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Environmental Stewardship

VOLUNTEER OAKLAND!



September 17, 2022



FOR MORE INFO!

27th Annual Event

CREEK TO BAY DAY

Volunteer to clean and green Oakland. Pledge to conserve water from home!



#OaktownPROUD
#VolunteerOakland
#CreektoBay
#ProtectYourHappyPlace
#OaklandCreekToBay



OaklandCreektoBay.org



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Creek to Bay is Saturday, September 17th, 2022!

On Saturday, September 17, the City of Oakland will be hosting Creek to Bay Day! 2022 marks the 27th anniversary of Oakland Creek to Bay Day, held in conjunction with California and International Coastal Cleanup Day, one of the largest organized volunteer days in California, the nation, and 100 other participating countries.

Individuals and households can be a part of this 27th anniversary event by pitching

in to clean up coastal areas across the city, as well as pledging and committing to actions from our homes to protect watersheds.

Visit oaklandcreektobay.org to volunteer at a site near you or sign up to host your own!

Lake Merritt Algae Bloom Update

You may have read about, or seen first-hand, the [algae bloom and fish die-off at Lake Merritt](#). You can find more info on the [City website](#), but here are a few updates:

Why is it happening? While no official cause has been determined, [some experts posit](#) that the fish die-off—which has also been seen in Foster City, the Alameda estuary, Keller Beach, Sausalito, and Fort Baker—is due to a harmful red algae bloom that has also been seen around the Bay. This type of bloom lowers the amount of oxygen in the water, which fish cannot survive.

What is the City doing? Oakland Public Works has contracted cleanup crews who removed 1200 lbs of dead fish. OPW is working with agencies like the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board, to identify appropriate options to treat the area.

What can I do? Those who want to lend a hand and learn more about the health of the Lake should check out the [Lake Merritt Institute](#) or [Rotary Nature Center Friends](#), two grassroots stewardship organizations.

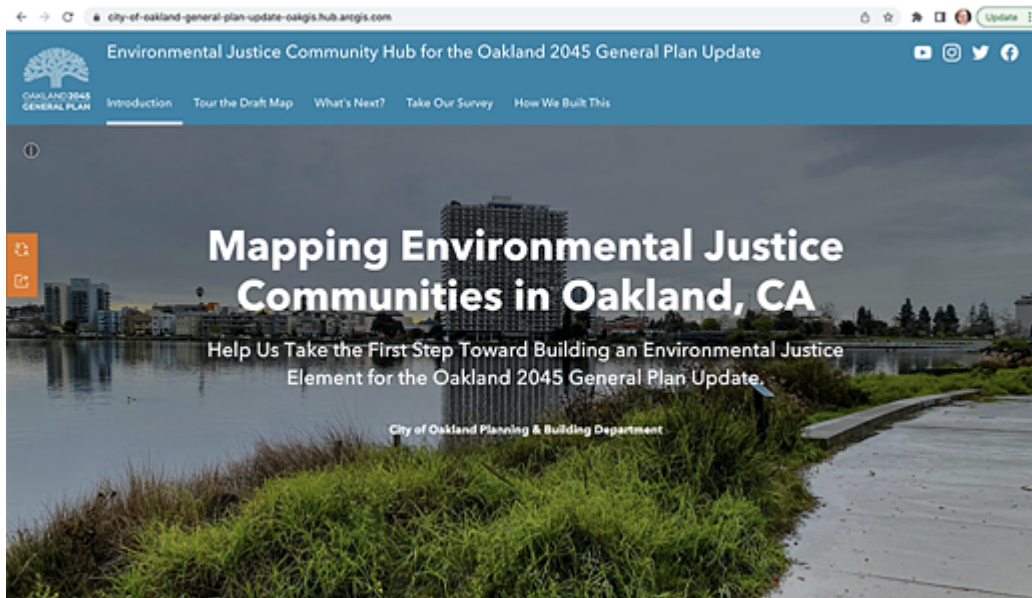


Oakland To Return 5-Acre Section of Joaquin Miller Park to Sogorea Te' Land Trust

In one of the first cases of a municipality returning land to Native peoples, under the proposed “cultural conservation easement,” Oakland would retain ownership of the designated area, but the [Sogorea Te' Land Trust](#) would have nearly full control over the use of the land, for cultural, environmental, and educational uses, in perpetuity.

The plan to return the Joaquin Miller site has been in the works since 2018, when Mayor Libby Schaaf first met with Gould after watching the documentary “[Beyond Recognition](#).” Schaaf asked Gould if she saw opportunities for giving land back in Oakland. Sogorea Te' members searched for a culturally significant location and zeroed in on Sequoia Point off Skyline Boulevard, which features a flat, paved overlook with an expansive view of the city and bay, as well as a thick grove of trees. The area will continue to be open to the public and plans for the site include hosting seasonal ceremonies, replacing invasive plant species with native ones, and opening an educational center.

