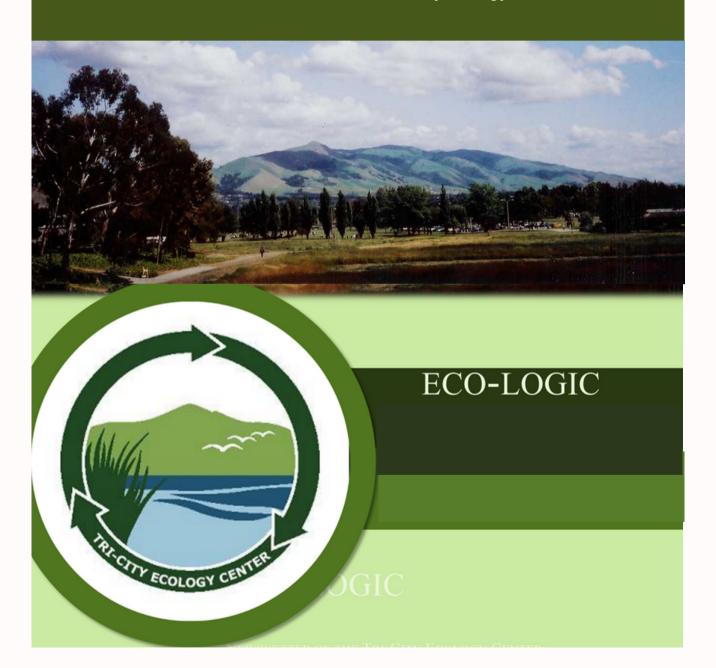
FEBRUARY 2023 VOLUME 54 NUMBER 2

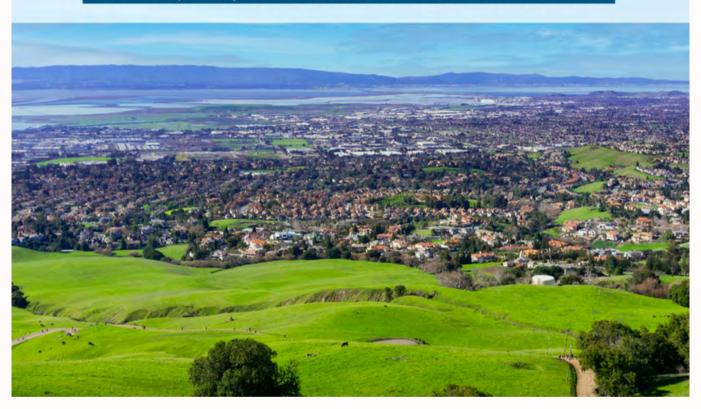
### **ECO-LOGIC**

The Official Newsletter of the Tri-City Ecology Center



## FREMONT

Fremont's pathway to a low-carbon, sustainable, and resilient future



WETLANDS OR HOUSING? CLIMATE CHANGE TESTS

SHORELINE DEVELOPMENT.

(CLICK ON LINK ABOVE TO LEARN MORE)

## WETLANDS OR HOUSING? CLIMATE CHANGE TESTS SHORELINE DEVELOPMENT

BY DERELL LICHT

Newark is home to 50,000 citizens, and the number will certainly increase. And the city is poised right next to the San Francisco Bay. The challenge is how to anticipate and manage both ongoing climate change and lack of housing. Developers want to build 600 homes on Newark's shoreline, while the shoreline is key to adapting to sea level rise. 600 more homes at a price of \$1.2 million or more won't help (much with – delete these two words) those in need of affordable homes. Tri City Ecology endorses protection of the tidal marsh and its flora and fauna and if you want to also support protecting the shoreline, please open the website above and learn what you can do to help.

The city of Newark, California, could move to restore wetlands instead of building hundreds of houses. The development could ease the housing shortage, but the land could mitigate flooding as the seas rise. Website information Courtesy of Derell Licht



## UP-CYCLE WOODEN PALLETS INTO ARTISTIC PROJECTS

#### BY DAN O'DONNELL

There are thousands of wooden pallets used in the transportation of materials and merchandise every day. Many are never reused. They are hauled away and chipped into mulch or used as firewood. Some companies are beginning to use corrugated paper pallets that are recycled similarly to cardboard or have switched to reusable standard sized heavy duty plastic pallets. Even so, there are still plenty of opportunities to find wooden pallets that can be used for a wide range of creative projects.

