



**Welcome to the August edition of 3CE's Plugged In newsletter!** As summer winds down on the Central Coast, we've been busy connecting with our communities and sharing resources to support our customers. From greeting families at Santa Maria's Day in the Park to offering tips for staying cool during late-summer heat, we're here to help you save energy and stay comfortable. We have also introduced a new Bill Assistance pamphlet — a simple, accessible resource to connect customers with programs that can reduce monthly energy costs. And across the region, our staff continue visiting cities and counties to provide updates on 3CE's progress and local program impacts.

**In this newsletter, you'll find:**

- **3CE at Day in the Park – Santa Maria**
- **Keeping Our Communities Informed: 3CE Staff on the Road**
- **Bill Assistance Brochure Now Available**
- **Stay Cool, Save Energy**
- **Automatically Lower Your Bill & Get Rewards**
- **Upcoming Meetings**

## 3CE at Day in the Park – Santa Maria



Earlier this month, 3CE joined the community for a "Day in the Park" at Waller Park in Santa Maria. This family-friendly event featured live music, food trucks, a kids' zone, car show, fishing derby, and dozens of local organizations and vendors. Our team had a busy booth where we connected with customers, answered questions, and shared information about clean-energy programs. It was a great opportunity to enjoy a summer day in a beautiful park while hearing directly from the community we serve.

## Keeping Our Communities Informed: 3CE Staff on the Road



From June through August, Central Coast Community Energy (3CE) staff delivered annual updates at 20 City Council and Board of Supervisors meetings across four counties. This year's presentations feature jurisdiction-specific financial data showing the total dollar amount of 3CE programs and incentives distributed to each community, along with updates on 3CE's progress toward achieving a fully renewable energy grid. Staff is now working to complete the remaining presentations with upcoming visits scheduled for the counties of San Benito and San Luis Obispo and the cities of Salinas, Pacific Grove, Grover Beach, Solvang, and Sand City.

## Bill Assistance Brochure Now Available



Central Coast Community Energy (3CE) is making it easier than ever for customers to learn about programs that can help reduce monthly energy costs. 3CE's Bill Assistance brochure is now available both online and in hard copy.

This helpful resource has already been shared at community events and through local agencies, ensuring customers across the Central Coast have access to information about energy bill payment assistance programs.

If you are a customer, agency partner, or community leader interested in accessing or sharing this resource, email [focana@3ce.org](mailto:focana@3ce.org) to request hard copies or download a PDF using the buttons below.

[ENGLISH](#)

[SPANISH](#)

## Stay Cool, Save Energy



Here on the Central Coast, late summer often brings some of the hottest days of the year. When the temperature rises, so can your energy bill – but a few simple steps can help keep you cool and comfortable while saving money:

- ✓ Shift your energy use to morning and later evening when demand is lower
- ✓ Use fans when possible – they use far less energy (but do use A/C if you need it!)
- ✓ Set your thermostat to 78°F or higher when you're home; even higher when you're away
- ✓ Close blinds and curtains during the day to block out heat
- ✓ Avoid running major appliances (like ovens, washers, or dryers) during peak hours (4:00-9:00pm)

Looking ahead, now is also a great time to plan for long-term comfort. On October 1, 3CE's updated [Electrify Your Home](#) program launches with new rebates — eligible for electric induction cooktops and efficient heat pumps that heat and cool your home. That means comfort year-round, healthier indoor air, and savings on your energy bills.

## Automatically Lower Your Bill & Get Rewards



3CE has partnered with OhmConnect, a free service that will alert you when electricity prices spike in your area due to high demand so you can conserve energy, ultimately lowering your electric bill while you earn rewards. It takes just two minutes to join, and you can also get exclusive discounts on smart-home tech and win prizes!

[Sign Me Up!](#)

## Upcoming 3CE Board Meetings

Central Coast Community Energy encourages public participation in agency meetings, held in person and on ZOOM with available dial-in options. Attendees may provide live public comments remotely through Zoom or submit them in advance via email at [publiccomments@3ce.org](mailto:publiccomments@3ce.org). Sign up to receive public board notices that include meeting details.

[Dates and Livestream Info](#)