Transportation & Land Use



General Plan Feedback on Environmental Justice Element

We are seeking the public's input to fully understand the excessive pollution burden, health impacts, and needs of Oakland's Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) and low-income communities. Participate in community conversations about Environmental Justice (EJ) in your neighborhood using our interactive [Environmental Justice Community Hub](#). Use this tool to explore Oakland's **Map of Potential Environmental Justice Communities**, share your vision for a healthy neighborhood, and document local environmental justice issues and solutions. Your feedback will be used to help the City improve Oakland's Map of Potential Environmental Justice Communities and develop environmentally just policies to be included in the [Oakland 2045 General Plan Update](#).



Ride Electric at the Harvest Festival

Saturday, October 15, 11am – 3pm

Cedar Rose Basketball Courts, 20 Virginia Gardens, Berkeley (across from North Berkeley BART station)

- Test ride electric bikes and scooters
- See electric vehicles and talk to local EV owners
- Learn about credits, rebates, grants and loans

- Enjoy family friendly crafts, games, food, live music and more at the City's Harvest Festival
- Street parking is limited; please consider taking BART or AC Transit

Learn more and register to attend the event at

<https://tinyurl.com/RideElectric2022> Interested in showcasing your EV or eBike?

Please [register as an EV or eBike owner](#) and complete the EventBrite survey.



Southwest Airlines Brings Sustainable Aviation Fuel to Oakland Airport

This month marks the first time that sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) will be used in the operations of Southwest Airlines® at Oakland International Airport (OAK). This introduction makes OAK the third commercial airport in the United States to have SAF incorporated into the daily operations of a major U.S. airline. This initiative is a part of Southwest's [goal](#) to replace 10% of its total jet fuel consumption with SAF by 2030, which is an important step toward its long-term goal to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. The SAF that will be used at Southwest's OAK operation is provided by Neste and is made from renewable and sustainably sourced waste and residue materials, like used cooking oil or animal waste fat. Adding Neste's SAF to Southwest's operation is a seamless process—after blending with conventional jet fuel in accordance with applicable industry standards, it is compatible with both Southwest's existing aircraft as well as the airport's current infrastructure. Check out more [here](#).



EV Charger Technical Assistance for Multifamily Buildings in West Oakland

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District and Stopwaste are partnering with local electrical contractor Energy Conservation Options (ECO) to provide no-cost electric vehicle (EV) charging station assessments for apartment buildings in West Oakland and Richmond. The free assessment includes an onsite technical assessment and follow up report detailing project scope, cost, and available incentives. A subset of assessed buildings will receive additional assistance in applying for incentive programs and securing permits and installation contracts. To find out more and sign up, 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 and 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 calevip.org/find-an-evsp. To learn more about eligibility requirements, visit the [Alameda County Incentive Project website](#).

Buildings & Energy



Induction Cooktop Lending Program and Rebates!

Induction is the safest and most energy-efficient cooking technology available today. The difference is in the technology. See for yourself!

- **EBCE:** [Reserve your Induction Lending Kit today](#), including a portable cooktop and compatible pan, operating instructions, and recipes. The loan period is 21 days. The induction Cooktop lending Program is available to all residential electricity customers residing in the East Bay--EBCE customers as well as non-customers who receive service from PG&E.
- **PG&E:** 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 pge.com/inductionloaner where you can start the loan process. PG&E will provide shipping details and cover shipping costs.

EBCE is also 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. Restrictions apply. Learn more and apply [here](#) today!



Discounts on Solar + Storage through Bay Area SunShares

The City of Oakland is committed to a more sustainable world and supporting your transition to cleaner energy. From **September 1st through November 15th, 2022**, we are partnering with Bay Area SunShares to bring you discounted solar + storage with pre-vetted installers.

Sign up at www.bayareasunshares.org!

Find out more by attending an [informational webinar](#)!



Lincoln Square Park's Climate Resilience Plan

Lincoln Square Park has [plans to become a resiliency hub](#) for the community of Chinatown. In the coming years, the park will rebuild their recreation center to be environmentally friendly, and to include resources for the neighborhood during climate events, wildfires, and days with poor air quality. It is amazing to see the vision of this project that is by the community, for the community, and we can't wait to see the innovations of Lincoln Square Park!



Surveys on Building Electrification

The City of Oakland wants to hear your thoughts and perceptions on building electrification and how we can better facilitate the transition to 100% clean electricity in all buildings. Complete this [5-minute survey](#) here, also available in Chinese and Spanish.

