You were added to this monthly Sustainability Newsletter list because of your involvement in Oakland's 2030 Equitable Climate Action Plan process or from opting in through the newsletter's sign up link.



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**ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP** 





## Oakland Earth Day is Saturday, April 23, 2022 – There is still time to register!

Our Oaklandearthday.org website is live! We have updated a 2022 Earth Day map, highlighting the 7 City-supported sites and a range of community-initiated sites. All sites are mapped by Council District. So far, 28 community Earth Day Sites are registered. Anyone interested in volunteering can click on clean-ups in their area or register to volunteer for City supported sites.

### Adopt-a-Spot Highlight

This year. we are highlighting "I Heart Oakland-Alameda Estuary Trash Clean Up" on our Earth Day flyer. They have been organizing monthly clean ups in the Jack London Estuary area through Adopt-a-Spot for 6 years. On large clean ups, they gather anywhere from 1.5K to over a ton of garbage from Estuary Park and Jack London Aquatic Center. They partner with many Oakland kayak, paddleboard, and boating teams as well as estuary waterfront businesses and associations.

## TRANSPORTATION + LAND USE

EV Charger Technical Assistance for Multifamily Buildings in West Oakland The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District) and Alameda County public agency Stopwaste are partnering with local electrical contractor Energy Conservation Options (ECO) to provide no-cost electric vehicle (EV) charging



station assessments for existing multifamily buildings or apartments (5 units and above) in West Oakland and Richmond. This effort aligns with both the Air District's efforts to reduce air pollution in Environmental Justice communities and the City of Oakland's Zero Emission Vehicle Action Plan. The free assessment will involve an onsite technical assessment and follow up report detailing project scope, cost, and incentives to install EV charging stations. A subset of assessed buildings will receive full technical assistance, which includes help applying for incentive programs and support to secure permits and

installation contracts. Building owners or managers interested in receiving a free EV charging assessment at an existing multifamily building located in West Oakland: please contact Ben Cooper (510-891-6511, bcooper@stopwaste.org)

## EBCE EV Charging Infrastructure Rebates

East Bay Community Energy, Alameda County's public power provider, is pleased to announce a partnership with the California Energy Commission's Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Project (CALeVIP). Businesses, commercial



properties, multifamily housing properties, and public agency facilities in Alameda County can apply for rebates up to \$80,000 on eligible electric vehicle charger equipment and installation costs.

If you are new to EV charging CALeVIP has created a list of service providers in your area to assist with developing an EV charging project for your site. To access that list, please visit <a href="mailto:calevip.org/find-an-evsp">calevip.org/find-an-evsp</a>. To learn more about eligibility requirements, visit the <a href="Mailto:Alameda County Incentive Project website">Alameda County Incentive Project website</a>.

## **BUILDINGS + ENERGY**

# PG&E Induction Cooktop Loaner Program

PG&E's new Induction Cooktop Loaner Program offers plug-in countertop induction units for two-weeks, at no cost, to all residents. To borrow and



learn more about induction cooking, visit <a href="mailto:pge.com/inductionloaner">pge.com/inductionloaner</a> where you can start the loan process. PG&E will provide shipping details and cover shipping costs.



#### Induction Stove Rebates!

EBCE is offering up to \$300 per eligible residential customer for an induction cooktop/range, when you replace an existing gas appliance. Rebates are available on a first-come, first-served basis for qualifying residents with homes built in 2016 or earlier, and the

customer must not have received a rebate for the same equipment, or other rebates funded with PG&E ratepayer dollars within the past 8 years for building shell, HVAC, and water heating measures. Induction cooking offers healthier indoor environments by eliminating harmful emissions that result from burning natural gas. Learn more and apply <a href="here">here</a> today!



## Incentives for Heat Pump Water Heaters

In most Bay Area homes, burning natural gas to heat water for showers, laundry, and dishwashing contributes more to climate change than any other indoor activity. The good news: all-electric heat pump water

heaters (HPWHs) are now widely available. Heat pumps, which work by *moving* heat rather than *generating* heat, are 3-5 times more efficient and better for indoor air quality. The even better news: Bay Area homeowners are now eligible to receive as much as \$6,600 in incentives for making the switch to a HPWH today thanks to programs offered by BayREN and the new TECH Clean California Initiative.

