

ECO-LOGIC

The Official Newsletter of the Tri-City Ecology Center



Another Look at Nonprofits.

NONPROFIT OF THE MONTH - ABODE

In terms of outreach and scale ABODE may be the most environmentally significant nonprofit in the tri city area, and likely the Bay Area. The mission of providing housing to any individual without a place to live is critical to protection of environmentally sensitive areas, including parks and open space. Large homeless encampments are notorious for collecting trash and not contributing to recycling (although a lot of used items get used again). It is the scale, however, of what Rotary does that year after year expands. One example is the 38.2-million-dollar Project Homekey program, funded by the state, that will provide 124 housing units in Newark by converting a hotel into one and two bedroom units. This project includes Allied Housing, the City of Newark, and Abode.

NEWS & STORIES FOR THIS ISSUE:

- Nonprofit of the month-Abode
- Urban Forest Friends News
- Pumpkins Aren't Just For Composting
- LEAF news
- COP 27
- TCEC interview with Charlie
- Outing to Fremont Recycling & Transfer Station
- News Dept
- Special Offer



Abode now works in 6 counties. Their data for 2021 –

- We assisted 14,714 adults and children in our programs.
- Our housing programs served 6,844 people on a given night, providing safe, stable homes to those who would otherwise be homeless or at severe risk of losing their housing.
- We housed 4,489 individuals.
- We served nearly 525 veterans.
- We assisted approximately 2,650 children.
- More than 1,600 people in our programs exited into permanent housing.

Growth Trends – 5 years

| Impact Measure | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 5 Year Growth |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|
| Total People Served | 5,909 | 8,325 | 9,173 | 10,531 | 14,719 | 149% |
| Veterans Served | 376 | 523 | 596 | 817 | 524 | 39% |
| Housed Any Given Night | 2,246 | 3,794 | 3,965 | 5,867 | 6,844 | 205% |
| Exits to Permanent Housing | 963 | 1,848 | 2,049 | 1,653 | 1,616 | 68% |

As the chart indicates, Abode provides emergency shelter each night, and the number goes up each year. The Sunrise Village shelter houses up to 70 residents. Tri City Ecology has sponsored a vegetable garden for the last ten years and most recently, with girl scout group 31303, built 3 new planters, added a compost bin, and amended the soil of 6 large planters. After 5 productive years of work, 31303 is handing over the garden care to Scout Group 30013, and the goal of providing garden-to-table service in the village continues.

Abode's TCEC Garden at Sunrise Village



Tri City Ecology has sponsored a vegetable garden for the last ten years and most recently, with girl scout group 31381, built a fence, and 3 new planters, added a compost bin, and amended the soil of 6 large planters. Many thanks to Zoe, Anirra, Spurthi, Sophie, and Troop mother Judy Chun, who after 5 years of gardening are handing over the care to Scout Group 30113. The goal of providing vegetables from the garden to the table at the Sunrise Village continues on.

URBAN FOREST FRIENDS NEWS

Let Us Plant Trees!

Contributed by, Susie Claxton

In January 2023, 80 trees will be planted by a cooperative effort between the Niles Discovery Church (NDC) Green Team, the Urban Forest Friends (UFF), and the Quarry Lakes Regional Recreation Area of the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD.) This is quite an accomplishment to bring these entities together to expand our urban forest and to plant saplings planted from a variety of Oak acorns and Buckeye seeds.

In January 2021, the NDC Green Team partnered with UFF (Tri-City Urban Forest Alliance at the time) to plant, nurture and grow trees from their seeds. The Team was so excited to see their seedlings grow over about 3 months. There were squirrel raids on some of the acorns, so new ones were planted with protective wire mesh over the "tree pots." Lynn Miller of UFF supplied the proper soil mix, tree pots, and nursery advice to get the project started. When the seedlings' roots grew to the ends of their pots, it was time for Lynn and the team to replant them into bigger pots. Lynn oversaw that operation and tended the saplings until it was time to find them new homes. Some went to other entities nearby in Fremont, including the property of the Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose.

If you would like to join in the tree planting, we will be putting together volunteers in early December. The date of the planting will be Saturday, January 7, with a rain delay date held for January 14.

Some More news on Urban Forestry – Did you know that Fremont received a second grant from CalFire for \$840,000? Next month we will report on whether this grant – to plant 1,000 trees – is moving ahead. TCEC.

PUMPKINS AREN'T JUST FOR COMPOSTING ANYMORE



Composting Halloween pumpkins is an environmentally friendly way to dispose of them. However, a lot of water, energy, and a little hard-earned money went into the pumpkins still sitting on the porch. Why not maximize those resources and find a second life for those versatile squashes? Below are 5 additional uses.

Make A Bird Feeder

Pumpkins make excellent temporary winter birdfeeders. Simply carve out a large hole and fill it with the recommended bird seed for the type of birds you want to feed. Birds will feed on the flesh of the pumpkins in addition to the seeds, as well squirrels and other wildlife. Place a twig inside to serve as a perch in larger pumpkins. Put the pumpkin feeder on a deck, or in the garden, or use some twine to hang it from a tree.