Also, UC Berkeley researchers are looking for diverse homeowners and renters living in Oakland to participate in a study on household electrification. **You'll receive \$50 for your time.** Participating in the study involves a **30-45-minute interview in-person, preferably in your home** (following local health guidelines for COVID-19) **or in a video call**. Researchers will address your concerns about the reliability and affordability of clean energy, and ask about your views related to any changes you have made or plan to make (or not!) in your electricity and gas consumption (e.g. purchasing back-up generators, changing from gas to electric heating, installing solar panels). Your responses will remain anonymous in the analysis and results. Please contact them via email (cristina_crespo@berkeley.edu), phone (+1 628-276-3167), or fill out this form: <https://forms.gle/VRMG1Jhhttpx9Wm69>



EBCE Resilient Home Program

With [Resilient Home](#), 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. [Sign up now](#) to see if a solar and battery backup system is a good fit for your home

Urban Greening & Carbon Removal

Use the Tool Lending Library for Your Next Garden Project

It's not too late to plant a garden! Oakland's [Tool Lending Library](#) has all kinds of tools including circular saws, gardening tools, hammers, and screwdrivers available to be checked out, just like a book! The Tool Lending Library is located at 5205 Telegraph Avenue, and open every day but Sunday.

Material Consumption & Waste

Share Your Thoughts!



City of Oakland Recycle, Compost, and Trash Survey

We are gathering opinions from residents, business owners and property managers regarding trash, recycle, and compost collection services in Oakland. The [survey](#) should take less than 10 minutes to complete. All participants who complete the survey will be entered into random drawings where two participants will be selected daily to receive **\$50 Amazon gift cards**.

Thank you in advance for sharing your thoughts and opinions as the City of Oakland works to improve services.



Visit Oakland Launches Oakland Vegan Trail

Visit Oakland has launched the [Oakland Vegan Trail](#), an online gastronomic guide that boasts 20+ plant-based restaurants found in The Town. The Oakland Vegan Trail map includes an overview of each restaurant, with menu highlights, location, and contact information.



Maximizing Your Food Workshop

Food is an integral part of our daily lives, a significant part of our budget, and a source of nourishment and joy. Do you ever think of how much food gets wasted in your own home and throughout the food system? Join StopWaste and Food Shift on **September 22** for a lunchtime conversation that includes a tour to see how food recovery organizations make the most of valuable food resources, and a food demonstration with a chef to get tips on how to maximize your food at home.

Register: <https://stopfoodwaste.org/tips/blog/event-maximizing-food-for-your-budget-health-community-and-the-planet>

Announcements



Little Town Libraries Looking for More Ambassadors!

The [Oakland Literacy Coalition](#) is thrilled to be partnering with Stephen & Ayesha Curry's Eat. Learn. Play. Foundation, the Black Cultural Zone, Oakland Public Library, and many other community partners to:

- Distribute new, high interest, and culturally relevant children's books because #ReadingIsLiberation
- Celebrate and develop a love of reading EVERYWHERE — at the park, a bus stop, a community organization, a liquor store, outside a school, and more
- Meet kids and families where they are by making books literacy resources accessible to Oakland flatland neighborhoods 24/7

Little Town Libraries are modeled off of the [Little Free Library](#) movement, where volunteers host book boxes in front of their houses or organizations. Anyone is free

to take a book or leave a book. We love Little Free Libraries vision statement: ***“Our vision is a Little Free Library in every community and a book for every reader. We believe all people are empowered when the opportunity to discover a personally relevant book to read is not limited by time, space, or privilege.”***

In Oakland, our Little Town Libraries will be wrapped in a beautiful design by the Illuminaries, and will be stocked with new, high interest, culturally relevant children’s books for families with kids 0-18. We’ll have books in English, Spanish, Chinese, Arabic, Vietnamese, Mam, and more.

Women of Color Resilience in Climate Equity Award Application

Rise to Thrive is opening our application for our RICE [Resilience in Climate Equity] Award. In a nutshell, the award is meant to honor and uplift the tremendously impactful work Women of Color are engaged in to advance climate and environmental justice. RICE Recipients receive a stipend; the opportunity to join us for our healing retreat in Belize and professional leadership coaching. The RICE award is looking for Women of Color who are not normally lifted in the work. BIWOC who have multiple intersecting identities are especially encouraged to apply. If you know an outstanding Women of Color who would be great for the award please send them the application: <https://lnkd.in/dXjDdkKt> Applications are due **September 30, 2022**. For more information about *Rise to Thrive* please visit risingtothrive.org

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



City of Oakland, 1 Frank H Ogawa Plaza, Oakland, CA 94612

[Manage preferences](#)