

October 2020

Sustainable Sunnyvale

Making A Difference Together

Spooky, Safe and Minimal Waste

Halloween may look different this year, but you can still have fun, stay COVID-safe, AND reduce waste. Here are ways to celebrate the spooky holiday with style and taste, plus minimal waste.



- Try out some pumpkin recipes! Check out this [simple recipe](#) on how to roast your pumpkin seeds after carving. Learn how to cook your uncarved pumpkins in various ways from the [Zero Waste Chef](#). Remember to put your pumpkin remains in the yellow side of the FoodCycle cart (single family residents only).
- Not trick-or-treating this year? "Costume-in-place" with your family! Get creative putting together costumes with assorted closet items.
- Swap costumes with friends or neighbors to avoid buying new ones. Organize a (socially distanced) costume parade to show off your recycled Halloween outfit!
- Wrapped candies add to plastic in landfills and litter in streets. Bake goodies at home to satisfy your sweet tooth!

Introducing the eHub: Making Your Home More Efficient, Safe and Comfortable

You may have heard that using fossil fuels, like natural gas to heat our homes or gasoline in our cars, worsens climate change. But how can you run a home without those?

Say hello to [Silicon Valley Clean Energy's \(SVCE\) eHub](#). The eHub is a one-stop tool that helps residents lower their home's carbon impact.



- [Clean Electricity](#) – Thinking about installing solar panels or a battery storage system? The [Solar and Battery Assistant](#) helps you select and install renewable power options.
- [Going Electric at Home](#) – The [Appliances Assistant](#) helps you choose appliances based on efficiency, reviews, and price.
- [Driving Electric](#) – Figuring out your next ride for when it's time to commute again? The [EV Assistant](#) helps you compare electric vehicle models and features, find charging stations and identify available rebates.

Check out the SVCE eHub to make your home efficient, comfortable, and all-electric without stressing your wallet!

A graphic with a blue and white background. At the top, the text "THINK BEFORE YOU DRAIN" is written in large, bold, blue letters. Below this, in smaller blue letters, is "HELP KEEP POOL, SPA AND FOUNTAIN WATER OUT OF STORM DRAINS, CREEKS AND THE BAY". A yellow wavy line separates this from the text "Drain smart by discharging water to a sanitary sewer clean-out." Below that is a blue link "Click here to learn more". On the left side, there is an illustration of a fountain with water spraying upwards. On the right side, there is an illustration of a pool of water.

Caribbean Drive: First Green Street in Sunnyvale

Have you been to the Bay Trail lately? Next time you visit, ride your bike or walk west along Caribbean Drive and check out the new rain gardens!

This summer, the City installed six new bioretention rain gardens as a part of the Caribbean Drive Green Street Project. Rain gardens remove pollutants in stormwater (rainwater) by filtering it through soil and plant roots. The Caribbean Drive rain gardens treat stormwater from nearly 42,000 square feet of upstream urban area. They showcase thirteen California native plant species designed to fit in with the surrounding local ecology. These species use less water and attract native pollinators.



Besides the benefit of rain gardens, this project also includes a multi-use path for safer walking and biking. It also provides parking spaces for Bay Trail users. The Caribbean Drive project integrates transportation, recreational, and stormwater improvements, and is the first green street project in Sunnyvale.

We hope you enjoy an improved Caribbean Drive. [Send us a selfie](#) if you decide to check it out!

Green Tips at Home:

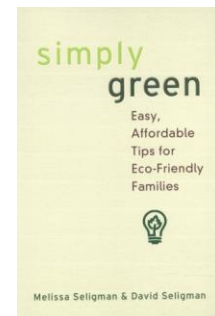
For Your Kitchen

Looking for zero waste kitchen alternatives? Try out a bamboo scrubbing brush and a bar of dish soap instead of plastic sponges and bottled dish soap! These easy swaps last longer and reduce your landfill inputs. After 3-4 months, you can dispose of the bamboo brush in the yellow side of your FoodCycle cart.



For Your Reading List

Simply Green, written by wife and husband Melissa and David Seligman, is all about going green without overwhelming you and your family. Filled with simple and practical tips for lowering energy consumption and living a sustainable lifestyle, this book can help all of us go green. Rent this book from [Hoopla](#) for free using your Sunnyvale Library card.



For Your Kids

Fall is here, which means beautiful, colorful leaves are everywhere! Check out [this video](#) for a tutorial on fall-themed leaf crafts for your kids, including these fun and easy leaf lanterns.



Upcoming Events:

EV 101 - AN INTRODUCTION TO ELECTRIC VEHICLES

LEARN WHY ELECTRIC VEHICLES ARE CLEANER AND EASIER TO MAINTAIN, AND HOW THEY CAN MEET YOUR EVERYDAY TRAVEL NEEDS.

NOVEMBER 18, 2020, 7 - 8 P.M.
REGISTER FOR THE WEBINAR [HERE](#)

Most webinar links will be available upon registration.

Online Compost Workshops

Learn the basics of composting from home.
Oct. 10 and Nov. 14, 2020
10 a.m. to noon

Vegan Nutrition: What Does the Science Say?

Jack Norris, RD will present the latest nutrition recommendations for how to stay healthy and satiated as a vegan.

Extra Dumping Weekends

Sunnyvale residents may dispose of extra garbage at no charge. Proof of residency required.
Oct. 10-11, 2020
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Natural Pest Deterrent Online Workshop

Oct. 14, 2020
4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

History and Mystery of the Refuge and the Bay

Learn about the Bay's history and the answers to mysteries such as: Why are mercury and gold a lethal duo? How did silver mining in Nevada affect the bay? Why was Oscar the Grouch happier 60 years ago than today?

Oct. 17, 2020 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Nov. 12, 2020 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Edible Gardening Online Workshop

Join this free workshop to learn how to start a low-water needs vegetable garden.

Nov. 17, 2020

7 to 8:30 p.m.

Document Shredding

Due to social distancing protocols, residents must unload documents themselves or bring a person with them to assist. Limit of five paper bags or banker boxes per household.

Nov. 7 and Nov. 14, 2020

8 a.m. to noon

SMaRT Station, 301 Carl Road, Sunnyvale, CA, 94089

Sustainability Speaker Series

Tune in for a discussion with Jared Blumenfeld, Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency.

Dec. 3, 2020

7 to 8:30 p.m.

Webinar link will be available at a later date.

Join this free workshop to learn about integrated pest management in your garden.

Oct. 15, 2020

7 to 8:30 p.m.

Refuge Rails and Tales

Join docent Larry Rosenblum as he recounts little-known tales that will give you an appreciation of the refuge and the Bay.

Oct. 24, 2020 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Nov. 19, 2020 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Valley Water Great Sign Bike Hunt 2020

Valley Water is sponsoring a 3-month scavenger bike hunt to help document their 18,000 signs. Participate for a chance to win a prize!

Now through Oct. 29, 2020

EV 101 - An Introduction to Owning Electric Vehicles

Considering purchasing an electric vehicle? Join us for an EV road trip to learn about EV benefits, current and future models, charging infrastructure, and incentives. Offered by the City's new Drive Electric program.

Nov. 18, 2020

7 to 8 p.m.

Connect with us

green@sunnyvale.ca.gov | 408-730-7717

Sunnyvale.ca.gov



Visit our website

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