

# Climate, Environment + Sustainability Newsletter



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## **Environmental Stewardship**





#### **Elmhurst Park Revitalization Project**

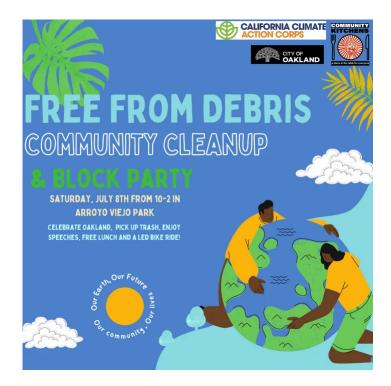
Over the course of the last five months, the Environmental Stewardship Team has led efforts to revitalize Elmhurst Park in partnership with the city's Parks & Rec Department, Tree Services Division, Neighborhood Services Division, Department of Violence Prevention, and community partners. Hundreds of volunteers have participated in clean-ups, tree planting and maintenance of the park and tennis courts. As a result, there are now more families using and maintaining Elmhurst Park!



### Applications Open for Youth Employment Partnership (YEP)

#### **Programs**

Applications for the Youth Employment Partnership (YEP) are now open! YEP offers educational support, workforce training, critical resources, and real opportunities for young people in need of a partner in growth. Opportunities include job readiness training, educational opportunities, summer employment and emergency, supportive housing for unhoused young adults. <u>Click here to learn more and/or apply!</u>



## 7/8 Free from Debris Community Cleanup and Block Party at Arroyo Viejo Park

Celebrate Oakland at the Free from Debris Community Cleanup and Block Party, pick up trash, enjoy speeches, free lunch and a led bike ride! The goal of the event is to reframe the traditional idea of the 4th of July to recognize the activism and environmental stewardship of marginalized communities. We want to honor Oakland traditions of blending activism and community service with joy and celebration, while affirming that equitable climate action is what our nation needs to move forward on in these coming years, and fast. The event will feature speeches from local figures, a community cleanup in the neighborhood surrounding the park with tools provided, free lunch from Oakland food justice organization Community Kitchens, live music, and tabling from local orgs. Register now at <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/free-from-debris-community-cleanup-and-block-party-tickets-648317373717?">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/free-from-debris-community-cleanup-and-block-party-tickets-648317373717?</a>



### ECAP StoryMap Update

Since the development of the Equitable Climate Action Plan (ECAP) in 2020, the City of Oakland's Sustainability Team has been working hard on its implementation over the past 3 years. To communicate the climate equity progress so far in Oakland, the City has created a <u>StoryMap</u> to showcase accomplishments across the 40 actions. The goals of this new tool include:

- Centralizing communication on climate equity related projects undertaken by the various departments throughout the City,
- Highlighting the City's ECAP progress in a manner that is accessible to a large number of Oakland residents, and
- Creating ECAP reporting and communication mechanisms for greater transparency

Feel free to click below and look through this tool to learn more about how Oakland is advancing climate equity and offer feedback on how we can improve! <u>Climate</u> <u>Equity Progress in Oakland</u>

## **Transportation & Land Use**



### Environmental Justice and Safety Element 6/14 Community Workshop

Join the the City of Oakland's General Plan team for a community workshop on **June 14th from 6-7:30pm at the Oakland Main Library** (125 14th St) to review the <u>Draft Environmental Justice (EJ) Element</u> and <u>Draft Safety Element</u> for public review and feedback! This is the first time the City has created an Environmental Justice Element and we are excited about the draft strategies and policies to reduce pollution burdens on Oakland's most vulnerable communities. The Safety Element Update provides a gameplan for addressing natural and man-made disasters and improving our resilience to climate change impacts. For a quick primer on what each Element covers, please check out our <u>EJ</u> and <u>Safety</u> Factsheets.

