



Climate, Environment + Sustainability Newsletter



Overview

**Buildings & Energy • Transportation • ZeroWaste
Environmental Stewardship • Announcements**

Buildings & Energy

**⚡ Act Now: Federal Clean Energy Tax Credits Ending
Soon**



Several clean energy tax credits from the Inflation Reduction Act are set to expire over the next two years. If you've been considering upgrades, now is the time to act:

- **Home Upgrades:** 30% tax credits (up to \$3,200) for heat pumps, HVAC, and energy efficiency — expires **December 31, 2025**
- **Solar & Batteries:** 30% tax credits for home solar and battery systems — expires **December 31, 2025**
- Leased systems may still qualify through the company owner via the Investment Tax Credit (ITC).
- **EV Charging Equipment:** 30% tax credit (up to \$1,000 per item) — available through **June 30, 2026**

Clean energy investments remain a smart long-term choice, saving money on fuel and maintenance while improving comfort and air quality at home.

Free On-Demand Class: Retrofitting Homes for Electrification and Decarbonization



Enroll to attend online ([PG&E Energy Education Classes](#))

Whether you're a DIY'er or a construction professional, this **free** previously recorded presentation from PG&E will help you up your game for home energy efficiency and electrification retrofits. The class features case studies of successful electrification projects and ways to overcome the challenges presented by existing infrastructure. Dan Perunko of Balance Point Home Performance presents electrification strategies in completed retrofit projects. Learn more about the critical considerations for electrifying your future projects.

Efficiency And Sustainable Energy (EASE) Home Program 🏠

It's EASE-y to Upgrade Your Home and Save Money with EASE Home!



BayREN's Efficiency and Sustainable Energy (EASE) Home program helps income-eligible residents make energy upgrades that improve health and their home's comfort.

What Are the Benefits?



Boosted comfort



Lower energy bills



Improved air quality

How Does the Program Work?

1. **An Energy Advisor visits your home and recommends customized, low-cost upgrades**, like insulation and duct sealing.
2. **We handle all the details**, from permit and rebate applications to installation through our vetted contractors.
3. **All pricing is transparent and fixed**, with BayREN covering 80% of the cost of core weatherization and energy efficiency measures.*
4. **Our team will maximize your savings** by stacking and applying for all available rebates for you, in addition to what BayREN covers.



How Do I Get Started?
Apply and schedule your free site visit TODAY!

Who Qualifies?

You can participate if you:

- Live in a single-family home (up to 4 units) built before 2010.
- Are a PG&E customer.
- Have a household income under or at 120% AMI. See below for guidelines.

Household Size	Income Limit
1	\$126,900
2	\$144,975
3	\$163,125
4	\$186,850
5	\$210,225

Visit [BayREN.org/income-guidelines](https://bayren.org/income-guidelines) for more.

Contact us with any questions at:
EASEhome@BayREN.org | 866-998-8655



The Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN) is a coalition of the Bay Area's nine counties partnering to promote resource efficiency at the regional level, focusing on energy, water and greenhouse gas reduction.

*The customer pays just 20% but no more than \$1,000 for core measures under the BayREN EASE Home program. Core measures include qualifying weatherization, energy efficiency, and associated minor home repair measures, i.e., insulation, duct sealing/ replacement, and air sealing. The cost for additional measures like new electrical appliances will be determined by the measure cost minus available third-party rebates. For more information, please reach out to your Energy Advisor.

EASE Home is now enrolling residents located in the counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, Solano, and Sonoma

The Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN) offers low-cost home upgrades through the Efficiency and Sustainable Energy (EASE) Home program. To participate, you must live in a single-family home built before 2010, be a PG&E customer, and have a household income under or at 120% AMI.

After verifying your eligibility, we manage your project from start to finish.

- You get a free site visit with an Energy Advisor, creating a customized plan to upgrade your home's energy efficiency.
- We handle all details, from permit and rebate applications to installation through our vetted contractors.
- All pricing is transparent and fixed, with BayREN covering 80% of the cost of core weatherization and energy efficiency measures*.
- Our team will maximize your savings by stacking and applying for all available rebates for you, in addition to what BayREN covers.

Ready to start saving? Schedule your site visit today
at <https://www.bayren.org/ease-home> or call 866-998-8655

EmPower My Home 🏠



PG&E's EmPower My Home program helps households enjoy a more comfortable, energy-efficient home by switching from natural gas appliances to modern electric alternatives at a **reduced or no cost**.

