

May 2022

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 Highlights

Thank you to all our Earth Day Volunteers!! 2022
Oakland Earth Day was a success.



A HUGE thank you to all our volunteers that participated in cleaning and greening our town last weekend!! It was great to be back in person and in our communities. We had 38 community lead clean-ups in addition to our 7 City supported sites. Volunteers also planted a total of 93 Trees!

If you volunteered please remember to submit your volunteer results!

<https://oakland-volunteer-community-oakgis.hub.arcgis.com/feedback/surveys/dfd0f09fb32048e79b25c3077583de8c/explore>

With 50% of Earth Day sites reporting we had:

551 volunteers

9,244 volunteer hours

10,240 gallons of trash collected

7,315 gallons of Green waste collected

33 sq. meters of graffiti removed

A reminder that Earth Day is Every Day! Log into our Adopt-A-Spot website to continue to clean and green Oakland.



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 calevip.org/find-an-evsp. To learn more about eligibility requirements, visit the [Alameda County Incentive Project website](#).

BUILDINGS + ENERGY

Introducing EBCE's Induction Cooktop Lending Program

East Bay Community Energy (EBCE) has partnered with Acterra to provide you a chance to try

induction cooking for free. Induction is the most energy-efficient cooking technology available today. The difference is in the technology. See for yourself. [Apply today to reserve your Induction Lending Kit](#), which includes a portable induction cooktop and compatible pan, operating instructions, recipes and a carrying bag. 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 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 pge.com/inductionloaner 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 [here](#) 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 [here](#) and work with a BayREN Home Energy Advisor to come up with an upgrade plan by calling (866) 878-6008 or [scheduling an appointment](#).

East Bay Green Home Tour (free!)

Saturday & Sunday, May 14 & 15

10:00AM – 1:00PM

What are your East Bay neighbors doing to combat climate change, improve air quality, generate clean energy, and move toward a safer, healthier, greener future? Find out at the 2022 East Bay Green Home Tour – a virtual tour of 12 local homes, with live Q&As with homeowners, renters, and experts. The tour features an all-new lineup of people, homes, and situations, plus helpful resources and ideas. Register and learn more at EastBayGreenHome.com.



Existing Commercial Building Electrification Retrofit Workshop

SmithGroup's Stet Sanborn will present a process to approach electrification retrofit 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 electrification costs.
- How phasing of retrofit strategies can be leveraged to align capital budgets with electrification 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

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

MATERIAL CONSUMPTION + WASTE

Reducing Methane Through Food Donation and Food Waste Prevention



Oakland is succeeding at reducing methane emissions by reducing food waste! Oakland is a founding municipal

partner with the [Pacific Coast Food Waste Commitment](#) (PCFWC) and for the last 3 years has worked collaboratively toward a shared ambition of effective, industry-wide actions that prevent and reduce waste food along the West Coast. In that time, the PCFWC has recruited 9 large grocery retail chains that have committed to receive technical assistance on how to reduce edible food waste through robust inventory management and donation. In exchange, the grocers must provide data on edible food waste so that the PCFWC can measure the impacts of their initiatives. The PCFWC estimates that about 14% of edible food from the participating grocery stores is currently being donated for human consumption. The PCFWC expects to receive \$400,000 in grant funding to expand their food waste prevention technical assistance and tracking to the hospitality sector in the coming year.

City staff have also been working closely with StopWaste and the Alameda County Community Food Bank to identify Oakland based food recovery organizations and gauge their interest in utilizing commercial kitchens at City facilities for food recovery efforts. City staff are also working to support [Alameda County All-In EATS](#) to support an initiative to transform Arroyo Viejo Recreation Center into a food hub. The food hub will have a new commercial grade kitchen that can receive excess edible food and redistribute the food into the community either as is or prepared into ready to eat meals. City staff was recently awarded a CalRecycle grant and will be using a portion of the funds to support building out commercial kitchens in additional City facilities to support expanded edible food recovery and distribution efforts.

Oakland Awarded \$614,794 to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants

The California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) awarded the City of Oakland \$614,794 through the SB 1383 Local Assistance Grant Program. This one-time funding will help Oakland implement programs and activities mandated by SB 1383, the Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Reduction Strategy. SB 1383 regulations are intended to prevent organic materials from being disposed into landfills because organic materials in landfills emit methane, a highly potent climate pollutant. SB 1383 regulations require correct separation of trash, recycling, and compostable materials, and also require jurisdictions to implement and support existing edible food recovery and distributions activities. Oakland's successful grant application specifically requested funds to accomplish the following:

- Upgrade kitchens in City facilities to increased food distribution capacity

- Conduct a gap analysis to identify neighborhoods that lack access to food distribution organizations
- Provide technical assistance and education to Tier 1 and Tier 2 food generators (food manufacturers, supermarkets, grocers, food service providers/distributors, wholesale food vendors, large restaurants, hotels, and large venues) to increase food recovery and reduce food waste
- Conduct a pilot program to educate grocery store shoppers about food waste reduction strategies
- Conduct community outreach via radio/TV/online about SB 1383 requirements and the climate benefits of reducing food waste
- Conduct a compost application and carbon sequestration pilot
- Implement a web-based platform to track City's compliance with the many activities mandated by SB 1383



New Community Compost Hub

Compost plays a crucial role in recycling our food scraps and yard trimmings into a beneficial soil amendment that builds healthy soil and saves water. Adding compost to soil makes our food more nutritious and our climate healthier overall. And now you – any Alameda County resident - can come pick up free compost, as

often as you need it, at the Bay Area Makerfarm and Farm2Market's Compost Hub in Alameda! Get details: <https://www.stopwaste.org/compost-hubs-and-donations>

