



SUSTAINABILITY
DIVISION

LIVING SUSTAINABLY

Quarterly Newsletter



COUNTY of VENTURA

4TH OF July

Celebrate the Fourth of July with a bang by incorporating some of these helpful tips and ensure that your July 4th is red, white, blue AND GREEN.

Be a Grill Master

An estimated 60 million people fire up their grills on Independence Day, spewing about 225,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide into the air. While there's no way to grill without pollution, electric and propane grills are cleaner than charcoal.



Decorate Like a Star

Instead of buying new decorations, use what you already have. White Christmas lights, flowers from your garden, or a bowl of bright-red strawberries and blueberries, all look great. Save any decorations you do buy for next year.



This Land is Your Land, Reduce Waste

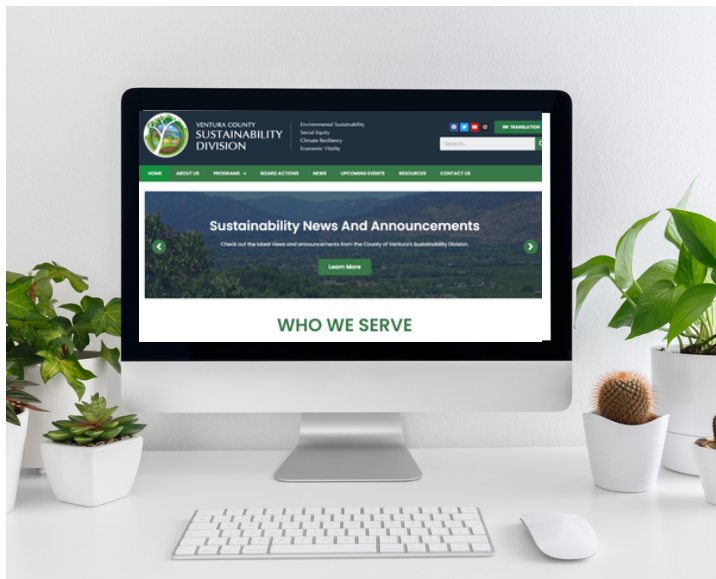
Rather than using plastic straws, cups, plates, and utensils, substitute your BBQ needs with 100% compostable options, or good old-fashioned silverware. And skip the Styrofoam cooler and use a reusable one, Styrofoam takes thousands of years to break down in the landfill.



Revamp Your Backyard BBQ

According to a recent study, meat production is far more taxing on global resources than their plant-based alternatives. Beef is particularly resource-intensive – with the water it takes to produce the 4 oz of beef in your quarter-pounder, you could take 26 8-minute showers! If every American reduced their meat consumption by just 10 percent (two meals a week) we could reduce CO2 emissions by 49.2 billion pounds a year. There's a wide variety of plant-based alternatives to choose from for your 4th of July celebration!





**CHECK OUT OUR
NEW WEBSITE HERE**

*The latest in
this month's issue:*

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Sustainability Brown Bag Lunch Series Continues

Thank you to everyone that has attended the Sustainability Brown Bag Lunch series so far! There are still 5 more sessions available to County employees this year with the next featuring the DIY Home Energy Savings Toolkit and how you can keep your house cool despite the summer heat. Register here.

SUSTAINABILITY BROWN BAG LUNCH SERIES

**THIRD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH
APRIL 21- NOVEMBER 17
12:15-12:45 PM**



Scan QR code to
register

SCHEDULE

- April 21st: Kickoff and Introduction to Sustainability Division
- May 19th: Green Your Commute
- June 16th: Switching to All Electric with "Switch is On" Campaign
- July 21st: Energy Savings for Multi and Single-family Homes
- August 18th: Reduce Your Waste at the Workplace
- September 15th: Drive Electric with the Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance
- October 20th: Tips and Tricks for Energy Efficiency
- November 17th: Learn to Reduce Your Water Consumption

Have questions? Email the event organizer at
mireille.vargas@ventura.org

Cyclemania



Sustainability Division and Partnership for a Healthy VC staff greet colleagues at Cyclemania welcome stations



In May, County staff celebrated National Bike Month with Cyclemania. County employees joined the Sustainability Division, VC-WELL, Partnership for a Healthy Ventura County, PWA Roads & Transportation, and GSA Special Services staff at welcome stations and webinars to learn about the benefits and resources available to make cycling as a form of transportation feasible. Read more about Cyclemania [here](#).