Get started at Empower-MyHome.com

PG&E's EmPower My Home program helps households enjoy a more comfortable, energy-efficient home by switching from natural gas appliances to modern electric alternatives at a reduced or no cost. Get started at Empower-MyHome.com

There are two ways you can participate:

1. Complete a quick and easy online home energy survey at Empower-MyHome.com
2. Schedule a time with a qualified contractor for an in-person energy assessment by calling 341-223-8444 or emailing info@empower-

After your energy assessment, you will receive a personalized Project Plan that outlines the home improvements and associated costs, if any.

Why participate?

✓ **New** electric appliances and home upgrades, including:

- Induction stove
- Heat pump and Air Conditioning (for both heating and cooling)
- Water heater
- Clothes dryer
- Insulation
- Duct sealing
- Electrical panel upgrades

✓ **Reduced energy usage**, leading to potential savings on your energy bill

✓ **Contribute to a more sustainable future!**

Don't miss your chance! Start your home upgrades today—sign up for a home energy assessment at Empower-MyHome.com

New Electrification Guide Now Available ✨



Ava Community Energy has been providing electricity generation services since 2018, but they're more than just our city's not-for-profit electricity provider. Ava is

also here to help you navigate clean energy options that work with your priorities and budget, whether you're looking to reduce bills, create a healthier home, or do your part for the environment.

Get started with electrification: AvaEnergy.org/go-electric

Bay Area SunShare Informational Webinar

November 6, 2025 at 6 PM, Zoom

Bay Area SunShares is a renewable energy program for all Bay Area residents. Join us for an introductory, one-hour webinar that explains how SunShares works, the basics of solar technology, financing and incentives, how to make your home resilient & reliable during emergencies and how to access the SunShares discounts. [Sign up now!](#)

Transportation

City of Oakland Launches Electric Bike Lending Program

New, low-cost electric bike lending program at the Fruitvale BART Bike Station! Oakland residents age 18 and over can rent an electric bicycle (e-bike) for a four-week period for \$120. Low-income residents pay only \$20.

The e-bikes available for lending are the Gazelle Medeo T-9 City, a Class 1 e-bike with a 20mph top speed, built for an easy, upright riding position. They're perfect for a wide range of riders and outfitted for city riding with racks, shock absorbers and integrated lights.

Potential users can visit the city's website to determine their eligibility and begin the rental process: <https://oaklandca.gov/ebike>

Learn more about the program through the [Media Release](#).



California New EV Market Surged in Q3 2025

Automakers Picking up Slack from Loss of Federal EV Tax Credit

California added 124,755 new EVs in Q3 2025 — a record 29.1% of the state's light-duty vehicle sales, according to data from Veloz. It was the state's highest quarterly market share to date, and marks five consecutive years with EV's accounting for over 20 percent of new vehicle sales. Used EV sales also remained above the 100,000-unit mark, indicating a strong secondary-market.

While Q3 sales may have been boosted by the loss on Sept. 30 of the Federal Tax Credit, automakers have stepped into the void with their own incentives.

Automakers including Ford, GM, Hyundai, BMW, and Stellantis are offering strong lease and purchase incentives, with savings of up to **\$21,500** on select EVs.

California's EV charging infrastructure has reached parity with gas pumps: more than 200,000 public chargers are now online statewide, and first-in-the-nation reliability standards are in effect. "Investments by the California Energy Commission (CEC), and its agency and industry partners, to expand the state's network of EV chargers has resulted in nearly every Californian living within 10 minutes of an EV fast charger," noted CEC Commissioner Nancy Skinner.