There are plenty of worthwhile decorative and functional wooden pallet projects for the garden. Some are uncomplicated and quick to make. A pallet compost bin does not require sanding, many cuts, or painting but is comparable in function to any that can be purchased. Other projects can range from simple construction to detailed assembly and elaborate artistry. A wooden pallet tool rack and potting table project can have a basic appearance or a colorfully dramatic presence. Pallet patio furniture does not need to be complicated if covered by large cushions and bright pillows. The same furniture when sanded, etched with artwork, and painted or stained will not need anything to hide its appearance.

There are plenty of websites dedicated to creating wooden pallet projects. One of the most comprehensive is 1001 Pallets (<a href="www.1001pallets.com">www.1001pallets.com</a>). The site offers photographs, ideas, design plans, local sources to acquire pallets, links to purchase tools, woodworking tutorials, submissions of completed projects, and general information about pallets and the history of the industry.

Finding a free pallet is not difficult. Most shops will allow you to take one or two. Finding one with specific characteristics is a bit harder and can take time. Small businesses are more likely to allow you to take a pallet because they probably do not have a contract with a hauler. Businesses that have dry goods shipped to them are more likely to have clean undamaged pallets.



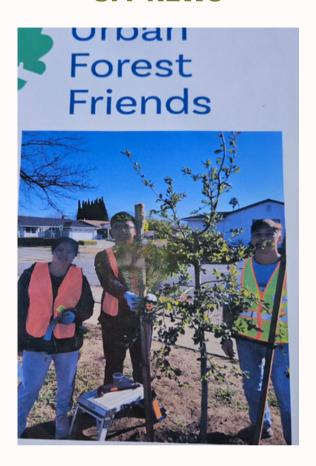




Avoid pallets from pesticide or chemical processing companies and ones labeled 'hazardous' or stamped with MB. Methyl bromide is a pesticide that is hazardous to humans and may have been sprayed on pallets originating in Asia. Pallets from restaurants and grocery stores with food or oil stains should not be used. Food stains have the potential for unpleasant smells or can support mold growth.

The tools needed for a pallet project will vary. Gloves are the only consistent tool that is needed, but a saw, hammer, and nails or screws are useful! As you will see in the illustrations, you can redo your entire living room, or just have a place to take selfies!

#### **UFF NEWS**



What's ahead for the Fremont Urban Canopy? Interested in learning more about tree planting?
Consider being a volunteer?

Friday, March 8th, 8:30-11am: Warwick Elementary School Tree Planting. This will be our first tree planting directly on a school campus. The principal, teachers, and students of Warwick Elementary are all super excited about their ten new trees. The volunteers will be teachers, parents, and 5th graders, and maybe 4th graders as well. If you enjoy teaching and working with kids, please sign up to help! We need five Tree Leaders. UFF Lead: Nathiya (nathiya.prathnadi@gmail.com)

Sunday, March 24th, 12:30-4pm: Cabrillo Trail Park Celebration and Tree Planting. This will be our largest event of 2024! We'll be planting 21 trees, plus coordinating a celebration carnival with tables and booths from other community groups. This large. community event will be funded by UFF's first ever Cal ReLeaf grant of \$3000 We need eight Tree Leaders, but also many, many more general volunteers to help staff the information table, promote Fremont's Cabrillo Neighborhood Free Tree program, and coordinate with other community groups. UFF Lead: Lynn (20tufa20@gmail.com)

If you'd like to be involved in the above events, please sign up in the spreadsheet here or email the event organizers for more info! <a href="https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1EtPoAb7QGHsOIjHNyhv5">https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1EtPoAb7QGHsOIjHNyhv5</a> <a href="OiLxHKq9I3AWODhyOzdnMas/edit?usp=sharing">OiLxHKq9I3AWODhyOzdnMas/edit?usp=sharing</a>

We will also have three Newark Tree Plantings in April-June: Saturday, April 6th, 9am-noon: Newark Silliman Center/Sportsfield Park. Planting 15 trees. More details TBD!

Saturday, April 27th, 9am-noon: Arbor Day Newark Jerry Raber Ash St Park. We'll be adding 15 more trees to the other side of Ash St. Park. More details TBD!

Saturday, June 8th, 9am-noon: Newark Community Center Park. Planting 15 more trees around the community center. Probably our last tree planting before the summer weather really kicks in.

#### **LEAF ON THE MOVE**



January brought rain and a lot of work to transfer both a 10 and 20 foot container, a lath house, green house, bee house and hives, kitchen, trailer, mud buggy, and more. This was part of the needed move from the 10-year-old Stone Garden <a href="mailto:nextdoor.org">nextdoor.org</a> to the next yard that is being offered on a generous lease from ACWD. The larger field will be the unique urban garden of Fremont that offers hands on training, classes, and a hefty supply of fresh vegetable to the Tri City Volunteers each year.