Pumpkin Stock

Scrape the inside of the pumpkin and place the bright orange flesh in a stock pot or slow cooker with onions, carrots, celery, garlic, fennel, and any other vegetables you prefer. Season with salt and pepper, add a bay leaf and cover with water. Simmer for a couple of hours and stir occasionally. Strain the broth into a mason jar. Use immediately, store in the refrigerator for 2 weeks, or freeze for future use.

Pumpkin Puree

Pumpkin puree adds a festive fall flavor to many foods. Pumpkin pie, spicy pumpkin hummus, pumpkin latte, pumpkin soup, pumpkin smoothies, and pumpkin butter are just a few of the dishes that pumpkin can flavor. Cut the pumpkin into large pieces, place the skin up in a baking dish, and cover with water. Bake at around 400 for an hour. Let cool, then scrape the flesh into a food processor, and mix until smooth. Store in the refrigerator.

LEAF NEWS



Local Ecology and Agriculture Fremont is a long-standing nonprofit that does regenerative agriculture and grows a variety of vegetables as well as hosting beehives. It donates more than 5,000 pounds of produce to Tri-City Volunteers and Centro de Servicios every year. You can also contribute! Help local families gain access to healthy fruit by gleaning those lemons, persimmons, pomegranates plus whatever else is growing on your trees. Drop your fruit off at LEAF C.R. Stone Garden located behind Mission Valley Veterinary Clinic at 55 Mowry Ave near Mission. Open for drop off on Monday mornings from 9 am to 10:30 am for delivery within hours to a local food bank. We accept fresh fruit all year long.

More info at fremontleaf.org/glean

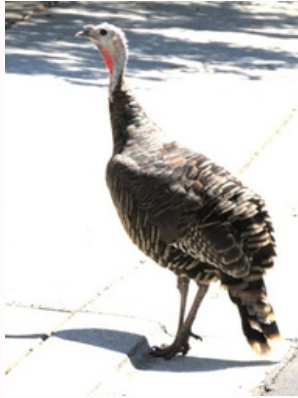
COP 27



Too late to attend the Conference of the Parties of UNFCCC, or COP27 ending November 18. With 190 countries attending, skeptics may wonder about the carbon footprint of all the Air travel to Sharm El Sheik. How much financial commitment should developed counties provide to developing countries? Is it possible the U.S. may decide to shift its 20 billion dollars a year subsidy for fossil fuels to a new target? Globally fossil fuels get subsidies of 5.9 trillion dollars a year - there's a start.

TCEC INTERVIEW WITH CHARLIE WHO IS NOT A THANKSGIVING TURKEY

BY DAN O'DONNELL



TCEC –Charlie, you’re a wild turkey that lives in the suburbs. This time of the year must make you a little nervous.



Charlie – Not really. I’m named after one of the first turkeys to get a Presidential Pardon from Ronald Regan. This gives me security in knowing that not every turkey is doomed at Thanksgiving time.



TCEC – Native Californian turkeys went extinct 10,000 to 12,000 years ago. How did you end up in California?



Charlie – I am native to North America. Before the European settlers arrived, I had more than 10 million ancestors living in flocks in what would become every state except Alaska and Hawaii. My relatives living in California were on the brink of extinction by the early 1900s due to overhunting and lack of vegetation caused by, even back then, the average temperature rising. From 1959 through 1999, however, the Commission, now the California Department of Fish and Wildlife imported and released thousands of live-trapped wild turkeys from Texas. Today, wild turkeys, including myself, can be found living on a quarter of the state’s lands. It has been one of the most successful species reintroduction programs in California.



TCEC – That’s great! Some people think that wild turkeys are a nuisance because they cause damage by scratching the ground.



Charlie – In urban areas, you might see a little bit of dirt or leaves kicked onto a sidewalk, but that is easily swept up and does not harm the environment. Plastic bags, fast food containers, and cigarette butts by humans are much more harmful to the environment.



TCEC – How do you manage to survive in the suburbs?



Charlie – Well, I eat just about everything, I stay warm with almost 6000 feathers and if I want to, I can run 18 mph and fly at up to 50mph.



TCEC – How will we know it's you out there?



Charlie: Listen for my purrs, clucks, and gobbles! By the way, have you ever tried Turkey stuffing without Turkey? It’s very filling!

<https://www.nwtf.org/content-hub/the-sounds-of-the-wild-turkey>

OUTING TO FREMONT RECYCLING & TRANSFER STATION



FREMONT RECYCLING AND TRANSFER STATION
41149 Boyce Road Fremont CA 94538



Did you ever wonder what happens to the stuff you put in the curbside recycle or landfill bin?

TCEC members and guests are invited to visit Republic Services Recycling and Transfer Station to see the sorting machine, and the bales of recyclable Material and ask questions like what happens next?, how can I help keep stuff out of the landfill? Which is better paper or plastic?