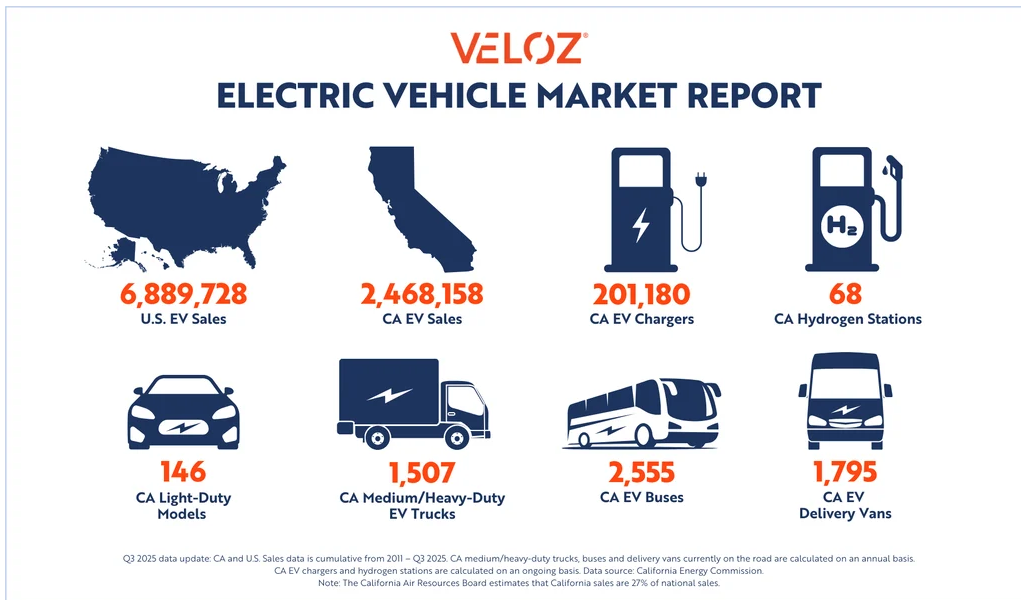


Photo Credit: Veloz

 **Save money on a new e-bike** 

Ava Bike Electric
E-bike Instant Rebate Program

Save \$400 to \$1,500 on a new e-bike!

Learn more and apply at:
AvaEnergy.org/bike-electric

AVA Community Energy

We're excited to share an exciting opportunity from [Ava Community Energy](https://AvaCommunityEnergy.org). Through their new **Ava Bike Electric Program**, eligible residents of Alameda and San Joaquin counties can **save \$400 to \$1,500** on a new e-bike. E-bikes offer tremendous benefits for you: reduced car dependency, improved air quality, better health outcomes, and a fun and flexible way to get around. This program helps remove the biggest barrier to e-bike adoption—cost.

Rebates range from \$400 to \$1,500 depending on bike type and income qualification. Income-qualified customers enrolled in electricity reduction programs like CARE, FERA, or EAP also receive an additional \$250 rebate for safety equipment.

Once you apply and are deemed eligible, you'll be entered into **monthly random drawings** for a chance to receive an instant rebate. Drawing are held every month until September 2026.

Head over to AvaEnergy.org/bike-electric to learn more and complete the application!

Zero Waste

Follow StopWaste on Social Media 🌟📺

Facebook: Get tips and inspiration on how to stop waste, reuse and repair, and go green at home and school. @StopWasteOrg

Instagram: Check out food waste reduction and storage tips and composting and sustainable gardening ideas from Alameda County and beyond. @Stopwaste

LinkedIn: Join our LinkedIn group for business waste prevention resources, industry updates, and networking.

YouTube: Watch videos about reducing food waste, turning food scraps into compost, and more

StopWaste Mini-Grants for Reusable Foodware

Local public agency [StopWaste](#) is helping food businesses in Alameda County that are currently using disposable cups, plates, utensils and other foodware switch to reusable foodware for dine-in customers. **Participating businesses receive up to \$500 worth of reusable foodware and hands-on support.** Save money, improve customer experience and reduce waste!

There is no complicated reimbursement or cumbersome paperwork. StopWaste's field team will work with you to select the right foodware for your needs, worth up to \$500, then manage the ordering and getting it to your door. You gain the benefits: save money by eliminating ongoing costs of single-use items, improve customer experience with high-quality foodware, and demonstrate your commitment to sustainability by reducing plastic waste.

To learn more and schedule a free consultation, visit www.StopWaste.org/reusables.



Make the Switch to Reusables
Save Money • Improve Customer Experience • Reduce Waste

Replacing disposable foodware with real plates, cups, and utensils can save \$2,000 - \$18,000 per year.

Get up to \$500 in FREE reusable foodware and hands on support!

[STOPWASTE](#) | [ReUse Assist](#)

 **Did you know?** You can be part of the solution — skip the straw, refuse extra utensils, and bring your own reusables on the go! #SimpleSwaps #CleanAndGreen
Visit: [Here](#) for more information!

Oakland's Reusable Foodware Ordinance is Here ✨



The Reusable Ordinance aims to reduce litter and plastic pollution in our environment by prioritizing the use of reusable foodware over single-use foodware (like plastic utensils). Under the Reusable Ordinance, food vendors like restaurants, cafes, and fast-food establishments are now required to:

- Provide single-use foodware accessories like straws and utensils upon customer request or at self-service stations only,
- Use customer-provided reusable containers (when requested by customers) for to-go orders so long as the containers are clean and safe.

