

## Climate, Environment + Sustainability Newsletter



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## **ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP**

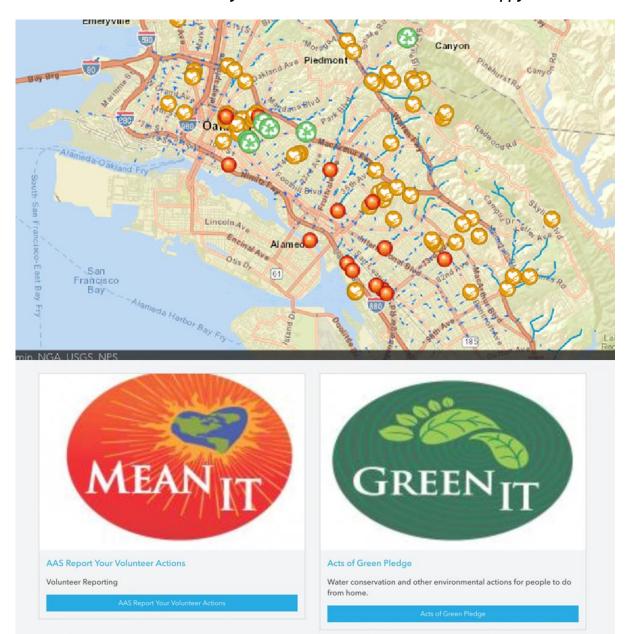


### **Creek to Bay 2021 Is Here!**

Be Oaktown PROUD this September for <u>a month of Oakland Creek to Bay</u> watershed cleanup, education, and commitment! Learn, pledge, and act this September in fun, educational, and meaningful ways.

Learn more, access resources, and report results by clicking at <a href="https://www.oaklandcreektobay.org">www.oaklandcreektobay.org</a>.

#### #VolunteerOakland #CreektoBayMonth #OaktownProud #ProtectYourHappyPlace



## Put Your Volunteerism on the Map - Report Your Volunteer Hours!

Report your volunteerism in real time on our Community Hub with its interactive map and real-time tally. Click on the Report Your Volunteer Actions ("Mean It") at 2021 Creek to Bay Cleanup | Oakland Volunteer Community (arcgis.com). Take the Acts of Green pledge ("Green It"), also at Oakland Volunteer Community Hub link above.

#### **Public Works Volunteer Guidelines**

Review and follow <u>Volunteer Guidelines & Waiver with</u> <u>COVID-19 safety requirements</u>, available in English, Spanish and Chinese.

Be safe & follow Alameda County Health Orders whenever venturing outside!

#### Be #OaktownPROUD





Stop the spread of germs

that can make you and others sick!













## TRANSPORTATION + LAND USE



## Ride Electric at Berkeley Farmers' Market

Test drive new & used EVs. Find eBikes for commutes, recreation, and hauling kids & cargo. Talk to local EV drivers and eBike riders. Learn about credits, rebates, grants, and loans. And, enjoy lunch at the farmers' market. Masks required.

Saturday, October 2 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM Civic Center Park 2151 Martin Luther King Junior Way, Berkeley, CA 94704

Learn more and register to attend the event at https://tinyurl.com/rideelectric.

Owners of plug-in vehicles interested in showcasing your car, please <u>register as an EV</u> <u>owner</u> and complete the EventBrite survey.

#### **National Drive Electric Week**

<u>ElectricForAll.org</u> and <u>Plug In America</u> want you to mark your calendars for National Drive Electric Week 2021, Saturday, September 25th to Sunday, October 3rd! National Drive

Electric Week is a nationwide celebration to raise awareness of the many benefits of all-

electric and plug-in hybrid cars, trucks, motorcycles and more. Are you considering going electric? Find and RSVP for an inperson or online event to learn from owners who have done so. Then, take the Electric For All "I'm Going Electric" pledge and receive a \$40 GIG Car Share credit plus a free sticker.