**Tour on Wednesday, Dec 14th at 41149 Boyce Road
Fremont CA 94538 at 10:30 am**

Call or text Caroline to let us know how many people are coming, cell 415 377 9200

Or email caroline.harris@earthlink.net



NEWS DEPARTMENT



GOOD NEWS

America Recycle Day is Tuesday, November 15. This is the only nationally recognized day to celebrate recycling in the U.S.A. and more than 2,000 events with 2 million participants take part nationwide. Next month Ecologic will focus on recycling and what we do in the Tri-City area.



NOT SO GOOD NEWS

A massive fish die-off due to red algae, aka Pseudo-nitzschia bacteria, is wiping out the Salmon population along with a host of fish species. Like a “wildfire in water” the sudden bloom of bacteria has caused estimates of hundreds of thousands of deaths as the fish wash up in Foster City, Alameda, Keller Beach in Richmond, Sausalito, Fort Baker, and inside Lake Meritt.

The cause of the die-off is thought to be a result of two factors – increasing water temperature and wastewater runoff from cities by the Bay. Jon Rosenfeld of Baykeeper, a nonprofit that Tri-City Ecology has always supported, notes that the red tide species of algae, Heterosigma, maybe kill fish in two ways: It produces a toxin that is deadly to fish, but it can also result in low dissolved oxygen levels in the water. With either mechanism, the rusty-colored algae phenomena that cover swathes of the Bay will likely be around till temperatures have cooled. Bill Johnson, the chief of the wastewater enforcement division of the Water Quality Control Board questioned the role of inadequately treated wastewater and indicated a need for more research, but Rosenfeld countered with reports from the U.S. Geological Survey of 2020 that the Bay has “high nutrient loadings, primarily from municipal wastewater with a potential for high algal production.”

The impact of the red tide includes putting the crab fishing season to be put on hold. Sturgeon, sharks, and striped bass have been washing ashore, an unusual phenomenon, and Bay Keeper has contributed to public awareness of the events.

FISH DIE OFF ALONG BAR SHORELINE



Special Price

BIOCOMPOSTABLE PRODUCTS

| | |
|---|---------|
| 7 inch plate (50 per pack) | \$ 3.70 |
| 10 inch plate (50 per pack) | \$ 7.20 |
| 11.5 oz bowl (50 per pack) | \$ 2.70 |
| 8 oz no tree hot cup | \$ 4.00 |
| 9 oz cold cup (50 per pack) | \$ 4.90 |
| 10 oz cold cup (50 per pack) | \$ 6.25 |
| 16 oz cold cup (50 per pack) | \$ 5.35 |
| Teaspoon, fork or knife (50 per pack) | \$ 2.10 |
| 3 gal kitchen pail bag 17"X17 " (50 per roll) | \$ 4.00 |
| 13 gal tall kitchen pail bag 17"X17 " (50 per roll) | \$ 3.15 |
| 100 count straws | \$ 1.45 |

*All prices reflect our nonprofit discount and tax. This benefit is for TCEC members only.

Orders may be picked up at 3375 Country Drive, Fremont, on Thursdays between 11 AM – 2 PM, or by special arrangement. When purchasing please fill out an order form and pay by cash or check. Sorry, we don't have change. Questions? Call Dee Miner at 510 9406272 or email her at muskox44@hotmail.com and please cc Caroline Harris at caroline.harris@earthlink.net.

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SPECIAL OFFER!



- Don't Forget TCEC members can buy the 3-gallon compostable bin liners from the office on Country Road.
- These little baggies line the container that Republic Services Provide that sits on your counter when you are preparing veg or discarding something organic but not edible. Lining the bin saves you from having to wash it out every time... saves water and time.. just don't leave it too long before taking it to the outdoor Green Bin.
- These rolls have 50 bags and cost \$4.00 that's a bargain price for TCEC members.
- Pick up from 3375 Country Dr. Fremont, CA
- Thursdays between 11 and 2, fill in a form and leave cash or checks.
- If you are passing the office on another day try the door, the front desk should be manned by a representative of one of the other organizations.



Do you have news or events you would like to share with Tri City Ecology's members?

Do you have any ideas on what would make Eco-Logic an even better publication?

Let us know!

We would love your feedback and are always looking for Fresh faces and ideas!

Email us @ richgodfrey77@gmail.com

Please check out our website – www.tricityecology.org and [Face Book](#)

You can always call and leave a message at 510 793 6222

And if you haven't joined TCEC yet, here's how



BECOME A MEMBER

WANT TO JOIN TCEC?

If you want to become a member please click [HERE](#) to fill out this form and mail a check to 3375 Country Drive, Fremont, CA 94536. To know more about TCEC please visit our website at <http://www.tricityecology.org>.

Board meets on the first Thursday of each month on Zoom due to Covid-1. Please call to verify. If you wish to speak on a subject, please call 510.793.6222 or 510.790.1685.

If you have any suggestions or want to contact us, please fill out [THIS](#) form.

TRI CITY ECOLOGY BOARD

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