Starting **July 1, 2025**, food vendors will be required to use reusable foodware (e.g., ceramic plates, glass cups, steel utensils) for dine-in service.

The City has resources for businesses on this website (scroll down) – [Reusables Ordinance](#) – including a Single-Use Item Upon Request sign – available in Chinese, English, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

How can you help?

Remember to bring your reusable container when getting your morning coffee out, only take disposable items you will actually use, and make it clear if you plan to dine in, so that your food is served on reusable dishware.

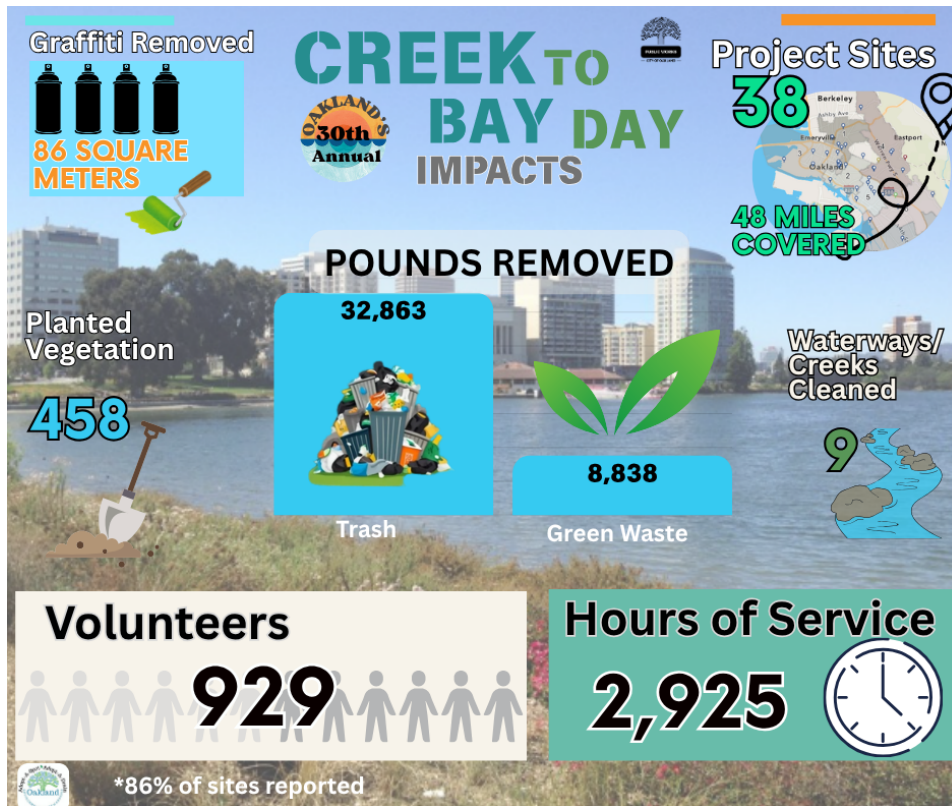
Watch & Share: Oakland's New Reusable Foodware Videos!

The City has released two short videos explaining what this means for [businesses](#) and [residents](#).

Watch and share to help keep Oakland clean and green!

Environmental Stewardship

 **Creek to Bay Day 2025 Results** 



38 sites. 48 miles. 929 volunteers. 💪♻️

That's the incredible impact of Oakland coming together for the 30th Annual Creek to Bay Day!

Thanks to the passion and dedication of our community, we:

- 🗑️ Removed **32,863 pounds of trash**
- 🌿 Collected **8,838 pounds of green waste**
- 🚶 Covered 48 miles of Oakland's creeks, parks, and shoreline
- 📍 Worked across 38 project sites citywide

This milestone year was a celebration of stewardship, connection, and care for our environment.

Every bag of trash removed and every site cared for brings us closer to cleaner waterways, healthier wildlife, and a greener Oakland. 🌍💚

A heartfelt thank you to every volunteer, partner, and supporter who made this possible.

Here's to another 30 years of Creek to Bay Day! 🌿✨

#CreekToBayDay #OaklandLoveLife

Volunteer Oakland!

Volunteer Oakland!



Adopt-A-Spot Adopt-A-Drain



We provide free tool loans, supplies, and the resources you need to succeed!

How It Works

1. CHOOSE YOUR SPOT

Pick a local area that's important to you – whether it's a park, a street, a waterway, or even the storm drain on your street.

