Energy ([ebce.org/optup](http://ebce.org/optup))
- > Contra Costa, Marin, & Napa counties: MCE ([mcecleanenergy.org/opt-up](http://mcecleanenergy.org/opt-up))

## ACTION 2

**Reduce your demand for natural gas:**

**Start small!** Reduce natural gas reliance by using electric appliances instead of gas stoves/ovens, heaters, and dryers. Alternative electric appliances cost anywhere from \$5-\$70:

Electric Kettle  
Instant Pot/Pressure Cooker  
Space Heater  
Toaster Oven  
Induction burner  
Clothesline/hanging rack



**Save money on your utility bill!**

- > Contact an assessor to do a 1-2 hour visit to receive a 1-10 score and recommendations ([www.HomeScoreCA.org](http://www.HomeScoreCA.org), rebates available).
- > Visit Bay Area Energy Upgrade for a list of participating contractors who can access up to \$5,000 in rebates for energy efficiency measures such as insulation, duct sealing and appliance replacements.
- > Contact the free, 3rd-party Home Upgrade Advisors at (866) 878-6008 for customized guidance and more information about other available programs.

## ACTION 3

**Plan ahead to replace your larger gas appliances:**

- > Before your water heater or furnace dies, make a plan to electrify.
- > Check your electrical panel to make sure it can support any new electrical appliances. Upgrade if needed.
- > Make a list of experienced installers/manufacturers.
- > Single-family homes and multi-family units all have different set ups; see back panel for more information.

**Apply for rebates, tax credits, incentives and more!**

- > Energy Upgrade - up to \$5,000 for insulation and weatherizing through a participating contractor ([bayrenresidential.org](http://bayrenresidential.org)).
- > PG&E appliance rebates, available online.
- > If your heat is all-electric, increase your PG&E baseline allowance to reduce utility bills.
- > Electric Vehicle Incentives - Up to \$7500 federal tax credit, up to \$7000 state rebate, \$800 PG&E rebate, and reduced PG&E EV electricity rate. For lower income drivers, up to \$5000 through Clean Vehicle Assistance and CHDC Transportation programs, and up to \$9500 BAAQMD Clean Cars for All.
- > Federal Solar Tax Credit - if electric panel upgrade is done with solar.
- > Bay Area Sunshares - offers solar bulk purchasing and EV discounts to Bay Area residents every fall.
- > Once your home is fully electrified, PG&E can turn off your gas line (and you can save even more)!

