



## Sun Power for Schools continues to shine

The highly successful *Sun Power for Schools* program has been extended for two more years—2005 and 2006. The program, initiated in 1996 with a goal of installing 20,000 watts

of photovoltaic (PV) systems on qualifying public schools in Hawaii County, Maui County, and the City & County of Honolulu, now has over 23,000 watts of electricity being generated at 19 schools.



Photovoltaic systems directly convert the energy from the sun into electricity. PV systems use solar energy panels made of a semi-conducting material that creates electric current when receiving sunlight.

*Sun Power for Schools* is made possible by a voluntary partnership between the HECO utilities (HECO, HELCO, and MECO), the State of Hawaii Department of Education, participating schools, and members of the community.

Everyone benefits from the program: schools obtain a small amount of free electricity; students learn about solar energy; the utility gains useful data; and the community benefits from the state's increasing use of renewable energy sources.

If you are not already a voluntary partner in this exciting program and would like to support it, please complete the enclosed, postage-paid reply card and contribute any dollar amount, as little as \$1 per month, toward the program or contribute a one-time donation.

For those who are partners and are supporting the program through a monthly contribution on your electric bill, your enrollment will continue automatically unless you call our Customer Service Center, on Maui at **871-8461**, on Molokai and Lanai toll-free at **1-877-871-8461**, to cancel your participation.

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*PV systems have been installed at the following schools on Maui and Molokai*

- Baldwin High School**
- Iao Intermediate School**  
*PV lighting system*
- Lahainaluna High School**  
*PV lighting system*
- Lokelani Intermediate School**  
*PV lighting system*
- Maui Waena Intermediate School**  
*PV lighting system*
- Molokai High School**



Plans are underway to install a PV system at Lanai High & Elementary School.

MECO provides labor and non-labor in-kind contributions for project management, engineering, marketing, and advertising. MECO is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the PV systems for the first two years after installation, with the Department of Education assuming the responsibilities thereafter. MECO will continue to provide technical support.

## Celebrate energy savings!

Here are a few holiday ideas to save money and energy:

• Your refrigerator is a big home energy user. Save energy by defrosting your holiday turkey in the refrigerator. The turkey will absorb heat as it defrosts, reducing the load on the cooling system. This method of thawing will also discourage bacteria growth, which is possible at higher temperatures.

According to the USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service, you should allow approximately 24 hours of thawing time for every five pounds of turkey thawed in a refrigerator set at 40 degrees.

• Light your holiday get-together with energy-saving compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs). They use just one-third of the energy that standard incandescent bulbs use and won't add as much heat to your living space. Today's compact fluorescents fit almost anywhere, have improved color rendition, and cost much less than they used to. Find them locally at drugstores and most home improvement outlets. CFL packaging will usually tell you what to replace.

• College kids home for the holidays? Relatives and guests in town? Wash full loads of clothes in cold water whenever possible. If you choose a hot-water wash, rinse with cold. And remember, solar clothes dryers (clotheslines) use clean, free renewable energy!

• Install solar water heating with MECO's \$1,000 rebate...and get the Hawaii State Tax Credit up to \$1,750!

## November Puzzle



Fill in the blanks below correctly and you may receive a free water temperature gauge to help you save energy!

**You can get a \_\_ X  
\_ R \_ \_ \_ up to \$1,750 from the State of Hawaii for the installation of solar water heating.**

### MAIL YOUR ANSWER TO:

Maui Electric Company  
Use Energy Wisely Contest  
P.O. Box 398  
Kahului, Hawaii 96733-6898

Include your name and address. Twenty-five names will be randomly selected from all correct entries received by December 15, 2004.

### ANSWER TO SEPTEMBER PUZZLE

**What kind of panels produce electricity from sunlight?**

**Photovoltaic**

Photovoltaic panels (PV) convert renewable solar energy into electricity. "Photo" means light. "Voltaic" comes from volt, a measurement of power named after Alessandro Volta who developed the forerunner of the electric battery. You can see an example of a working PV system installed by MECO in 2003 at the Lahaina Civic Center.

## Holiday Foods free cooking class

Executive Chef Joey Macadangdang from Roy's Restaurant in Kihei and Chef Ken Kenar, owner of Pizza in Paradise, will prepare delicious holiday foods at the cooking class sponsored by MECO on **November 18, 2004**. We hope you can join us for this gastronomic adventure!

The free class will begin at 6:00 p.m. and will be held in the Maui Electric auditorium, at 210 Kamehameha Avenue in Kahului. For more information call Ruth Yamamura at **871-2323**.

### RECIPE OF THE MONTH

## Farmers' Market Pasta



- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 3 North Shore Cattle Company andouille or Portuguese sausages, sliced
- 2 Ewa sweet onions, sliced
- 1 bunch kale, chopped
- 1/2 lb fresh linguine or spaghetti
- 3 vine ripe tomatoes, chopped
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1/2 cup fresh flat leaf parsley
- Freshly grated Parmesan cheese

Bring a large pot of water to boil. Heat a large sauté pan over medium-high heat. Add olive oil, sausage, and onions and cook until sausage pieces and onion is caramelized; remove from pan. In the same pan add the kale and cook until wilted and tender, adding a little water if necessary. While the kale is cooking, add the pasta to the boiling water. When the kale is cooked, add the sausage, onions, and tomatoes to the pan. Taste and season with salt and pepper. When the pasta is cooked al dente, drain and reserve some of the cooking water. Add pasta to the sauté pan; toss pasta with vegetables and sausage, adding a little of the pasta cooking water if the pasta looks a little dry. Sprinkle with parsley and toss again. Place pasta onto 4 serving dishes and serve immediately, passing around the Parmesan cheese to sprinkle on top. Recipe makes 4 servings.

Find out how to make great recipes like this one plus get energy-saving tips for your home by watching *The Electric Kitchen* on KITV4, Sundays at 4:30 p.m.