2. COMMIT TO STEWARD YOUR SPOT

Help with activities like picking up litter, removing graffiti, or caring for plants and green spaces on an ongoing basis—small actions that make a big difference.

3. MAKE A VISIBLE IMPACT

Track and share your efforts to celebrate the positive change you're creating.

Other Ways To Get Involved!



COMMUNITY CLEANUPS:

Lead or join a neighbor clean-up or planting event!

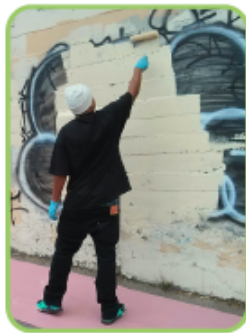


ANNUAL CITY EVENTS:

Volunteer alongside others on:

- **MLK Day of Service**- 3rd Monday in January
- **Earth Day**- 3rd Saturday in April
- **Creek to Bay Day**- 3rd Saturday in September

ARE YOU READY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?



www.OaklandCA.gov/AdoptASpot

LET'S MAKE AN IMPACT TOGETHER!

To learn more visit:

www.OaklandCA.gov/AdoptASpot

Join OUSD at The Center!

The Oakland Unified School District Central Kitchen, Instructional Farm, and Education Center ("The Center") is the hub of OUSD's district-wide school food

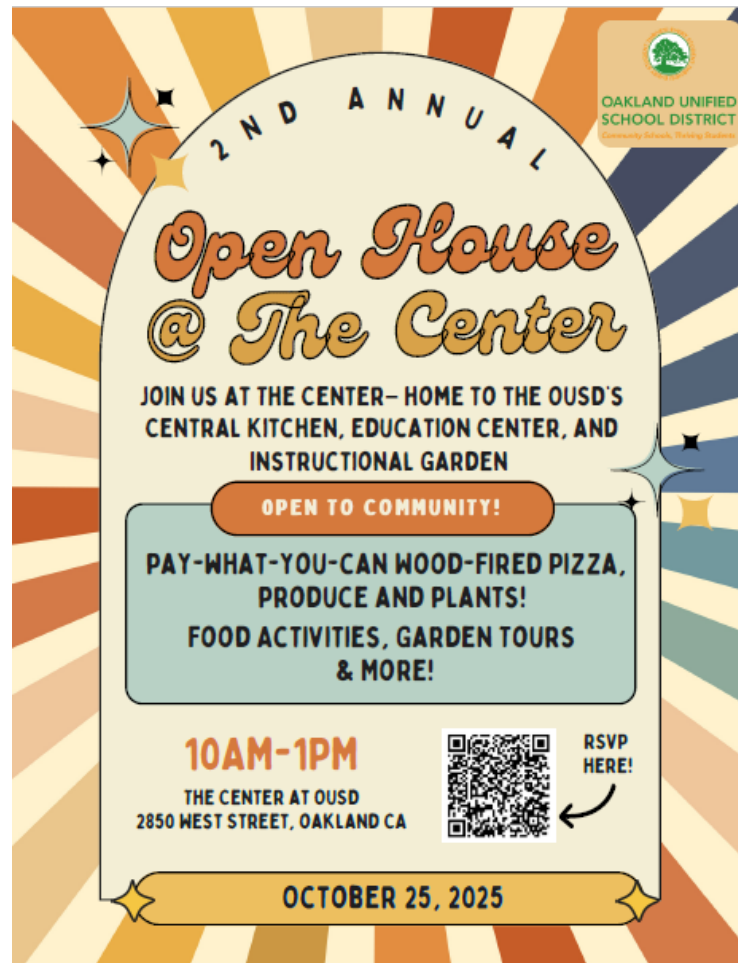
program network, connecting nutrition, education, and community programs across our schools, kitchens, and gardens.

Join us for the **2nd Annual Open House at The Center** on **October 25th!** Tour the garden and facility, enjoy wood-fired pizza, play games, and more. This free event is open to the entire community — we can't wait to see you there!

