



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Applications open for Leadership Training Class

SONOMA COUNTY – Applications are now being accepted for the 2014-2015 cohort of *Leadership for a Sustainable Future*, a 10-month course for those who want to make a difference in their communities and beyond. Offered by the Leadership Institute for Ecology and the Economy, the program addresses key sustainability issues in California and the North Bay while exploring varied perspectives on leadership.

Alison Healy, Executive Director of Solar Sonoma County, is a Fellow of the Institute, graduating in 2012. "The Leadership Institute program is a unique and exceptional way to learn the tenets of responsible business and how to effect change through public policy," said Healy. "This program will forever affect your vision of how you can contribute to society – no matter what you do."

Meeting once a month for a full day, the inspiring curriculum prepares participants to take on leadership roles in community, business, and civic arenas by providing a solid foundation in understanding local and regional environmental, social and economic strengths, opportunities, and challenges.

Sam Ruark, the Energy & Sustainability Coordinator for the County of Sonoma, is also an Institute Fellow. According to Ruark: "Through the Leadership Institute I was able to see how the important issues of our time such as energy, water, health, agriculture, land use, transportation, and the economy are woven together in Sonoma County. And it was awesome to meet the local leaders creating community solutions for a more healthy, just, and ecologically vibrant world."

Tuition for *Leadership for a Sustainable Future* is based on a sliding scale from \$1,000 to \$2,500. A 5 percent discount is offered to those who apply by May 5, 2014. Classes are held on the first Friday of each month from September 2014 to May 2015, and there is a full-day orientation on August 22.

Applicants to the program are chosen based on their potential for serving in a leadership role, their Interest in contributing to community development, an ability to inspire others, a commitment to personal and professional growth, and a dedication to sustainability. Applications are available now online at www.ecoleader.org

More than 400 of your friends, neighbors, and associates throughout Sonoma County are graduates of this training. Discover how your own daily actions can enhance your life, your community, and ultimately our world. For more information, visit www.ecoleader.org or call 707-578-9133.