We encourage you to take time to digest these drafts and provide us with any feedback and questions you may have. They will be available for 90-day comment period that begins on March 24, 2023, and ends on **June 22, 2023**. You may review and provide comments directly on the Draft Elements via Konveio or submit comments via email to <u>generalplan@oaklandca.gov.</u>



#### **EBCE EV Charging Infrastructure Rebates**

Limited funding remains for Level 2 electric vehicle charging infrastructure through East Bay Community Energy's 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 <u>calevip.org/find-an-evsp</u>. To learn more about eligibility requirements, visit the <u>Alameda County Incentive Project website</u>.

**Buildings & Energy** 



California homeowners can electrify with new TECH Clean California incentives!



#### **New TECH Clean California Heat Pump Rebates**

The <u>TECH Clean California program</u> is a statewide initiative to accelerate clean space and water heating technologies. For 2023-2024, the program has been allocated \$145 million over the next two years, with at least 40 percent of the funds committed to low-income households and disadvantaged communities. TECH Clean California has over 1,000 enrolled contractors who can help households claim <u>\$1,000</u> for new heat pump HVAC systems, with up to two incentivized systems per home for a total of \$2,000 when replacing a gas appliance. Single family incentives for heat pump water heaters will launch later this year starting at \$3,100 per unit. <u>Multifamily</u> incentives will be available by early June and will include up to \$2,000 for heat pump HVAC systems per unit and \$2,100 for heat pump water heaters. The incentives are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Homeowners can take advantage of limited time incentives in California and find pre-qualified, TECH-certified contractors on the <u>Switch Is On</u> website.



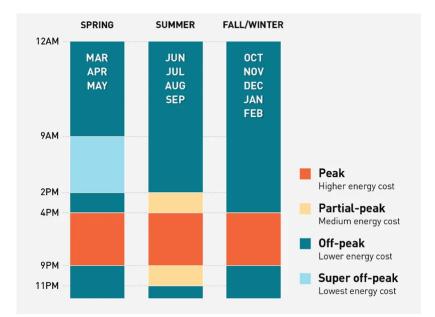
#### Induction Cooking: Your Questions Answered 6/14 Webinar

**June 14** at 12:00 – 1:30 pm PST / 3:00 – 4:30pm EDT The magic of cooking with magnets is going mainstream. While 3% of homes have induction, the market has grown over 40% in the last two years. A majority (70%) of homeowners told Consumer Reports they would consider induction for their next stove. Join BDC Chef Rachelle Boucher for <u>this exciting webinar</u>!



#### **New Zero NOx Appliance Standards**

On March 14th, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) passed a new zero nitrous-oxide (NOx) emissions standard for furnaces and water heaters. NOx is a chemical byproduct of fossil fuel combustion that reacts to form ozone and particulate matter (air pollution). The resulting air pollution causes many health issues, including asthma, heart attacks, and premature deaths, with increased severity in racial minorities. For these reasons, BAAQMD approved the zero-NOx appliance standards, allowing only zero-NOx water heaters to be sold or installed in the Bay Area starting in 2027 and zero-NOx furnaces following suit in 2029. A factsheet summary of these new regulations can be found on BAAQMD's website.



#### **Summer Energy Saving Tips**

The days are getting hotter, which means Californians will start to use more electricity to cool themselves off. Summer rates, when peak prices are highest, are in effect for 4 months, from June through September. Peak hours are 4 to 9 p.m. every day. Off-peak hours, when energy prices are the lowest, are 12 am to 2 pm and 11 pm to midnight every day, June through September. When you're able, precool your space or shift energy-intensive operations from 4 to 9 pm to the off or partial-peak hours. This both helps the California energy grid stability and helps to lower your energy bill. So if you are able...shift and save!



**EBCE Health-e Home Program and 2023 Commercial Rebates** 

EBCE's Health-e Home program, in partnership with BlocPower and Revalue.io, provides low- to moderate-income homeowners with affordable financing options to gain access to the health and safety benefits of transitioning to clean energy and electric appliances. The Health-e Home program also supports health and safety improvements such as wiring upgrades and roofing repairs—all to help reduce indoor air pollution, increase resiliency during extreme weather events, and potentially increase home value. For more information, visit <u>https://ebce.org/health-e-home/</u>

For businesses, EBCE has commercial rebates for restaurants and home performance contractors. EBCE is offering \$17,500 for <u>high-powered electric</u> <u>induction cooking equipment</u> for cleaner and more comfortable indoor air for staff and customers. For home performance contractors and plumbers, EBCE is giving \$1,000 for qualified professionals to install <u>high-efficiency heat pump water heaters</u> in their service area. Learn more about these commercial rebates at <u>ebce.org/programs-business/</u> or call 1-833-699-EBCE (3223) during business hours.