2850 West Street, Oakland CA

10AM-1PM

[Registration Link](#)



Report and Prevent Local Flooding 💧



REPORT & PREVENT LOCAL FLOODING TO PROTECT OUR PROPERTIES



1. Report Local Flooding Hot Spots



2. Call 311
for Service



3. Adopt A
Drain!



4. Protect your
Property

Photo Courtesy of Oakland Environmental Services Division

1. **Report Flooding Hot Spots** Report sites on public property that regularly flood during rain storms to help the City identify where major Storm Drainage system upgrades are most needed. www.oaklandca.gov/topics/sdmp

2. **Request Service via Oak311** For immediate service, report flooding emergencies to OAK311 by dialing 311 or (510) 615-5566. Make less urgent requests for service online, by emailing OAK311@oaklandca.gov, or via the OAK311 mobile app. www.oaklandca.gov/OAK311

3. **Adopt-a-Drain Before the Rain** Keeping storm drain inlets clear helps prevent local flooding during storms and maintain water quality. Adopt a Drain enrollees can borrow City tools and supplies, request debris pick up and get storm notification emails. www.oaklandca.gov/AdoptADrain

4. **Protect Your Property** Prepare and insure your property for storms. Clear gutters and drains, check sump pumps, prevent flood intrusion with sandbags or more long-term drainage fixes, and stabilize slopes with appropriate vegetation and erosion controls. www.oaklandca.gov/topics/winter-storms

Announcements

Sustainability & Environment ☀️



Take a look at our new website! Please explore and leave feedback.

The City of Oakland is committed to becoming a more sustainable city - a community in which all people have the opportunity to pursue safe, happy, healthy and fulfilling lives, now and into the future. [On our website you can:](#) sign-up for the sustainability newsletter, view reports & resources, city council resolutions, climate action topics, news, and more.

Environmental & Beautification Projects - Volunteering 🌳

Habitat Restoration Parties



Image from and content from California Native Plant Society Newsletter

California Native Plant Society (CNPS) are having Wednesday Work Parties in order to restore some incredible habitats. People 12 years of age and older are invited.

There will be several volunteer task available, at times on steep slopes. Please wear closed toe shoes and clothes you do not mind getting dirty. [Click here](#) to see their calendar containing a variety of events! 🌱🌸

Volunteers Needed: King Estate Open Space

A poster for King Estate Open Space (KEOS) featuring a green background with a white text box on the left and a photograph of a grassy hillside on the right. The text box contains information about volunteer opportunities, including dates, times, and locations. The photograph shows a lush green landscape with trees and a distant view of a city.

King Estate Open Space

**Volunteers needed: Beautification
& Invasive Plant Control**

- **Saturday, 04 October, 9:00 am - 11:00 am**
- **Saturday, 11 October, 9:00am - 11:00 am**
- **Saturday, 18 October, 9:00am - 11:00 am**
We will meet at the Fontaine Street Entrance to KEOS (near large wooden KEOS sign and the community garden. Parking is available along Fontaine.
- **Saturday, 25 October, (9:00am - 11:00 am)**
We will meet at Crest Avenue Entrance to KEOS.

What to bring: leather gloves, garden clippers or loppers, keen pads (if you prefer). Some tools and gloves will be provided on site. Dress for the weather.

► Also every other Saturday is our OKNIA.org sponsored Fontaine Street trash cleanup: 9-11 am, first and third Saturday of the month. Want to help?
Please contact Keith Ma (keith.y.ma@gmail.com)



Help Control Invasive Himalayan Blackberry!

Himalayan blackberry is spreading fast at King Estate Open Space. We need your help to trim and control this invasive plant before the rainy season starts in late October. Join OKNIA every weekend — just a couple of hours can make a huge difference for our trails and habitat.

What to bring: leather gloves, garden clippers or loppers, keen pads (if you prefer). Some tools and gloves will be provided on site. Dress for the weather.

► Also every other Saturday is our OKNIA.org sponsored **Fontaine Street trash cleanup**: 9-11 am, first and third Saturday of the month. Want to help? Please contact Keith Ma (keith.y.ma@gmail.com)

Hoover Elementary School Garden Work Day!



Hoover Elementary School (located at **890 Brockhurst St. in West Oakland**) is having a garden workday on **Saturday, October 18th!** After getting the funding for 12 new raised beds in our school garden, we invite community members to come together and help install these new beds for our school community.

Come join students, parents, faculty, and neighbors in creating new growing spaces for our students and community.

**Help Shape the Future of Your Regional Parks and
More🌳**



The East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) is seeking community input to develop EBRPD's next District Plan. It is a great time to join the next conversation and share your thoughts on the future Park Districts. Take a moment to learn more and [see the survey results.](#)

For more information: visit the [General Plane Update website](#) or please contact Joanna Winter at generalplan@oaklandca.gov

If your organization would like to have relevant community events or opportunities posted in this newsletter, please email us at climate@oaklandca.gov.



City of Oakland, 1 Frank H Ogawa Plaza, Oakland, CA 94612

[Unsubscribe](#) [Manage preferences](#)