Learn more <u>here</u> and work with a BayREN Home Energy Advisor to come up with an upgrade plan by calling (866) 878-6008 or <u>scheduling an appointment</u>.

## All-Electric Residential and Commercial Kitchen Free Practice Guide

A project of the William J. Worthen Foundation, this is an expert-created free compendium of practical, case study-based guidance; an <a href="mailto:up-to-date">up-to-date</a> reference tool that design professionals (architects, engineers, contractors, and others) as well as developers, funders, and policymakers can apply now. The goal of this guide is to enable



teams to create a zero carbon future for the built environment.

### Existing Commercial Building Electrification Retrofits Workshop

SmithGroup's Stet Sanborn will present a process to approach electrification retrofits with special attention to MEP systems, such as space heating and domestic/service hot water production. This process includes guidance on the following:

- Which all-electric systems most easily replace existing system types.
- How leveraging heat recovery options can increase efficiency and reduce electrif i cation costs.
- How phasing of retrofit strategies can be leveraged to align capital budgets with electrif i cation goals.

The course will also include example case study projects to highlight successful strategies that have been used, as well as how the projects navigated obstacles. Register here for the workshop, happening May 11th from 8:30am to 1pm PST

### BlocPower and EBCE to Electrify More Homes

East Bay Community Energy (EBCE), the clean power community choice aggregation agency, has partnered with BlocPower, the Brooklyn-based climate technology company rapidly greening American cities, to elevate ratepayers' roles in combating the climate crisis from their own homes. Following an initial pilot upgrading and electrifying 12 Oakland homes, the two companies will electrify 60 additional homes throughout EBCE's

service territory. EBCE is providing \$1M in project fi nancing and \$400,000 in incentives tofund this first-of-its-kind project for low- to moderate-income (LMI) single-family households.

This partnership couples BlocPower's unique, full service approach to electrifying buildings with financing from EBCE's Local Development program to help homeowners infrontline communities access healthy and resilient home retrofits. Together, with their local community partners, the two companies will install affordable and clean heating, cooling, and hot water systems, and electric appliances. They will deliver weatherization and remediation and upgrade infrastructure—all to help reduce indoor air pollution, improve health outcomes, and increase home values and resiliency during extreme weather events. BlocPower and EBCE work with independent community partners, including Revalue.io and an ecosystem of local minority and women-owned businesses, to provide quality installation and safeguard customer interests.

#### **EBCE** Resilient Homes Program

Resilient Home is a program from Alameda County's public electricity provider East Bay Community Energy (EBCE). EBCE has done the upfront legwork to select an experienced partner, Sunrun, and pre-negotiated solar and battery backup system incentives for Oakland homeowners. To further lower customer costs, Sunrun will pay homeowners \$1,250 after installation for agreeing to share their



stored energy with EBCE when demand on the power grid is high. This will help the grid operate more reliably, and cut carbon emissions and costs for all EBCE customers.

Keep the lights on and the fridge cold. <u>Sign up now</u> to see if a solar and battery backup system is a good fit for your home

#### MATERIAL CONSUMPTION + WASTE

#### Intro to SB 1383, Short Lived Climate Pollution Reduction Act

SB 1383 regulations went into effect on January 1, 2022 with a goal to prevent organic materials such as food, plant debris, and paper from getting into landfills. Organic materials in landfills emit methane, a climate super pollutant 84 times stronger than carbon dioxide. SB 1383 regulations mandate proper separation of trash, recycling, and compost materials, and require jurisdictions to establish edible food recovery programs. City staff recently submitted Oakland's Initial Compliance Report to the State's oversight agency, CalRecycle. The Report describes Oakland's newly adopted, enforceable ordinances to increase construction & demolition recycling, mandate recycling and organic waste collection, require construction projects to comply with the California

Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance, and require adequate space in buildings to collect trash, recyclables and compostables in separate containers. Learn more here.



