

# LIVING SUSTAINABLY

Quarterly Newsletter



## ENERGY AWARENESS MONTH

October is Energy Awareness Month, and it's the perfect time to turn over a new leaf or two when it comes to saving energy and money.

In a world where every flip of a switch and tap of a touchscreen consumes energy, how can we become more mindful of our usage?

In this issue, we explore practical ways to reduce your carbon footprint and lower your utility bills. From simple household tips to clean energy events, there's something for everyone.

As the leaves change color this October, let's also turn a new leaf in our energy habits.

[CLICK HERE](#) FOR FALL ENERGY SAVING TIPS

The latest in this month's issue:

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# ENERGY SMART TIPS WITH CLIMATE RESILIENT VC

*Check out these easy to do tips on how to be more energy efficient in your home and save money in the process.*



## REPLACE AC FILTERS

*Regularly replacing air filters is an inexpensive way to keep your heating and cooling systems in top shape & ensure healthy home air quality. It can also save you 5-15% on air conditioning costs.*



## WEATHERIZE YOUR HOME

*One of the most cost effective energy saving measures is to seal air leaks in your home. You can save anywhere from 5-15% on home heating and cooling by simply plugging holes. And you can usually do it yourself for just a few dollars in supplies.*



## USE A CONVECTION TOASTER OVEN

*Using an electric convection toaster oven is a low cost way to make a big impact on climate change and your health. It'll also use way less energy than a full size gas or electric oven. New, larger convection toaster ovens are super energy efficient.*

*To learn more about other ways you can make your home more energy efficient and save money visit [climateresilientvc.org](https://climateresilientvc.org).*

# Congrats!



Thank you to everyone that participated in the Plastic Free July Challenge and more importantly, thank you for your efforts to reduce your use of plastics.

Employees that took the challenge and received sustainable swag:

 **JESSE NEPHEW**

 **MARIA G ORTIZ**

 **ANDREA DANIEL**

 **DAVID GOLDSTEIN**

 **VERNADETTE LADERAS**



Get plugged in...  
Sign up for  
3C-REN Updates



Tue  
**17**

October 17 @ 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

**Remodeling—A Great Time to Improve Efficiency and Electrify**

Fri  
**20**

October 20 @ 8:00 am - 10:00 am

**The Electrification Path – A Case Study**

**REGISTER HERE**



**HOME ENERGY SAVINGS**

Lower your energy bills and make your home healthier and more comfortable



**BUILDING PERFORMANCE TRAINING**

Develop your skills in building performance



**ENERGY CODE CONNECT**

Personalized coaching and educational events to simplify the energy code

# meet JOE



Meet Joe St. James. He recently started working in the Sustainability Division and we are delighted to have him on board. Read to learn more about him.

**Q:** What inspired you to work in the sustainability realm?  
Sustainability can mean tackling environmental, social, and economic issues all at once. It helped me consider looking at the big picture when wanting to help your community. In college, my work-study job was in the Sustainability Department. It exposed me to the possibilities of a sustainability-related career, and I was interested ever since!

**Q:** What are two things that are on your bucket list?  
1. Conquer my fear of flying.  
2. Visit every continent (in that order).

**Q:** What do you enjoy doing when you are not at work?  
I love to attend concerts whenever I can and I am trying to get back into volleyball after a long hiatus. I am starting to learn the electric guitar too.

**Q:** In the spirit of Fall, what are you thankful for?  
I am thankful to have a career that allows me to focus on issues that help build healthy communities and a healthier planet.

**Q:** Who is your favorite superhero and why?  
Beast Boy. I just want to transform into any animal and be able to swim, fly, or climb.



## CHECK OUT WHO JUST GOT RE-CERTIFIED!

CONEJO AWARDS  
[CONEJOAWARDS.COM](http://CONEJOAWARDS.COM)



Conejo Awards is a full-service awards and engraving business specializing in higher end custom pieces and corporate awards. Conejo Awards is also a notable promotional and advertising specialty company. It was the first business to become a Thousand Oaks Certified Green Business and was also a 2013 CoolCalifornia.org Business of the Year Award Winner.

Crystal Evans- Owner





# LOOKING TO Green your MEETINGS?



Looking to host a meeting in a more sustainable manner?

Currently, we are implementing a Meeting Kit Pilot Program to CEO staff to see how to effectively launch the program to a wider audience.



*Scan me*



*to Learn More*

## CENTRAL COAST SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT

OCTOBER 18, 2023

8AM-5PM

CORWIN PAVILION, UC SANTA BARBARA

### *Decarbonizing to Meet the Climate Challenge*

Registration is now open for the Central Coast Sustainability Summit.

At this year's summit, representatives from local governments and organizations will come together to discuss common sustainability issues, share best practices, and seek partners in collaboratively addressing complex environmental and economic issues in our region. The Summit will allow attendees to network and build relationships with counterparts as we work toward creating a shared vision and accountability for sustainability efforts in California's central coast.

For the event schedule and Keynote Speakers, please visit the Summit's [website](#).

**DRIVE  
CLEAN**



VENTURA COUNTY REGIONAL ENERGY ALLIANCE

The Sustainability Division has a quarterly newsletter titled Drive Clean. To receive information about active EV incentives and rebates, EV News, and EV events, please sign up for the newsletter [here](#).