#### 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:** <u>Reserve your Induction Lending Kit today</u>, 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 <u>pge.com/inductionloaner</u> 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 <u>here</u> today!



#### **EBCE Resilient Home Program**

With **<u>Resilient Home</u>**, 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

### **Urban Greening**



#### **Oakland Urban Forest Plan Update**

The Urban Forest Plan has a new webpage! Please visit <u>https://www.oaklandca.gov/projects/oakland-urban-forest-plan g</u>oing forward for updates on project progress and to sign up for email notifications to be notified when the draft plan is available for public review.



#### 6/16 Friends of Sausal Creek Pride Event

Join Friends of Sausal Creek at the FOSC Nursery in Joaquin Miller Park to celebrate Pride, build community, and propagate native plants for habitat

restoration. This is an affinity space for folks who identify as LGBTQIA+ and is led by queer staff. Our first meetup is on **Friday**, **June 16**, **3-6 p.m**. For more info and to sign up, check out our calendar: <u>https://www.sausalcreek.org/event-calendar</u>

## **Material Consumption & Waste**



#### **Get Toxic Items Out of Your Home**

Pesticides and synthetic fertilizers, household cleaners, and old medicine are hazardous materials and should never go in the garbage, or down a drain. These items when poured down the sink, toilet, or storm drain can leach toxic materials into the soil and groundwater. Make your appointment now for the free drop-off event in Oakland on **July 9th** to safely dispose of your hazardous waste. Link: <u>https://bit.ly/45PBh7x</u>

### Announcements



#### California Climate Action Corps 2023-2024 Recruiting

Are you ready to take climate action, connect people with volunteer opportunities, build community resilience, and get compensated along the way? You're in the right place! As part of California's comprehensive strategy to address climate change, California Volunteers, Office of the Governor created the country's first state-level climate service corps and Fellowship program. <u>California Climate Action Corps</u> (CCAC) is a national service program led by California Volunteers and implemented by Bay Area Community Resources dedicated to advancing equitable climate action that engages community members, cultivates change, and leaves a lasting impact. For 2023, CCAC is offering two (2) program terms. Join us for one, or join us for both!

- 1. Summer 2023 (300+ hours): June 5 August 4, 2023
- 2. Full Term 2023-24 (1,700+ hours): September 18, 2023 August 15, 2024



### Mycelium Youth Network Hiring Climate Resilience Research Justice Organizer

Mycelium Youth Network (MYN) is seeking a **Climate Resilience Research Justice Organizer**! MYN prepares youth in the Bay Area — who are most vulnerable to and already feeling the effects of environmental racism — for climate change. This fulltime position will support our new "Data Warriors" fellowship and train youth fellows in participatory research methods, alongside our continuing Youth Leadership Council (YLC) program. The deadline to apply is July 10th, with an intended start date of Sept. 1, 2023.

For the full job description and instructions on how to apply, visit: <u>https://ideali.st/gNXSV9</u>



# Certify & Amplify Webinar WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28, 2023 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

#### 6/28 MCE Annual Supplier Diversity Webinar

Calling all business owners! Join a panel of expert speakers on June 28 at 11 am to learn if your business qualifies to certify in California's <u>Contracting</u> <u>Clearinghouse</u>. Certification is a free and easy tool for small and diverse businesses to build their portfolio of work. Click <u>HERE</u> to register for this virtual webinar today.

If your organization would like to have relevant community events or opportunities posted here, please email us at <a href="mailto:climate@oaklandca.gov">climate@oaklandca.gov</a>.



City of Oakland, 1 Frank H Ogawa Plaza, Oakland, CA 94612 <u>Manage preferences</u>