

# Climate, Environment + Sustainability Newsletter



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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. Registration is now open and interested parties can either sign up as volunteers or site coordinators for you or your organization. Visit <u>www.oaklandmlk.org</u> 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 <u>www.adoptadrainoakland.com</u> to adopt one or more storm drains in your neighborhood or near your workplace!

### **Transportation & Land Use**

#### **California Zero Emission Vehicle Sales Reach New Milestones**

According to <u>market analysis by Veloz</u>, 26.75% of Q3 new car sales were zeroemission vehicles (ZEVs) as compared to 17.7% of new car sales in Q3 of 2022. This news comes on the heels of a slew of zero emissions announcements in the state. In September, California reached its goal of installing over <u>10,000 fast</u> <u>chargers more than a year ahead of schedule</u>. With trucks being a top contributor to the state's transportation-related emissions, California made additional strides towards a zero emissions future in October when the state hit its <u>ZEV truck sales</u> <u>goal two years ahead of schedule</u>.

## **Buildings & Energy**



#### Ava Community Energy Name Change

On October 24, **East Bay Community Energy became Ava Community Energy**. This name change is part of a larger brand refresh for the agency. The name Ava Community Energy is shorter, more memorable, and subtly nods to the agency's growing service territory which spans <u>A</u>lameda County and the San Joaquin <u>Va</u>lley.

You will begin to see Ava Community Energy in all the places you encountered East Bay Community Energy in the past. As a customer, there are no actions for you to take. Your service and rates will not change. Your benefits will continue to increase, however, as Ava Community Energy has exciting new programs–including the largest eBike lending and incentive program in California–coming your way soon.

For more information, please visit avaenergy.org/brand. For questions about your bill or the service in general, email <u>customer-support@avaenergy.org</u> 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 <u>Switch Is On</u> for more details. A list of qualified heat pump water heaters and contractor resources can be found on the <u>Incentive Resources</u> 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)
- <u>Single Family Claim Form</u> (reservation not required, but encouraged)
- Small Business Claim Form (reservation not required, but encouraged)



#### **BayREN Green Labeling Residential Energy Efficiency Program**

The BayREN Green Labeling program helps promote energy efficiency information in the single-family residential marketplace. The program provides rebates for getting a Home Energy Score through the US Department of Energy and engages the real estate

community with training and information on energy efficiency and electrification. Recently, realtors toured a 1940s Oakland home that underwent energy efficiency upgrades, including insulation, heat pumps, and induction cooking. Read more about the home tour here: <u>https://www.bayren.org/news/labor-love-energy-efficient-upgrade-1940s-home</u>. If you are a real estate professional in Oakland, explore other educational opportunities through BayREN at: <u>https://www.bayren.org/events-training</u>



#### **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: <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-- Ava customers as well as noncustomers 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.

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 <u>here</u> today!

## **Urban Greening**



# Draft Urban Forest Plan Now Open for Public Comment and Review

The draft Urban Forest Plan is here! The Plan outlines strategies based on community desires, collected data, and industry best practices to support the long-term health and improvement of Oakland's urban forest. Your participation is needed to ensure that the Plan effectively represents the community's needs. The six-week public comment period runs from **October 30th to December 8th**. Visit <u>www.oaklandca.gov/trees</u> to learn more about the project and read the draft Urban Forest Plan.

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Sunday, November 26th 1-3pm at the FOSC Native Plant Nursery Tickets available through QR code or: https://tinyurl.com/FOSCbotanicalillustration



# Friends of Sausal Creek Botanical Watercolor Workshop

Sunday, November 26, 1-3 p.m. at the FOSC Native Plant Nursery

Join artist <u>Kristi Holohan</u> as she guides participants through some basics of plant identification, botanical illustration and painting techniques at the Friends of Sausal Creek Native Plant Nursery. All ages and ability levels are welcome to participate and all supplies will be included in each ticket. Proceeds go to benefit the work of <u>Friends of Sausal Creek</u> for native plant restoration, wildlife monitoring and environmental education. For more information or inquiry please contact: <u>kristi.holohan@gmail.com</u>.



#### Grove Shafter Park Cleanup with Keep Oakland Beautiful

Join KOB and partners for a Clean California cleanup on **Saturday November 18th from 9AM-12:30PM**. In addition to cleanup and beautification, come by for:

- Free catered lunch from alaMar Dominican Kitchen
- Free eco-conscious stainless steel & bamboo water bottle
- A handy cleaning kit
- Raffle and giveaway prizes!

Please feel free to invite as many friends, family, kids, and pets as you would like! Our goal is for 100 volunteers of all ages and corners of Oakland join us. <u>Sign up to</u> <u>meet us there!</u>

#### 11/18 Native Plant Extravaganza

The fall Native Plant Extravaganza takes place on **Saturday, November 18, from 10:00-4:00**; shop for natives in-person at East Bay Wilds and a percentage of your purchases will go to support the Tour. Orders online from <u>Green Thumb Works</u> on either Saturday or Sunday Nov. 18 & 19, and a percentage of your purchase will also go to support the <u>Bring Back the Natives Garden Tour</u>. <u>East Bay Wilds</u> 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 <u>here</u> and see photos of gardens that Pete has designed and planted with natives <u>here</u>. (If you are interested in a consult, design, installation or maintenance for a California native landscape, email Pete at <u>pete@eastbaywilds.com</u> or call (510) 409-5858.)



### Announcements

#### **Community Block Party at Marcus Books**

KOB has partnered with AeroSoul to lift up Marcus Books' legacy of Black readership and are proud to announce the unveiling of a commissioned mural at America's oldest independent Black-owned bookstore on **Sunday November 19th at 1PM**. Join us for a family-friendly community block party (with free food!) and support the Marcus Books mission. This event is free, with donations supporting Keep Oakland Beautiful.

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



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