#### **OUSD Earth Month Activities**

With Earth Day coming up on April 22nd, OUSD is hosting an art contest and a litter pickup challenge as a month-long celebration of activities to be involved in for our students. We want to hear from students on what they would like to see for a more environmentally sustainable school and offer an opportunity for a fun and engaging way to clean up their community.

**School Vision Art Contest:** Students can <u>submit art</u> that can be digitally shared to express what environmental changes they'd like to see and have at their school. There will be eco-friendly prize packages for 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes for each grade level. We look forward to seeing what is created and their ideas may influence our district's climate policy!

**Litterati School Action:** Students can pick up litter around their school and/or neighborhood with Litterati. Litterati tracks what kinds of litter and how much of it is being picked up worldwide! We have a special Oakland Unified litter clean up challenge being hosted for the month of April to see how many pieces of litter we can collectively impact on making a difference.

More ideas and events are shared on our flier that students, classes or the whole school can participate in.

# StopWaste Gardening and Composting Resources

Healthy soil is the basis of healthy communities. Soil grows our food and maintains the health of plants and wildlife. Building healthy soil conserves water during drought and reverses climate change. Access to soil and growing space is both physically and



mentally healing, and it allows us to experience our diverse cultural heritage.

No matter your purpose for gardening, <u>StopWaste</u> hopes to support you by providing plenty of <u>tools for building healthy soil</u>. StopWaste can also direct you to <u>local bulk</u> <u>compost suppliers and seed catalogs</u>. And if you're looking to connect with community organizations, look to your local <u>urban farms and community gardens</u>. Local farms and gardens use compost to help grow our food. You directly help make compost for food growers by <u>sorting</u> your food scraps, plant trimmings, and food-soiled paper into the green bin. It is also <u>the law in California</u> to keep plastics, glass, and metals out of the

green bin and prevent contaminated compost. Help local food growers by keeping our compost clean!

## Reducing Food Waste Resources

Reducing food waste is one of the leading solutions to climate change, and it's something that you're probably already doing every day. Taking care and making the most of our food are important acts of environmental stewardship. By making the most of our



food, we are honoring all of the resources and labor that went into getting it to us in the **fi**rst place. Learn more ways to reduce wasted food, and share your own tips at <u>StopFoodWaste</u>, where you'll find:

- Tools & <u>Resources</u> for managing household food including a Fruit & Veggie Storage Guide (now available in Spanish and Chinese)
- The beautiful <u>Food Shift Kitchen Guide</u>, which celebrates the bounty of nature, our resilience, and well-being by highlighting twelve produce items, readily available and affordable in Alameda County, in a calendar-style format
- A <u>"Use It Up Challenge"</u> where you can get inspired and share your own tips to make the most of our food

#### URBAN GREENING + CARBON REMOVAL

## Courtland Creek Restoration Project Event

The fully-funded Courtland Creek Restoration Project, an Oakland Measure DD Initiative, will protect, enhance, and restore Courtland Creek in Courtland Creek Park. Project partners include the Oakland Parks and Recreation Foundation (OPRF), the Friends of Courtland Creek, and local schools. Grants have been received from the California Department of Water Resources (\$1 million), the United States Environmental Protection Agency, San Francisco Bay Water Quality Improvement Fund (\$1.5 million), and Caltrans Clean California Local Grant Program (\$2.03 million). City



staff and OPRF will present advanced designs at Public Meetings on May 12th and May 14th, 2022. Visit <a href="mailto:tinyurl.com/CourtlandCreek">tinyurl.com/CourtlandCreek</a> for more information. Oakland Earth Day event at Courtland Creek Park. For Earth Day, join the Friends of Courtland Creek at Courtland Creek Park on April 23, 2022. Meet at Courtland Avenue and Congress Avenue. 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. cleanup, 12-2 p.m. food and games. Contact <a href="mailto:friendsofcourtlandcreek@gmail.com">friendsofcourtlandcreek@gmail.com</a> for more information.

#### **JOIN FRIENDS OF SAUSAL CREEK**



WWW.SAUSALCREEK.ORG/EVENT-CALENDAR

## Friends of Sausal Creek Earth Day Extravaganza

At FOSC we celebrate Earth Day every day, but we plan to go REALLY big on Saturday, April 23! We have opportunities for you to get your hands dirty from the hills to the estuary in the Sausal Creek Watershed. For more information about the volunteer events listed, visit our web calendar. If you would like to bring a group out to volunteer (4 or more), please send us an RSVP!

