

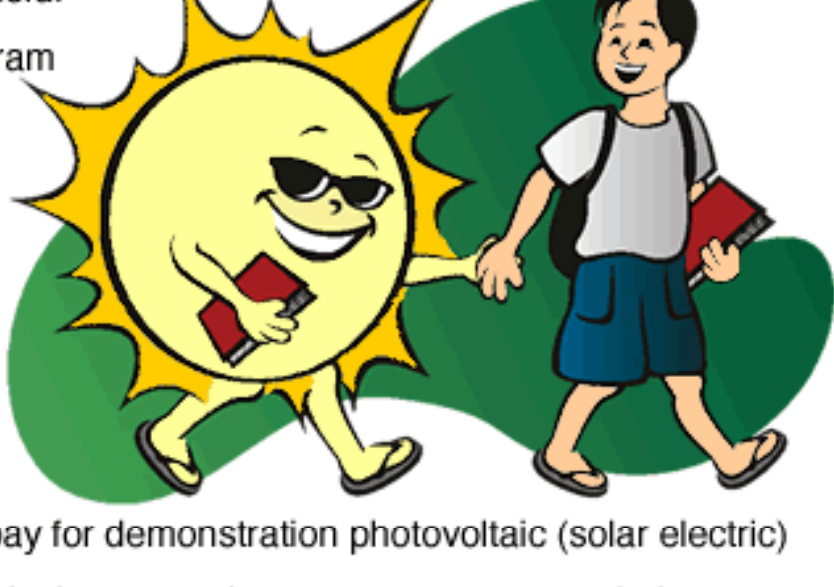


More Sun Power for Schools

Good news! MECO's successful *Sun Power for Schools* program has been extended another two years.

Since 1996, MECO and its customers who have signed up as *Sun Power* partners,

have contributed money to pay for demonstration photovoltaic (solar electric) systems at public high schools. Last year the program was expanded to include middle schools.



Baldwin, Lahainaluna, and Molokai High Schools and Maui Waena and Lokelani Intermediate Schools already have *Sun Power* systems and a photovoltaic system is now being designed for installation at Iao Intermediate School in early 2003.

What are the benefits of the *Sun Power for Schools* partnership? The solar-generated electricity helps to meet a small portion of the schools' electricity needs; MECO learns more about the costs, installation and operation of these systems; students get a hands-on opportunity to see renewable energy at work in their own schools.

With your help [Sun Power for Schools](#) can continue to grow. For as little as \$1 more each month on your electric bill you can make it possible for even more schools to participate. Just fill out and send in the enclosed reply card. For more information call **871-8461**.

Also in this issue:

[Taking Sun Power to the classroom](#)

[Energy survey online](#)

[The clock is ticking for energy tax credits](#)

[Coming Up...
FREE holiday cooking class](#)

[Recipe of the month](#)




Taking Sun Power to the classroom

PowerQuest energy lessons. Utilizing a Million Solar Roofs Initiative grant secured for the Department of Education (DOE), all schools, not just those with *Sun Power* systems, can take advantage of renewable energy coursework. Teachers have been trained to use the **PowerQuest** website and accompanying workbook to encourage students to evaluate and adapt energy conservation techniques. You too can check out the **PowerQuest** website at <http://powerquest.heco.com>.

Solar Sprint. With support from MECO, the DOE's Environmental Education Program will hold a teacher's workshop this month to introduce an alternate energy instruction program called **Solar Sprint** to selected middle schools. **Solar Sprint** challenges students to utilize renewable energy lessons to build solar-powered model cars. The program will culminate with a **Solar Sprint** exhibition in 2003.

Energy survey online



Want to save money on your electric bill? Then pay close attention to this month's bill insert. MECO's online **My Home Energy Check** survey can provide you with a customized energy report for your home, including an estimate of how much your appliances cost annually, and a tailored list of money saving energy tips. It's easy to find; just click on the **My Home Energy Check** icon on the home page at www.heco.com.



The clock is ticking for energy tax credits

Installing a solar or heat pump water heating system can save you money in three ways. Eligible systems will entitle you to a MECO rebate. You'll save on your electric bill. And you may save money on your state tax return. If you pay state income taxes and install a solar or heat pump water heater, you may be eligible for a State of Hawaii income tax credit. For a solar water heating system, you may reduce your state tax liability by 35% of the cost of the solar system, up to a maximum of \$1,750. Installing a heat pump water heater system may reduce your tax liability by 20% of the cost of the heat pump, up to a maximum of \$400.

But hurry. You must purchase and install before year-end to claim the credit on your 2002 state tax return. And if you push your purchase into 2003, take note: This tax credit is currently set to expire at the end of June 2003.

Interest free loans are also available for solar water heating systems through the Maui Solar Roofs Initiative with payments based on expected energy savings. Some restrictions apply. Stop by MECO or call **1-888-MECO-SUN (1-888-632-6786)** for loan application forms and a list of our approved solar contractors.



**Coming up...
FREE holiday cooking class**

Featuring pastry chef Roy Stillwell, Owner, Stillwell Bakery

Thursday, December 5, 2002
6:00 p.m.
Maui Electric Auditorium
210 Kamehameha Avenue,
Kahului

Roy's demonstration will include

- Making a gingerbread house from start to finish
- Gingerbread cookies
- Sugar cookies
- Royal Icing

For more information, call **871-2323**



Pastry chef Roy Stillwell puts the finishing touches on one of the delicious cakes he features at Stillwell Bakery. Watch Roy in action at MECO's free holiday cooking class next month.



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Tanioka's Fried Rice



Lightly coat a skillet with olive oil; heat. Fry beaten eggs in thin sheets; chop. In a large skillet or wok, fry sausage with onions. Add rice and mix well. Add hondashi, soy sauce, sugar, sesame oil, and oyster sauce; stir into rice mixture. Cook for 3 minutes. Add peas, green onions, and chopped egg; cook for 2 minutes or until heated. Makes 12 servings.

1/4 cup olive oil 2 eggs, beaten
1 lb Portuguese sausage, chopped
1 large onion, chopped
12 cups cold cooked rice
3 tablespoons hondashi (Japanese fish-flavored soup granules)
1/2 cup soy sauce
1 tablespoon sugar
1 tablespoon sesame oil
1/4 cup oyster sauce
1/2 lb frozen peas, rinsed and drained
1 cup chopped green onions

Watch the *Electric Kitchen* on *Oceanic 16* for demonstrations of this recipe and more!