CHECK OUT WHO JUST GOT CERTIFIED!

Revel Kombucha Bar
307 E. Matilija St., Suite C
Ojai , CA 93023
(805) 272-0028
revelkombucharbar.com



SAVE
MONEY.

BE A
GREEN
LEADER.

"Part of creating a long-term relationship with our community is about taking care of our shared natural resources. We want to do everything we can to preserve the natural beauty that surrounds Ojai and Ventura County. That is why we go the extra mile to operate as a green business and why we have recently committed to 1% For the Planet"

(Adam Gallegos ,Owner)



Join your fellow County employees in celebrating Plastic Free July by committing to take action, getting tips on reducing plastic waste, and connecting with others who are concerned about plastic pollution and waste. In support of Plastic Free July, the County's

Sustainability Division is encouraging County employees to take a Plastic Free Pledge for this July and will be awarding plastic-free prize packages to randomly selected employees who take the Plastic Free July Pledge between July 1 and July 31 this year. However, the number of winners will be limited – so make sure to take the pledge now!



PLASTIC FREE SUMMER PARTIES

***Here's how we can start to
RETHINK, REDUCE, REUSE, & RECYCLE:***

1. BRING REUSABLE BAGS

2. BYO!

- Reusable Utensils
- Reusable Straws
- Reusable Coffee Cups
- Reusable Drink Cups/Bottles

3. USE REUSABLE TO-GO CONTAINERS



RESERVING A MOTORPOOL VEHICLE IS EASY

Try a County electric car for your next work-related trip!



cost-effective



24/7 accessibility



environmentally friendly



SCAN ME

Scan here to get started on the **GSA Motorpool Page**



1

Complete the MotorPool Sign-up form.



QUICK TIPS

Have your budget unit number, employee number, and office phone number on hand.

2

Make a reservation on the Online Motorpool Reservation System.

3

Watch the Chevy Bolts User Video, Chargepoint User Video, and review Chevy Bolts FAQ's.

HELPFUL LINKS

[MotorPool Sign-up Form](#)

[Reservation System](#)

[Chevy Bolt User Video](#)

[Chargepoint User Video](#)

[Chevy Bolt FAQ's](#)

EMPLOYEE REVIEWS

These employees loved driving a County electric vehicle (EV) !

Mireille



"When I reserved a County car it was the first time I had driven an electric vehicle. **The whole process was simple!** Creating my motorpool profile was very quick and easy, and the Motorpool Help Desk was there to answer any questions I had. After you reserve the vehicle, instructions are sent to you by email on how to access the car. I highly recommend employees to use the County electric vehicles. Just be careful with the brakes-they're more sensitive than I am used to!"

