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## Environmental Stewardship



**Save the Date! Oakland's MLK Day of Service is January 15, 2024!**

On Monday, January 15, 2024, the City of Oakland is celebrating MLK Day of Service! This is a day of community service, education, and commitment to

practices to keep our city clean and green. Groups and individuals of all ages and abilities are invited to join, or even host their own, events throughout Oakland. Oakland. Site Coordinator registration closes **December 15** and volunteer pre-registration opens **December 18**; visit [www.oaklandmlk.org](http://www.oaklandmlk.org) to learn more! Visit [www.oaklandmlk.org](http://www.oaklandmlk.org) to learn more!



### **Adopt-a-Drain Before the Rain!**

You can help reduce flooding and keep trash out of our waterways by adopting a storm drain and keeping it clear of debris! The City of Oakland's Environmental Stewardship Team provides tools, supplies, and debris pick-up for Adopt-a-Drain volunteers. Remember, "Clear the drain before the rain" and report storm drain maintenance needs to Oak311! Visit [www.adoptadrainoakland.com](http://www.adoptadrainoakland.com) to adopt one or more storm drains in your neighborhood or near your workplace!

## **Buildings & Energy**



## **New Heat Pumps in Oakland Libraries**

The Oakland Public Libraries are electrifying! Thanks to a PG&E grant of over \$1.5 million, the libraries' gas-powered water heaters have been replaced with electric heat pump water heaters at no cost to the city.

As of now, 92 heat pump water heaters have been installed in city buildings, reducing GHG emissions and contributing to a healthier, cleaner, and safer Oakland. Innovative Mechanical and Energy Services carried out the installations at libraries and are now installing heat pumps in other municipal buildings. This project advances the City's goal of going all-electric by 2040.



## **Ava Community Energy Provides \$16M in Bill Credits and Savings**

Ava Community Energy (formerly East Bay Community Energy) is giving back \$16M to customers in one-time bill credits from November 2023 through February 2024. The bill credits are split into two tranches as detailed below:

- Customers qualified under the California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) or Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA) programs will be receiving a **\$50 credit**, for a total of \$6M overall.
- All Ava residential customers will receive \$7.74 bill credit and commercial customers will receive volumetric savings based on their electricity usage. Total savings will be \$10.5M across residential and commercial bills.

For more information, please visit [avaenergy.org](https://avaenergy.org). For questions about your bill or the service in general, email [customer-support@avaenergy.org](mailto:customer-support@avaenergy.org) or call 1-833-699-3223.



## **New TECH Heat Pump Water Heater Incentives**

TECH Clean California is offering contractor incentives of **\$3,100 to \$5,300 per unit** for replacing existing single family and commercial water heaters with heat pumps statewide. Equity incentives for single family projects and multifamily incentives for heat pump water heaters are coming soon! TECH Clean California is offering \$80.2

million of additional funding to continue to meet California's goal to help create a pathway to carbon-free homes by 2045 and install six million heat pumps by 2030. These incentives are only available to contractors enrolled in TECH Clean California. Visit the [Switch Is On](#) for more details. A list of qualified heat pump water heaters and contractor resources can be found on the [Incentive Resources](#) page.

For Large Commercial projects, contractors must submit a reservation form. For Single Family and Small Business projects, contractors should reserve incentives by starting and saving an incentive claim prior to submitting (with the customer's name, address, and signed customer Terms and Conditions). See below for the reservation form and claim form links.

- [Commercial Reservation Form](#) (required)
- [Single Family Claim Form](#) (reservation not required, but encouraged)
- [Small Business Claim Form](#) (reservation not required, but encouraged)



## 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!

- **Ava:** [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-- Ava 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](https://pge.com/inductionloaner) where you can start the loan process. PG&E will provide shipping details and cover shipping costs.

Ava is also offering **up to \$250** 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!

## Urban Greening

### 12/16 Native Plant Extravaganza

The winter Native Plant Extravaganza takes place on **Saturday, December 16, from 10:00am-4:00pm**; shop for natives in-person at East Bay Wilds and a percentage of your purchases will go to support the Tour. Orders online from [Green Thumb Works](#) on either Saturday or Sunday Dec. 16 & 17, and a percentage of your purchase will also go to support the [Bring Back the Natives Garden Tour](#).

[East Bay Wilds](#) is located at 2777 Foothill Blvd., Oakland; note that the entrance is on 28th Ave. This nursery is normally only open to the public on Fridays, so don't miss this chance to shop on a weekend! While at East Bay Wilds, browse Pete's extensive, eclectic collection of garden benches, tables, chairs, statues, planters, antiques, and tchotchkes available at great prices – a percentage of these purchases will also go to support the Tour. See the plant list [here](#) and see photos of gardens that Pete has designed and planted with natives [here](#). (If you are interested in a consult, design, installation or maintenance for a California native landscape, email Pete at [pete@eastbaywilds.com](mailto:pete@eastbaywilds.com) or call (510) 409-5858.)

#### Talks in the Nursery at East Bay Wilds

12:00 "How to choose and care for manzanitas" by Pete Veilleux, owner of East Bay Wilds

**2:30 - 4:00 Wildflower Seed Giveaway:** *Jennifer Dirking will have a table with native gardening information and free packets of Larner Seeds' "[Native Plant Pollinator Wildflower Mix](#)," while supplies last.*

## Announcements

### Free Climate Advocacy Training from Climate Action California

2024 is going to be a Big Year for climate legislation and policy in California. To get folks ready, Climate Action California, with partners Climate Reality Project and



Third Act, is offering a free Zoom Training at **4pm on Thursday, January 4, 2024** to show how grassroots groups and individuals can advocate for strong climate measures with elected representatives in California and Washington D.C.

For more information, please visit: <https://actionnetwork.org/forms/join-our-legislative-training-sessions>

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



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

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