URBAN GREENING + CARBON REMOVAL

Urban Forest Master Plan

Community Engagement

Come and learn about Oakland's urban forest and tell us what you think about trees in Oakland. After completing our citywide tree inventory, we are ready to share our findings with you and want to understand your priorities for City trees. Please visit www.publicinput.com/Oaklandtrees



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>

Skyline Boulevard Dying and Dead Tree Removal

City contractors have begun removing dead and dying Monterey pine trees from the Skyline Boulevard median between Keller Avenue and Shepherd Canyon Road. So far, we have completed 30 tree removals. Consecutive years of drought have exacerbated the decline of many of these trees while increasing potential fire risk, creating possible safety and traffic hazards that must be addressed to protect the functionality of the Skyline Boulevard Evacuation Corridor during a catastrophic event. This work is funded by CAL FIRE and will continue until March 2024.

How to Get Rid of Garden Pests

Free Webinar on **May 12, 5-6 pm**

Join us for a special webinar about common spring pests in the garden and how to manage them. You will learn how to identify, reduce or even prevent common problem pests in the garden and home, including leaf sucking insects, slugs, rodents and more! This class is for gardeners of all levels.



Register at: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_gr42OciaSeKMqaXQnTRboQ

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Participate in Oakland's City Challenge 2022!

Oakland needs your creative ideas! You know our city because it is YOUR city. You can submit and vote on proposals for how to address challenges our city faces regarding homelessness, violent crime, and abandoned vehicles and illegal dumping. This is your opportunity to positively influence the policies and programs that are implemented in the City of Oakland. You can contribute with concrete ways to improve life in your community. Submit a proposal for the chance to be one of the winning solutions.

A promotional graphic for the City Challenge Oakland 2022. It features a circular inset image of the Oakland city skyline at night. The text is arranged in a structured layout with various colors and fonts. At the top, it says 'CITY CHALLENGE OAKLAND 2022' in white on an orange background. Below that, it says 'We want you! Help make your community stronger, safer and more beautiful.' in white on a dark blue background. A list of challenges is provided: Homelessness, Violent Crime, Abandoned Vehicles and Illegal Dumping. A QR code is present for more information. At the bottom, it says 'Visit oakland.mycitychallenge.org to learn more and participate today' and lists sponsors: City of Oakland, The Burren Center for Social Change at Northeastern University, Oakland Fund for Public Innovation, MILLS, and THEGOVLAB.

CITY CHALLENGE OAKLAND 2022
We want you! Help make your community stronger, safer and more beautiful.

Share your innovative and creative solutions to some of Oakland's toughest problems.

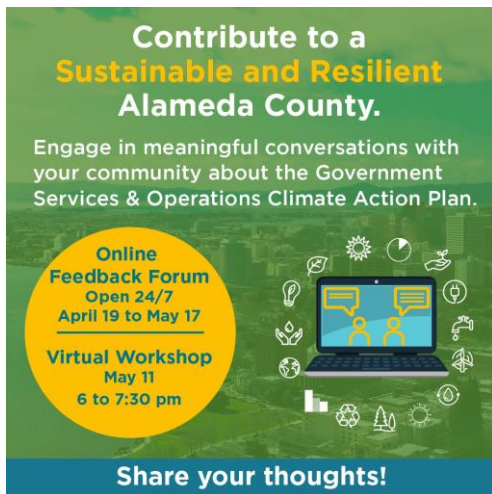
- Homelessness
- Violent Crime
- Abandoned Vehicles and Illegal Dumping

Submit a solution! Vote on the ideas you think are most important! Get involved!

Visit oakland.mycitychallenge.org to learn more and participate today

CITY OF OAKLAND | The Burren Center for Social Change | Oakland Fund for Public Innovation | MILLS | THEGOVLAB

Go to oakland.mycitychallenge.org to learn more about the competition and to submit your proposal.



Community Forum and Workshop for Alameda County Climate Action Plan
Alameda County is updating our Climate Action Plan for Government Services & Operations and invites your input! This month, there are two ways to give input on our draft actions for sustainability and resilience in county buildings, fleet, and services. (1) Join a virtual community workshop on May 11. (2) Join an online feedback forum open through May 17. Participation in the forum, during the workshop or on your own, enters you for a chance to win a \$100 gift card!

Learn more and register: <https://acgov.org/sustain/engage>.

Greenbuild Legacy Project Funding

The US Green Building Council welcomes non-profits, charity organizations, or firms invested in social equity and community resilience to apply for the Greenbuild Legacy Project. The Legacy Project awardee will receive \$7500 in funding (plus whatever we fundraise) as well as support/guidance/resources from the Greenbuild Host Committee. Projects can be an existing community project in-progress that funding can help accelerate. It does not need to be a new project. In addition, the Legacy Project doesn't have to focus on a building project, though it can. Legacy Projects can take many forms. Any service project that would support community give-back around sustainability, equity, resilience, or health. Applications are due May 25th. For more information, visit <https://www.usgbc.org/articles/call-applications-greenbuild-2022-legacy-project>

Oakland Ranked No.5 Most Sustainable U.S. City by Lawnstarter

Using 23 indicators to measure Earth-friendly policies on infrastructure, transportation, local pollution levels and sustainable food production practices, Oakland ranked No. 5 out of almost 200 large U.S. cities. Oakland took the lead in the lowest greenhouse gas emissions and received high marks for progressive policies around building decarbonization and vehicle electrification. For more information on Lawnstarter's methodology, visit <https://www.lawnstarter.com/blog/studies/most-sustainable-cities>

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