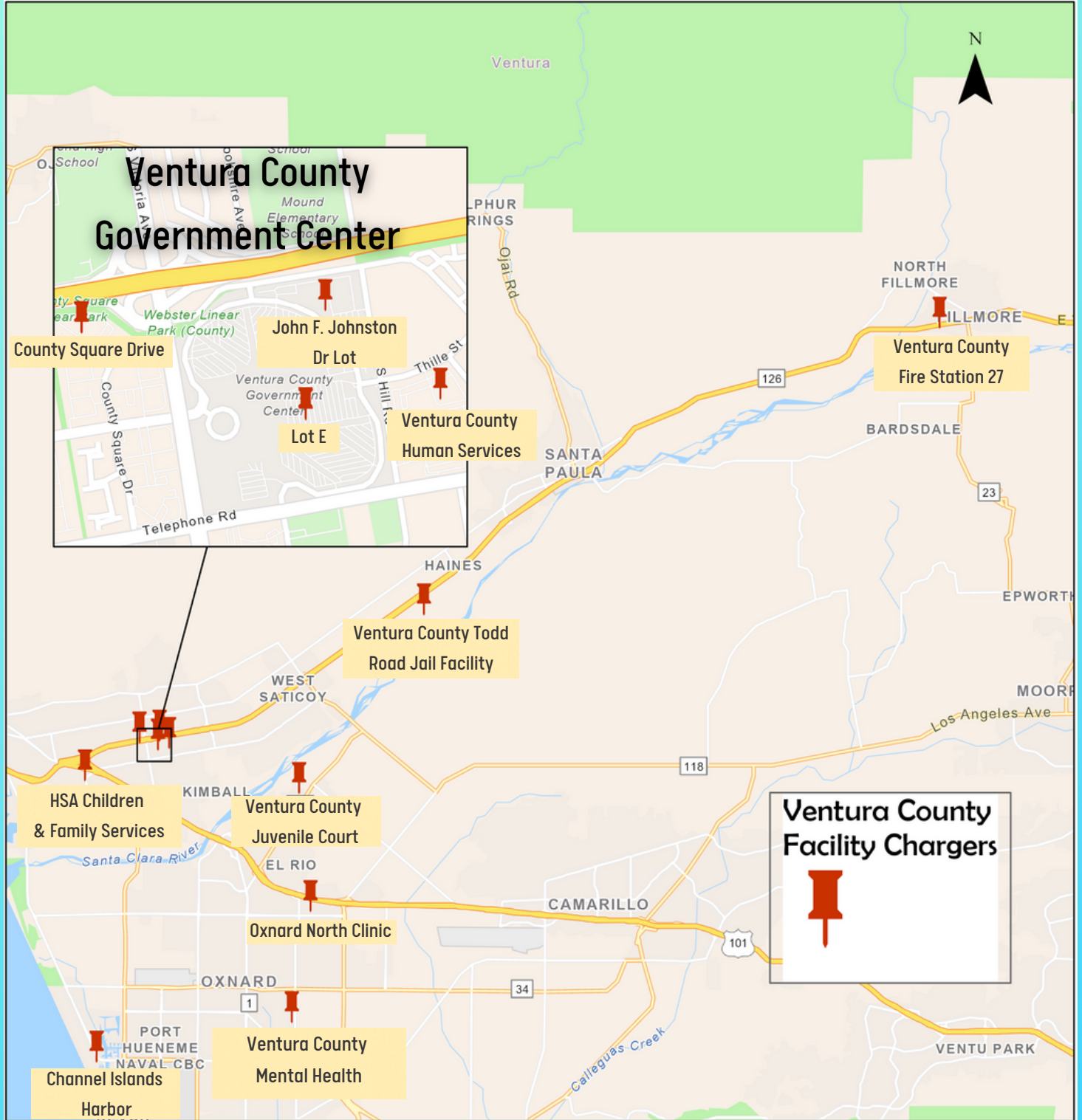
Clay



"I recently used one of the County's all-electric plug-in Chevy Bolts to attend a conference in San Diego and was really pleased with how easy the process was. **The Chevy Bolt was able to get all the way to San Diego**, about 150 miles away, without a recharge and still had more than 50 miles of range to spare. Plus, the digital readouts on the dashboard kept me informed about my range, remaining charge, and all sorts of other issues during the drive. It really put my mind at ease on range issues and made for a pleasant, easy trip."

CHARGE YOUR EV AT WORK

You can recharge at Ventura County facilities for \$.32/kwh!



*Channel Islands Harbor charging rates may differ.

Find more charger locations on



GET INVOLVED

Find Rebates and Incentives

You could be eligible for thousands of dollars in rebates and incentives for use towards the purchase of your very own new or used EV! Use the [Access Clean California](#) tool to find your benefits.

Sign up for our Quarterly Newsletter

Want to stay updated with EV News? Sign up for Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance (VCREA)'s new [Drive Clean Newsletter](#)!