#### Keep Oakland Beautiful Grant Application

Keep Oakland Beautiful's annual grants program is now accepting applications! We will award grants of up to \$800 to projects that help beautify Oakland. Successful past projects have included park and open space clean-up and beautification projects; planting shrubs, flowers, community gardens; little free and pop-up libraries; graffiti removal and murals; and litter container tile mosaics. Learn more on our website and submit your application by May 31.

https://www.keepoaklandbeautiful.org/kob-small-grant-program.html

18th Annual Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour This delightful collection of native plant gardens ranges from Al Kyte's 45-year-old wildlife oasis to brand new installations, from large lots in the hills to small front-yard gardens, from local native plants to natives from throughout California, and from gardens designed and installed by owners to those designed and installed by professionals.



#### **Virtual Garden Tour**

10:00 - 3:00, April 16 & 17 2022

#### **In-person Garden Tour**

10:00 – 5:00, April 30 & May 1, 2022

## Growing Food the Eco-Friendly Way

Free Webinar on April 14, 5-6 pm

Do you grow food or would like to but not sure where to start? Concerned about water use and pests? Learn how you can successfully grow an abundance of food the eco-friendly way, using water efficiently and managing pest problems without chemicals that can be harmful to water,

wildlife, and even your kids and pets. For gardeners of all levels. Register at



https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_6WEIDwI-RTuDve1BTGPnpw.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### New Grant Opportunities with Partners for Places

Partners for Places is a successful matching grant program that improves communities by supporting equitable sustainability projects that build partnerships between local government leaders, frontline community groups and place-based funders in the U.S. and Canada. National funders invest in local projects developed through these partnerships to promote a healthy environment, a strong economy and well-being for all residents. Through these investments, Partners for Places fosters long-term relationships that make our communities more resilient, prosperous and equitable.

These one-to-one matching awards provide partnership investments between \$25,000 and \$75,000 for one-year projects, or between \$75,000 and \$150,000 for two-year projects, with a 1:1 match required by one or more local foundations.

Deadline to submit applications is April 13.



April Registration for Community Emergency Response Team Training Ready, Oakland? The next Community Emergency Response Team [CERT] class starts this month on April, 22, 2022. The full schedule is linked here.

Upon completing the CERT training course, participants should be able to take the necessary

steps to safely secure themselves and their families. Beyond that, CERT Trained Volunteers are prepared for and expected to lead their communities by supporting larger disaster responses when called on.

CERT graduates will be able to; recognize life-threatening conditions and apply appropriate life-saving techniques, conduct patient head-to-toe assessments, employ

basic treatment for injuries, and understand disaster medical operations. CERT Participants should be able to identify and reduce potential re hazards in their homes, workplaces, and neighborhoods and also perform basic re suppression strategies, resources, and safety measures.

In addition to the above, trained CERT Volunteers will also be able to describe the postdisaster emotional environment and the steps that volunteers can take to relieve their own stressors and those of disaster survivors.

Interested? Register here and get to know your CERT instruction team in the mean time!

### East Bay Community Energy is Hiring!

There are several positions open at East Bay Community Energy, based in downtown Oakland.

- Salesforce Administrator
- Regulatory Analyst
- Director or Senior Manager of Clean Energy Structured Finance
- Marketing Content Coordinator

For more information visit https://ebce.org/job-opportunities/.

Reminder: Oakland's Proof of Vaccination Ordinance Still in Effect People 12 and older continue to be required to show proof that they have been vaccinated to enter many indoor facilities in Oakland. The emergency ordinance adopted by City Council, FAQs, the protocol template for businesses and other details are at: <a href="https://www.oaklandca.gov/VaxOrdinance">www.oaklandca.gov/VaxOrdinance</a>.

If your organization would like to have relevant community events or opportunities posted here, please email us at climate @oaklandca.gov.

We'd love to hear from you! For Questions or comments contact climate @oaklandca.gov