#### Micromobility Stakeholder Meeting

Micromobility refers to small electric vehicles such as E-bikes and E-scooters. These energy-efficient vehicles emit no pollution, and are an important part of Oakland's strategy for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Join an online discussion on the role of micromobility in Oakland's transportation system on Wednesday September 29th, 3:00-5:00pm PDT. Topics will include:

- · How can the City support the use of micromobility, especially in disadvantaged communities?
- · How can the City ensure that micromobility options are affordable and available to all Oaklanders, including those with disabilities?

As part of <u>Oakland's Zero Emission Vehicle Action Plan</u>, this stakeholder meeting will result in policy recommendations for both owned and shared E-bikes, E-scooters, and other small battery-powered devices. This is a free public meeting; anyone who is interested in the topic may join.

Register Today on our Eventbrite.

### We Need Your Input! - ZEV Action Plan Surveys

Electric vehicles can save you hundreds of dollars a month while reducing air pollution in our community. But many neighborhoods in Oakland have no public chargers. How can we ensure that all Oaklanders have access to affordable, clean transportation? The City of Oakland is developing a Zero Emission Vehicle Action Plan and needs to hear from you!

- Take the ZEVAP Survey
- Tell Us Where You Want to See More EV Chargers

To learn more about the project and see the development and progress of the plan, visit the City's <u>Zero Emission Vehicle Action Plan webpage</u>. Sign up for email updates <u>here</u>.

#### **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.

With wildfire season is here, it's time to prepare for rolling blackouts and PG&E Public Safety Power Shutoff outages. 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

#### **PG&E Arrearage Management Program**

Need help paying your utility bills? During the pandemic, the California Public Utilities
Commission directed PG&E to stop disconnecting customers who are unable to pay their bills. This moratorium ends on September 30, 2021, at which time energy customers like you will need to begin

#### Behind on your PG&E bills? The AMP program can help.

With each on-time payment of your current charges, AMP will forgive 1/12 of the eligible debt you owed at the time of your enrollment.



paying outstanding electricity and gas balances or risk disconnection. Note: customers on a payment plan are not at risk of disconnections. There are several payment plans you can enroll in, including the Arrearage Management Plan (AMP), to avoid being disconnected. The Arrearage Management Plan (AMP) is a new payment plan to help qualifying residential customers reduce unpaid balances (up to \$8,000) on their energy bills. With each on-time payment of current charges, AMP will forgive 1/12 of the eligible debt owed at the time of enrollment. After twelve on-time payments of monthly current charges, eligible debt will be forgiven up to \$8,000. PG&E manages this program for EBCE customers. For more information and to enroll, visit <a href="ebce.org/amp">ebce.org/amp</a> or speak with a PG&E customer service representative at 1 (800) 743-5000.



# **EBCE Seeks Local Sponsors for Community Solar Project**

East Bay Community Energy is developing a community solar program that will offer qualifying customers living in designated disadvantaged communities access to 100% renewable energy and a 20% discount on their electricity bills. As part of the program, EBCE will select local partner sponsor(s) to help

project developers and the community come together, identify community-suggested

project sites, and work with EBCE to conduct outreach and create interest in subscribing to the project. The sponsor can be a non-profit, local government, or school. Moreinformation can be found at <a href="mailto:ebce.org/community-solar">ebce.org/community-solar</a>



## Last Month To Get A Free Smart Theromstat!

Save Energy while helping reduce blackouts with <a href="OhmConnect">OhmConnect</a>'s City Energy Challenge! To help prevent blackouts this summer, OhmConnect is challenging communities across California to see who can save the most energy by the end of September- a little neighborly competition to decide California's most energy-conscious city. OhmConnect will give the winning city \$50,000 to award 10 scholarships for education (community college, job training, university, etc.) to residents

of their city.

When you sign up, you'll receive a free smart thermostat. Not only will this help lower your utility bills, OhmConnect actually pays you for reducing energy use during peak hours. With 1 Million thermostats connected to OhmConnect, we have the ability to prevent blackouts by reducing demand on the grid at critical times - a potential impact equivalent to taking 146 cars off the road for an entire year. Do your part and sign up now!

