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Environmental Stewardship



Thank you to MLK Day of Service Volunteers!!

The Environmental Stewardship Team extends a HUGE thank you to all the Oaklanders who participated in service events at over 30 locations across the Town! People of all ages and backgrounds came together in honor of Dr. Martin Luther

King Jr. to contribute to and celebrate a day of action, community, and service. Your work is inspiring, as it reflects that no matter the choice, service empowers individuals and strengthens our communities!

If you are interested in cleaning, greening, and beautifying Oakland's public spaces year-round, consider joining the Oakland Adopt-a-Spot Program. Learn more at oaklandadoptaspot.org, or scan the QR code below!



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 or scan the QR code to adopt one or more storm drains in your neighborhood or near your workplace!





Buildings & Energy

Building Electrification Clubhouse at [BIG-O Coworking Space](#)

The Building Electrification Clubhouse is a monthly workshop for building industry professionals at the BIG-O coworking space. On the first Thursday of every month, come enjoy a fun evening with interesting speakers, engaging conversation, and light refreshments! This is a space for contractors, tradespeople, designers, project managers, and others to share knowledge, hear from expert peers, and get your questions answered. Learn More: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/topics/building-electrification-public-engagement>

City of Oakland launches new rapid permits!

The City of Oakland is excited to announce a significant enhancement in its permitting process with the introduction of ten new "rapid permits" available through the Online Permit Center. Mechanical, Plumbing, and Electrical Permits are now available on the same day! This initiative aims to streamline and expedite the issuance of permits, providing applicants with instant approval upon completion of the application and fee payment.

Press Release: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/news/city-of-oakland-introduces-ten-new-rapid-permits-for-instant-approval-through-online-permit-center>



Ava Community Energy: New Name, Same Great Services, and Exciting New programs for Saving Energy and Electrifying

If you haven't heard yet, East Bay Community Energy is now **Ava Community Energy**! Ava is your local electricity provider, founded in 2018 by Alameda County, the cities in Alameda County, and the City of Tracy. Ava is a not-for-profit public agency dedicated to providing residents and businesses (including our City!) with low rates and green energy, all while investing in our communities. Learn more:

<https://avaenergy.org>

One way they're investing in our community is by returning a share of excess revenue to all Ava customers! Residential customers will receive a \$7.74 credit on their December/January bills, and commercial customers will receive a volumetric credit based on their usage. This credit amounts to \$10.4 million across all of our customers. Ava recently placed a \$50 credit on the bills of all customers on CARE, FERA, and Medical Baseline.

Here's more from Ava:

- Apply to join Ava's Community Advisory Committee! **Applications due 12:00pm on Friday, February 2nd.** To Apply: AvaEnergy.org/CACApplication
- Commercial Induction Rebate: Upgrade your commercial kitchen to induction and get to \$17,500 in rebates <https://tinyurl.com/iccrebate-ava>
- Save money when upgrading to a heat pump water heater with up to \$400 in rebates now! Visit: <https://avaenergy.org/programs-residential/>

Ava Community Energy Provides \$16M in Bill Credits

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.

- 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. For questions about your bill or the service in general, email customer-support@avaenergy.org or call 1-833-699-3223.

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.





New TECH Heat Pump Water Heater Incentives

TECH Clean California is offering contractor incentives of **\$3,100 to \$5,300 per unit** for replacing single family and commercial gas water heaters with heat pumps. Additional equity incentives are coming soon! TECH Clean California is offering \$80+ million of additional funding to 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.

- [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 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



Oakland's Urban Forest Plan in the News

Bay Nature featured a comprehensive story on Oakland's urban forest and the public reaction to the draft Urban Forest Plan during the recent public comment period. You can view the article [here](#).

Zero Waste



Senate Bill 1383 in Action!

Food and plant materials decomposing in landfills release methane, a potent greenhouse gas driving climate change. To combat this, California enacted Senate Bill 1383. Oakland businesses must comply by segregating compost, recycle, and trash weekly under SB1383 and [Oakland Municipal Code Chapter 8.28](#). Prior to the citywide [enforcement](#) in January 2024, CCAC Fellows Sarika Paralkar and Tessa Arens spearheaded outreach, engaging about 1600 local businesses and community-based organizations for SB1383 compliance, providing personalized support to over 150 organizations to ensure adherence to local regulations.

Learn More about SB 54: Transforming Packaging and To-Go Foodware in California

Join waste management leaders on **January 25, 2024 from 12pm - 2pm** to learn more about SB 54, a new law that will shift all packaging in California to be 100% recyclable and/or compostable and hold producers responsible for ensuring proper material processing and recovery. Register for the webinar here! <https://www.crra.com/news-and-events/sb54-webinar>

\$1.1 Million for Grants in Six Categories from StopWaste

[StopWaste](#) is offering grant funding for innovative projects that focus on waste prevention, reuse, and recovery of food, goods and materials, as well as development, marketing, and products made with recovered materials.

- Projects must be located in or serve Alameda County.

- Available to businesses, nonprofits, institutions, and school districts (varies by category).
- **Application deadline is March 14.**
- Watch the 2024 grants [webinar](#) for application details.
- Click the button below to explore these grant opportunities

Explore Grants

Announcements

A message from OakDOT:

The 2024 OakDOT Summer Internship application is now open! Applications are due February 11th.

Successful candidates will have the opportunity to gain experience working in a fast-paced, progressive transportation department and develop the skills needed for a career in multimodal, mobility-focused transportation planning or public administration.

More info about the program and a link to apply is available here: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/topics/oakland-department-of-transportation-internships>

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](#)