



Sustainable California Libraries Projects Announced, Climate Action Guide Posted

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[Sacramento, Calif.] — Eight California libraries will host more climate education, climate resilience, and community engagement projects this year, as part of the third round of the Sustainable California Libraries grant program.

Activities planned for the 2024-2025 project period include community conversations, hands-on and educational workshops on topics such as composting, preserving food, and energy efficiency, creation or expansion of Libraries of Things, fix-it fairs, mending workshops, author visits, nature journaling, wellness walks, pollinator-friendly gardening, community tree planting, bike repair, disaster preparedness, and staff training on sustainable practices.

Community partners and local experts include bike coalitions, Master Gardeners, neighborhood organizations, affordable housing creators, tribal communities, wildlife, biodiversity and tree focused nonprofits, first responders, public works, environmental services, and sustainability departments as well as local garden, home repair, and education organizations and businesses.

"Libraries are trusted messengers that can help change community behavior in ways other government agencies can't," said Greg Lucas, California's State Librarian. "These grants help public libraries reduce their carbon footprint and work with local partners to build and share community sustainability solutions."

Grants were awarded to libraries in Inyo, Los Angeles, Marin, Orange, San Diego, San Mateo, and Santa Barbara counties. A list of the upcoming Sustainable California Libraries projects is posted at www.library.ca.gov/services/to-libraries/sustainable/.

To help libraries and the communities they serve do even more, a Climate and Sustainability Action Guide for California Libraries was developed by the Alliance for Library Impact, in partnership with Pacific Library Partnership. While California libraries have made great strides in offering sustainable programming to their communities, the Action Guide provides options for taking it to the next level for libraries to be sustainable institutions themselves, from steps like offering digital checkout receipts to adding sustainability and climate resilience to strategic plans.

The Climate and Sustainability Action Guide for California Libraries is posted at:

<https://www.library.ca.gov/services/to-libraries/sustainable/resources/#actionguide>.

This project is supported in whole or in part by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian.

End of Press Release

About the State Library: Established in 1850, the California State Library is the central reference and research library for state government and the legislature. The library collection includes more than 4 million titles, 6,000 maps and 250,000 photographs, and includes an extensive collection of documents from and about the state's rich history. Around the state, the State Library also serves California's local libraries, providing more than \$500 million state and federal funds to support public libraries and delivering statewide library programs and services.

In addition to acting as a steward of California's history, the State Library is investing nearly \$500 million to modernize and renovate the state's 1,127 local libraries, bringing the Dolly Parton Imagination Library to every California child under the age of 5, and building a statewide eBook library with diverse titles in 80 languages.



Sunnyvale Public Library Earth Day event 2023 photograph by Neha Paralkar

Alt Text

A child in yellow sweater leans on a table with seed packets and bags displayed. Easy ups and groups of people in the background.