#### Tips for Maintaining Healthy Indoor Air Quality

Once again, late summer has brought with it a series of devastating wildfires, resulting in smoky conditions and poor air quality around the Bay Area. With so many seemingly conflicting measures of air quality, it can be hard to properly assess when the air inside your home has unsafe levels of

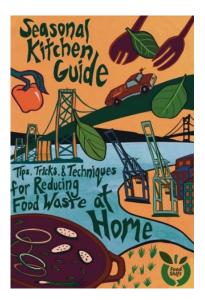


pollutants, let alone what to do about it. This presentation helps to clarify what terms like AQI mean and provides tips for tracking and improving indoor air quality during smoke events. Or check out these webinars hosted by StopWaste and the Bay Area Regional Energy Network on improving indoor air quality and comfort and a chef's demo on the benefits of electric induction cooking (and yummy tips to eat up your fresh garden produce)

## MATERIAL CONSUMPTION + WASTE

#### Seasonal Kitchen Guide

Be sure to check out the newly released Seasonal Kitchen Guide: Tips, Tricks & Techniques for Reducing Food Waste at Home created by Food Shift, a social enterprisekitchen and innovator in the food recovery sector, produced in partnership with



StopWaste. The beautiful calendar-style format focuses on 12 affordable and accessible produce items, providing creative recipe templates and tipsto reduce food waste and maximize food budget and nutrition. Various local Food Shift and StopWaste partner

organizations add to the guide with quotes and tips reflective of the community and its deep roots. Download the guide at <a href="StopFoodWaste.org/FoodShiftGuide">StopFoodWaste.org/FoodShiftGuide</a>.

#### **Gardening During Drought**

Despite the drought, it's still sustainable to garden. Whether you're planting California natives or growing vegetables and herbs, the key is to start with building healthy, resilient soil. Applying just a half inch of compost on top of your soil or around existing plants will feed nutrients to the soil, help



retain moisture, and make space for microbes and macroorganisms that will create a thriving ecosystem. Find all the resources you need to make your own compost, purchase compost and convert your lawn into a diverse Bay-Friendly garden at <a href="https://www.stopwaste.org/gardening">www.stopwaste.org/gardening</a>

## CARBON REMOVAL + URBAN GREENING



## **Keep Oakland Beautiful Daffodil Days!**

Every fall Keep Oakland Beautiful provides free daffodil bulbs and California poppy seeds to be planted around Oakland in highly visible spaces for the public to enjoy and beautify our city. Applications open Friday, September 24 - check out the website for more information:

https://www.keepoaklandbeautiful.org/daffodil-days.html

#### California Clean Air Day

California Clean Air Day is Wednesday,
October 6th. Take the Clean Air Pledge and
commit to doing your part to clear the air,
through actions big and small. Plant a tree,
ride a bike, or pledge to drive an electric car
now or in the future!



## **ECAP IN ACTION**

# Mandela Station and Fruitvale Transit Village Phase II

Mandela Station is marrying transit-oriented development and green urbanism as a leading development model for a more sustainable future. Reimagining transit in the urban West Oakland



neighborhood, Mandela Station will include zero-emission buses, bike paths, and easy access to BART. The project includes high energy performance and reclaimed water, as well as measures to improve operations over time. In addition, this Transit Oriented Community (TOC) has been recognized with an Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Award for providing 30% of its energy from renewable solar energy for 240 affordable housing units.

Similarly, Fruitvale Transit Village has been a national model for inner city redevelopment since it broke ground in 2003. Combining transit-oriented development with integrated, mixed-income housing, Phase II expands on the success of building social equity and vibrant communities with Casa Arabella,



a 94-unit multi-family development, and an additional 181 affordable housing units. This project has also won a \$30 million AHSC grant to fund transportation and neighborhood infrastructure projects, including four new BART cars, street improvements, and improved pedestrian lighting, signage, and landscaped buffers.

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