# Food Waste Recycling 101

Recycling your food waste leads to:



Less greenhouse gases in the environment



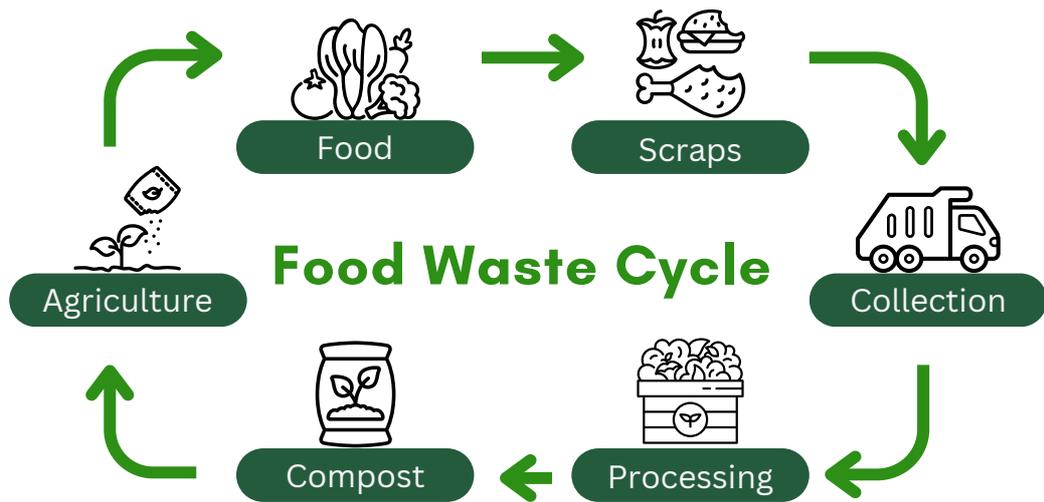
More space in landfills for waste that can't be recycled



Healthier soils for farms and gardens

When food waste goes to a landfill, it breaks down into **methane**, a powerful greenhouse gas.

BUT when food waste is recycled, it's turned into **compost!**



## Ready to start? Food waste recycling is available throughout Ventura County!

The right way to recycle food scraps depends on where you live. **Check with your City** using the search phrase below, to see which cart/bin your food waste belongs in!

City of \_\_\_\_\_ food waste recycling



**Live in an Unincorporated Area?**

Visit our [Public Works website](#) for information on how to recycle food waste - plus you can order a FREE food scrap kitchen pail!

*(Unincorporated residents only)*



Water & Sanitation  
(805) 658 - 4321  
VCRecycles@ventura.org  
www.VCPublicWorks.org

UPCOMING  
EVENTS

# Oak Awareness Month



## Attend an event

- 10/4: OAKtober Tree Planting at Kimball Park
- 10/6: OAKtober Fest
- 10/9: The Little Acorn That Could
- 10/14: OAKtober Nature Immersion Walk & Tree Planting
- 10/21: Gathering, Sorting, & Propagating Acorns
- 10/21: Walk with the Oaks
- 10/21: "Trail-or-Treat" at Camarillo Grove Park
- 10/26: Environmental Speaker Series: Oak Regeneration in Time of Climate Change
- 10/28: Seasonal Tree Planting
- 10/28: Cooking with Acorns with Hi Stok'oy hil Xus
- 10/28: Growing Works 5th Anniversary Celebration & Plant Sale
- 10/28: OAKtober Natural History Walk with Lanny Kaufer
- 10/28: Spooky Oaktober Woodland Restoration
- 11/5: Fall Native Plant Sale

## Why are oak trees important?

- They are keystone species and provide food and shelter for animals and insects
- Cools the environment by providing shade and sequestering carbon
- Improve water quality
- Oak trees are declining due to invasive pests, droughts, and being cut down

[MORE INFO](#)





# PLUG-IN TO OCTOBER

at  
Ojai Library

2023

Celebrate Energy Awareness Month at the Ojai Library! Learn about electric vehicles at an exciting event that's perfect for families and EV enthusiasts of all ages.

Join in for an Electric Vehicle 101 Presentation!

Explore an Electric Car in person!

Kids Build Their Own Evie McWheelie!

## OJAI LIBRARY      OCTOBER 19

111 E Ojai Ave, Ojai

5:00-6:00pm

LEARN MORE AT:

[VCENERGY.ORG/NEWS-AND-EVENTS/UPCOMING-EVENTS/](https://VCENERGY.ORG/NEWS-AND-EVENTS/UPCOMING-EVENTS/)



COUNTY of VENTURA  
Library





**SEP 22 - OCT 1**

**NATIONAL DRIVE ELECTRIC WEEK**

**ELECTRIC VEHICLE  
EVENTS**



**SEP 30**

**SATURDAY**

10:00AM-6:00PM

The Port of Hueneme

**Port Hueneme  
Banana Festival  
EV Showcase**

**OCT 01**

**SUNDAY**

12:30 - 4:30 PM

**Ventura County  
EV Showcase**

Ventura Harbor, Ventura

**SEP 21**

**THURSDAY**

12:00 - 1:15 PM

**Breaking Up with  
Fossil Fuels Series  
EVs for Everyone**

Webinar



CHECK OUT EV  
MODELS

LEARN ABOUT REBATES  
AND INCENTIVES

TALK TO REAL EV  
OWNER

Register at [vcenergy.org/news-and-events/upcoming-events](https://vcenergy.org/news-and-events/upcoming-events)



Community  
Environmental  
Council



Ventura County  
Air Pollution  
Control District

MORE INFO: [HTTPS://DRIVEELECTRICWEEK.ORG/](https://driveelectricweek.org/)