



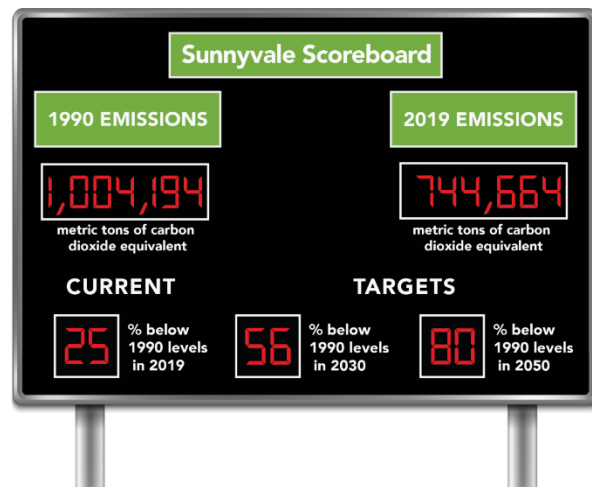
## Keeping Score on Climate Action

In 2019, Sunnyvale adopted the Climate Action Playbook (Playbook). The Playbook outlines our community's plan to reduce greenhouse gases and address climate change. About a year later, you might be wondering – what's our score?

Here's the play-by-play: Sunnyvale is 25% below our 1990 emissions levels. Goal!

Grab your popcorn and check out the newly launched [Climate Action Scoreboard](#). This interactive tool displays our progress towards achieving our climate action targets. The Scoreboard tells the story of where our greenhouse gas emissions come from and how the City and community are working as a team to reduce them. See where we've got some key first downs with new policies and where we still need to keep marching down the field. Impress your family at holiday dinner with statistics on some of our wins. For example, Sunnyvale is diverting 63% of our waste from the landfill, and we get 87% of our energy from clean sources. Dive into the Scoreboard to find out Team Sunnyvale's climate action score and how you can help us go for the win!

Get the early scoop for updates on Playbook policies and programs by joining our [Climate Action Playbook mailing list](#).



## Zero Waste Holidays

From loved ones staying home, to celebrating traditions online, this holiday season will likely be different. Here are ways to celebrate without producing the typical end-of-year waste:

- Challenge yourself to creative, waste-free gift wrapping. Try gift bags, recycled paper, cloth wrapping, or reusable cloth gift tags for your family.
- Prevent wasted food by planning ahead, shopping smart and storing food properly. Check out [Stop Food Waste](#) for tips and tricks on food waste prevention.
- Give an e-gift card to a local retailer or restaurant for a loved one. They can pick out exactly what they want, and nothing goes wasted or unused.
- Instead of buying or chopping down a tree, consider renting a living potted one. Once your family is done enjoying the tree, it can be returned to live a happy life. Check out organizations like [Our City Forest](#) or do a web search for Christmas tree rentals to learn more.



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## Feeling Foggy About FOG?

Fat, oils and grease (FOG) from your creative cooking endeavors are kitchen culprits that can catch you off guard. While FOG looks like a liquid when you dump it, it shapeshifts when you aren't watching and can clog your drains.

Here are some tips to stop FOG in its tracks, before it jams up your sink or the sewer system:

- Put up a sign in your kitchen to remind family members not to pour FOG down the drain.
- Wipe FOG out of pots, pans and plates with a grease scraper before washing them.
- Once FOG has cooled, store it in a clear plastic bag and place it in the yellow side of your FoodCycle cart. You can also dispose up to 15 gallons at the SMarT Station® for free in an unbreakable bottle with a screw-top lid.
- Give your garbage disposal a break. Instead of putting food scraps down the drain, store them in your city-issued countertop pail (or other container) before FoodCycling them. Don't have a pail? Contact Utilities Customer Service at 408-730-7400 to get one delivered.



Clear up your mental fog around FOG and your drains this holiday season.

