About RCEA

The Redwood Coast Energy Authority has good energy! We are working to create new sources of electricity that will be better for the environment. It’s called renewable energy and it comes from natural sources…some are even here in our community and on top of our houses!

We think warming our homes, fueling our cars, keeping the lights on, and powering everything else with clean electricity is better for us and for the world. But we also need to be careful and only use what we need, we can’t waste it. Happy coloring!
The Sun is a Powerful Charger!

Solar panels collect and store energy from the sun, called solar energy. Sunlight turns into heat when it touches a surface. This heat can then be turned into electricity. A lot of people in Humboldt County have solar panels on their homes and buildings to generate their own electricity.
Hydropower makes energy from flowing water. The water pushes through a turbine that is attached to a generator, which creates electricity. Humboldt County has some hydropower that comes from a river that does not use a dam and doesn’t hurt the fish.
Microgrids create energy close to where people use it, instead of using power lines to bring energy in from far away. Microgrids can keep making electricity even when people outside the microgrid are out of power. They usually also store electricity in batteries to use later. In Humboldt County, there will soon be a big solar microgrid at the California Redwood Coast-Humboldt County Airport that will make electricity from the sun!
Wind Off the Coast?

When the sun hits the Earth’s surface, it causes heat to rise from the land. When hot air rises, cooler air falls back down creating the movement of air that we know of as wind. Wind can be used to push the blades of a wind turbine, which turns a generator, creating electricity. These turbines can be grouped together on land or in the water as a wind farm. Humboldt County has strong winds and might be a good place to put floating wind turbines far out in the ocean.
Electric bikes are bikes that use electricity to make pedaling easier. There are many types of electric bikes, but they all have a motor and battery to help power the bike. Electric bikes make it easier for people of all ages and abilities to ride longer and haul things around. You can use a bike instead of a car more often than you think!
Electric vehicles run on electricity instead of gasoline. There are a lot of different types of electric cars, but they all need to be plugged in to charge their batteries. People have battery chargers at their homes, and they are all around town.
There are lots of small steps that people can take to try to lessen how much electricity they use at home. A great step to take would include lowering your energy use during the hours when demand is highest. Between 4-9 pm, there are lots of other activities to participate in that do not use energy, such as reading a book or playing outside!
What is Efficiency?

Small steps go a long way when it comes to energy efficiency, or using less energy. Turn off the lights when you are not using them. Hang-dry your clothes, if possible. Make sure you close your refrigerator and freezer all the way! Can you think of other ways to be more energy efficient?
About the Artist

Neesh Wells is the Community Strategies Coordinator at RCEA. Neesh likes to read, paint, knit, and draw and was very excited to help create a Humboldt specific coloring book.

“This project has been so much fun! There are so many sources of energy to learn about. I’m glad I could help with a project that highlights some of the ways we get our energy in Humboldt County!”
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We hope you learned more about energy while coloring these pages. If you would like to share your artwork with the public, please go to our website for details. Contact us if you would like more free copies of this coloring book.

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