It took takes a lot of labor and the move is still underway. LEAF develops its new plans. Special key help has come from the Thomas family, and will allow the new site to have planters, irrigation, demonstration areas, water conservation, soil enhancement, biocompost, an apiary, solar, and worm farms.

The Urban Garden is one part of LEAF's activities. The LEAF Center located at California Nursery Historical Park is also key to the ongoing work of making gardening a civic opportunity. To have a community garden it has been said that two things are needed at a minimum – land and eager volunteers. Many community gardens have disappeared over the years due to lack of those ingredients. LEAF, despite having gone through at least 4 major moves since 2008, is still getting stronger and stronger. Especially due to the volunteers! Come check out LEAF in 2024 and volunteer or donate.

# CITY OF FREMONT RECEIVES FIRST-EVER PLATINUM DESIGNATION FOR ADVANCING SOLAR ENERGY POST DATE: 02/12/2024 9:56 AM



We are proud to announce that the City of Fremont has received a Platinum designation from the national <u>SolSmart</u> program, recognizing exceptional achievements in advancing solar energy use at the local level. Fremont is the very first community in the country to earn this prestigious designation!

In order to achieve SolSmart Platinum designation, the City:

- adopted <u>instant solar permitting</u> through the <u>SolarAPP+</u> program,
- posted public metrics and numerous <u>online resources</u> for community members interested in installing solar,
- installed solar systems on multiple City-owned properties, and formed community partnerships to equitably expand solar in the city by leveraging funds from foundations and state government. That included partnerships with affordable housing developers and groups such as ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability and Habitat for Humanity East Bay/Silicon Valley.

SolSmart is a U.S. Department of Energy program led by the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and the Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC). SolSmart offers free technical assistance to help local governments advance solar energy deployment. Their team was able to work with City staff to ensure that more of our community members take advantage of this clean energy source.

#### **EARTHDAY IS COMING**

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GOGREE With us in 2024

Join us as we celebrate Earth Day

and increase environmental awareness in our community.

Saturday, April 20, 2024 - 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.



■ Downtown Event Center & Plaza 3500 Capit of Ave., Fremont





#### FREE Residential Drop-off:

- CEMPLEED CO
- PERMITETIMEN AND ASSESSMENT



#### For Families & Children:

- **WESTONIA**
- GREENS SEM FREEDOM



#### Learn About:

- TANGET PROBLEMS





Event Partners:





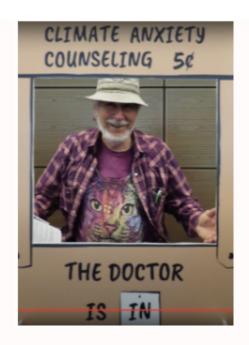




Special ThanksTo: CENTRIPEDAL OTKES

Free bike tune-ups

www.whhs.com/green • city.fremont.gov/earthday



# Special Price

#### BIOCOMPOSTABLE PRODUCTS

7 inch plate (50 per pack)	S 3.70
10 inch plate (50 per pack)	S 7.20
11.5 oz bowl (50 per pack)	S 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)	S 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.

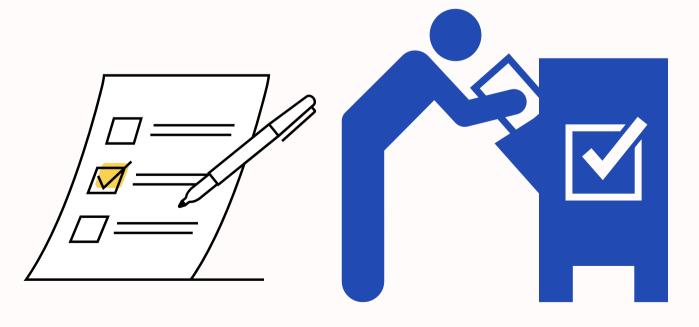
Orders may be picked up at 3375 Country Drive, Fremont, on Thursdays between 11 AM – 2 PM, or by special arrangement. When purchasing please fill out an order form and pay by cash or check. Sorry, we don't have change. Questions? Call Dee Miner at 510 9406272 or email her at muskox44@hotmail.com and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

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# TCEC ELECTIONS

Don't forget to vote and mail your ballot by

March 2nd





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 <u>HERE</u> 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 <a href="http://www.tricityecology.org">http://www.tricityecology.org</a>

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 <u>THIS</u> form.

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