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## GIVE THE GIFT OF LOWER ENERGY BILLS

### Full Stomach, Full Wallet



Cook with small, low-energy appliances. If you use your oven, bake multiple dishes at once.

### Shine Brighter, For Less



Choose ENERGY STAR certified lights, which last longer and use 75% less energy than incandescent lights.

### Swap For Savings



Replace your gas heater and save through the [SVCE FutureFit Heat Pump Water Heater Program](#).

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## Cleanwater Program Reflects on 2020 Accomplishments

Sunnyvale's Cleanwater Program is essential to the City's sustainability goals for clean water, wastewater and recycled water. Take a look at the Cleanwater Program's 2020 accomplishments:



- Completion of the first “green street” in Sunnyvale on Caribbean Drive. This project created a new walking and biking path, added a public access point to the Bay Trail and installed six bioretention rain gardens to filter rainwater.
- Secured a loan through the EPA's Water Infrastructure and Financing Innovation Act. This low-interest loan saves the program tens of millions of dollars.
- Made progress on the first phase of the program to replace the primary treatment facility, which removes grit and sand out of wastewater. This includes finishing the standby generators, which provide backup energy during a power outage.

The Cleanwater Program will upgrade the City's Water Pollution Control Plant over the next 20 years. In 2021, we look forward to achieving more milestones, such as beginning to treat wastewater in the new primary treatment facility. To learn more about the Cleanwater Program, visit the [Sunnyvale Clean Water webpage](#).

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## LIGHTS ON SILICON VALLEY



SVCE has launched Lights On Silicon Valley to help customers install solar and battery storage systems to prepare for power outages. Enroll today to get an **up-front rebate of \$1,250** if you share electricity with the electricity grid during peak times with no outages.

Click for more information.



### Green Tips at Home

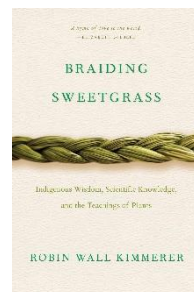
#### For Your Kitchen

Looking to reduce your household waste? Rather than purchasing single-use paper towels, buy reusable cloth wipes or simply use rags that you have in your home! With these simple and sustainable swaps, you can limit your landfill inputs and save money in the long run. Reusable sheets and rags can be used for years and can be cleaned in the washing machine.



#### For Your Reading List

*Braiding Sweetgrass*, written by Robin Wall Kimmerer, embraces Native American cultural knowledge and answers questions of nature with tools of science. Kimmerer, a Native American botanist, shows us that plants and animals are our oldest teachers, and that all living beings have gifts and lessons to offer. Check out this book from [Hoopla](#) for free using your Sunnyvale Library card.



#### For Your Kids

This year, try making your own holiday decorations with your kids! You can use items that you already have on hand to reduce waste and save money. Use cardboard from boxes or pinecones from nature to create cute and timeless decorations. Check out [this article](#) for more inspiration.





## Upcoming Events:

*Webinar links available upon registration.*

### [Homeowner Energy Efficiency Workshop](#)

Learn more about the benefits of energy upgrades and how to qualify to receive rebates for making energy-saving improvements.

Dec. 9, 2020

6 to 7:15 p.m.

### [Rainwater Harvesting 101 Workshop](#)

Learn the methods of harvesting rainwater in your garden, such as rain barrels, native plants and rain gardens.

Dec. 16, 2020

7 to 8:30 p.m.

### [Creating Carbon-Rich Soil: the Next Generation's Solution to the Climate Crisis](#)

Join youth leaders from Uganda and California to discuss using regenerative agriculture to absorb and sequester carbon.

Dec. 16, 2020

10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

### [Carbon Neutral Portfolio: From Vision to Strategy](#)

Tune in for a discussion with Nik Kaestner, former Director of Sustainability at the San Francisco Unified School District, about how schools can become sustainability leaders.

Jan. 30, 2021

10 to 11:30 a.m.

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Connect with us

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