Attend an Event

This April, VCREA put on four EV Shows throughout the County and one [Virtual EV Movie Night](#) to celebrate Drive Electric Earth Day. In May, VCREA also co-hosted a webinar to help multi-family property owners install chargers for their residents. Stay tuned for more events coming up in September!



Take Our Survey

VCREA wants to hear from you about your charging needs! **Complete a 5-minute survey to be entered in a raffle for one of three \$10 Target or Amazon gift card!** You don't need to be an EV owner to participate.

[Take the Survey.](#)

[Toma la Encuesta](#)

COMING
SOON

3C-REN (Tri-County Regional Energy Network) is partnering with Ventura County Library and VCREA to provide electric-powered magnetic induction cooktops that local residents can check out and use at home. Included with the portable cooktop is an induction-compatible cooking pan, and helpful information about cooking with induction in both English and Spanish. Benefits of induction cooking include faster, more precise heating, easier to control temperature, and they eliminate indoor air pollution from gas appliances. Residents can use the cooktop to test a variety of different recipes, and when finished, return it to the library.

To learn more about the cooktops, other energy-saving tools, and find a participating library, visit 3C-REN's Home Energy Savings online [here](#).

The cooktops will be available in July so stay tuned!

Induction Cooktops



Upcoming 3C-REN Events and Training

Central Coast Reach Code Policy Workshop

July 14, 1:00 pm-3:30 pm

For more info and to register, click [here](#). See flyer below.

2022 CA Energy Code: Reaching Toward Higher Efficiency Standards

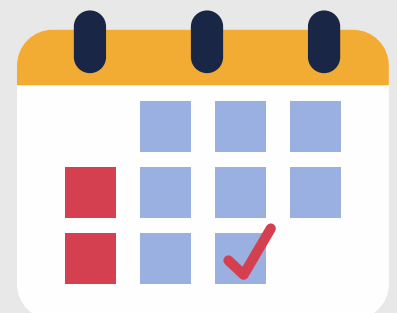
July 21, 10:00 am-1:30 pm

For more info and to register, click [here](#)

Home Remodeling- Fire Resiliency & Electrification

September 27, 12:00 pm-1:30 pm

For more info and to register, click [here](#)



Complete calendar for all 3C-REN event [here](#)



**ENERGY
CODE
CONNECT**

Central Coast Reach Code Policy Workshop

Cost-Effectiveness Findings and Lessons from Local Reach Code Adopters

Jurisdictions across the Central Coast are interested in or already pursuing reach codes in preparation for the updated Energy Code going into effect January 1, 2023. This workshop offers information on cost-effectiveness studies specific to Central Coast climate zones and opportunities to hear from and collaborate with other jurisdictions in the region pursuing reach code policies.

After attending this workshop, participants will be able to understand and utilize the regionally available resources and networks necessary to begin or progress in the reach code adoption process.

Register now at
<https://tinyurl.com/2p87tpw3>

In Partnership With:



Questions? Contact Gray Gautereaux at
ggautereaux@co.slo.ca.us

TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL ENERGY NETWORK SAN LUIS OBISPO • SANTA BARBARA • VENTURA

www.3C-REN.org

Seminar/Workshop
July 14, 2022
1:00 pm - 3:30 pm
Zoom Event



Speakers

LocalEnergyCodes.com
Misti Bruceri,
Statewide Context and Resources

Frontier Energy
Alea German,
Residential Cost-Effectiveness Study

TRC
Farhad Farahmand,
Non-Residential Cost-Effectiveness Findings

Reach Code Policymakers
Various Central Coast Jurisdictions
Adoption Process and Lessons Learned

**Calling all
Building
Professionals**



**Attention Architects, Contractors, Trades, Building
Depts, Sustainability Staff, and others!**

**You're invited to 3C-REN (Tri-County Regional
Energy Network's) Next Regional Forum!**

July 21, 2022

10:00 am - 1:30 pm

In-Person @ the Museum of Ventura County
100 E Main St, Ventura, CA 93001



2022 California Energy Code: Reaching Towards Higher Efficiency Standards

Register at 3C-REN.org/regional-forums

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**ENERGY
CODE
CONNECT**