

# NEWS

For Immediate Release

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## **Small wind workshop scheduled for Coos County farmers**

*Pacific Power customers may be able to catch the wind, save on energy costs*

COOS BAY, Ore. — October 17, 2012 — Interested in seeing whether your Coos County farm could be a good location for a small wind system? Energy Trust of Oregon, Bergey Wind Turbines and local wind installer Gold Coast Renewable Energy are hosting a workshop to help local farmers learn about small wind systems on November 13, 7 p.m., at the Coos Bay Red Lion, 1313 N. Bayshore Drive, Coos Bay.

To reserve a spot at the workshop, visit [www.SmallWindForum.EventBrite.com](http://www.SmallWindForum.EventBrite.com) by November 8, 2012. For more information, contact Energy Trust's Senior Project Manager Chris Dearth at [chris.dearth@energytrust.org](mailto:chris.dearth@energytrust.org) or visit [www.energytrust.org/smallwind](http://www.energytrust.org/smallwind).

Small wind turbines are becoming a more common sight on Oregon farms as farmers seek to generate their own clean energy and manage their energy costs. Coos County farmers with at least one acre of land who are served by Pacific Power could be eligible for Energy Trust incentives that can cover up to 60 percent of the system cost, depending on the strength of the wind resource. State and federal tax credits may also be available.

Before attending the workshop, the organizers strongly recommend checking out the new wind resource calculator at [www.energytrust.org/windmap](http://www.energytrust.org/windmap). The tool is called WindSight™ and allows Oregon customers of Pacific Power and Portland General Electric to check the strength of the wind at their farm, business or residence with just a few clicks. WindSight provides visitors with an estimate of their wind resource when they simply type in their address to see if their site has “excellent,” “good,” “fair” or “poor” wind conditions for a wind turbine.

### **Location, location, location**

To get the most generation from a small wind system, location is critical. “A site at the bottom of a hill can be a poor resource for wind while the neighbor up the road may have an excellent site,” said Dearth. Energy Trust receives hundreds of inquiries a year from rural home and business owners about installing small wind systems. “We have designed our incentives to encourage the installation of small wind systems in areas with the best potential to generate the greatest amount of energy. Small wind turbines work best on large rural properties with open spaces where the wind blows freely with few obstructions.”

Energy Trust of Oregon is an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to helping utility customers benefit from saving energy and tapping renewable resources. Our services, cash incentives and energy solutions have helped participating customers of Portland General Electric, Pacific Power, NW Natural and Cascade Natural Gas save more than \$1 billion on energy bills. Our work helps keep energy costs as low as possible, creates jobs and builds a sustainable energy future. Learn more at [www.energytrust.org](http://www.energytrust.org) or call 1-866-368-7878.

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