

Environmental Activities Calendar

1 st Wed. Monthly	3 PM to 4 PM	Free Monthly Tour of the Recycling + Environmental Resource Center: Interested in a behind-the-scenes look at the LEED Platinum Certified Recycling Center? Please wear long pants and closed-toed shoes. Tours at an alternative time can also be scheduled for a fee. For more information, call City Staff at (510) 559-7686.
Saturday Sept. 15	11 AM to 3 PM	Drive Electric at the Farmers' Market: Join the Cities of El Cerrito and Berkeley, and the Ecology Center, for a National Drive Electric Week event at the Berkeley Farmers' Market. Discover the latest electric cars, bikes, and scooters. Talk to local EV owners and find resources for purchasing and leasing. Bring the kids for a bounce house, crafts, and more. Please register at: ecoctr.org/RideElectric18 .
Saturday Sept. 15	10 AM to 12 PM	Green Team / Coastal Clean Up: On Coastal Cleanup Day, join the El Cerrito Green Teams in removing trash along Cerrito Creek. Meet at El Cerrito's Creekside Park, at the south end of Santa Clara Ave. All ages welcome; there's a play structure for very young children. Tools, gloves, bags, snacks, and water supplied. For more information about Coastal Cleanup Day, visit coastal.ca.gov , or contact City Staff at (510) 215-4350 or green@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us .
Saturday Oct. 13	9 AM to 3 PM	Fall Citywide Garage Sale: Keep waste out of the landfill while discovering your community and finding great deals. To register to host a sale, complete the Registration Form in this newsletter or online. Registration due by 4 PM on September 10, 2018. Visit el-cerrito.org/garagesale for more information or to register.
Monday Oct. 15	6 PM to 7:30 PM	SunShares Workshop: Join us for a free workshop offering information on rebates and opportunities to add solar to your home or to purchase an electric vehicle. The event will be located in the City Hall, Council Chambers at 10890 San Pablo Avenue. Learn more about SunShares or register for the program at bayareasunshares.org . Contact City Staff at wprovost@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us for more information.
Saturday Oct. 20	9 AM to 4 PM	E-Waste Collection Event: Join the City of El Cerrito and Universal Waste Management, Inc. for an electronic waste recycling event. Recycle TVs and computer monitors, computers and accessories, stereos and music equipment, VCRs and DVD players, printers, fax machines, copiers, phone equipment, cell phones, and more! For more information, contact El Cerrito City Staff at green@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us or by phone at (510) 215-4350.
Nov. 1—Feb. 1	Winter Hours	Recycling Center Winter Hours: The Recycling Center will have winter hours from Nov. 1 to Feb. 1: 8 AM – 4:45 PM weekdays; 9 AM – 4:45 PM weekends.
Monday Nov. 12	All Day	Veteran's Day Holiday: The Recycling Center and East Bay Sanitary offices will be closed Monday, November 12 in observance of Veteran's Day. Curbside collection of recycling, green waste and garbage will occur as normally scheduled.
Nov. 22 Nov. 23	All Day	Thanksgiving Holiday: The Recycling Center and East Bay Sanitary offices will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 22 and November 23 in observance of Thanksgiving. Curbside collection will occur as normally scheduled.
Dec. 24 Dec. 25 Dec. 31 Jan. 1	All Day	Christmas and New Year's Holidays: The Recycling Center will be closed on December 24, 25, and 31 (beginning at noon), and January 1. East Bay Sanitary offices will be closed on December 25 and January 1. Curbside collection of recycling, green waste and garbage will not occur on December 25 and January 1. Service for all routes will resume one day later than normally scheduled, with Friday's normal pick-up happening on Saturday.
Friday Jan. 11	All Day	Last Day for Free Christmas Tree Pick-Up: Christmas trees will be picked up free of charge through January 11 by East Bay Sanitary. Flocked trees will be taken for a \$15.00 fee. Please call (510) 237-4321 for more information or to schedule a pick-up.

A Greener El Cerrito

News from the City of El Cerrito Operations + Environmental Services Division

Citywide Garage Sale

Saturday, Oct. 13th
9:00AM–3:00PM



Register your garage sale by Sept. 10. The finalized map of locations and listings will be available online and in hardcopy on Thursday, October 4. Please visit el-cerrito.org/garagesale or call City Staff at (510) 559-7686.

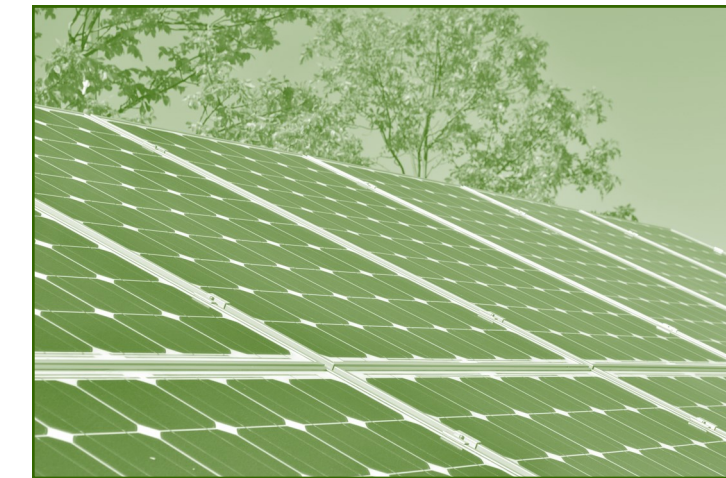
El Cerrito SunShares Workshop

Monday, October 15
6:00PM–7:30PM
Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue
Please visit el-cerrito.org/newgreen for information on how to RSVP.



10890 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530
green@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

Participate in SunShares 2018!



The City of El Cerrito has teamed up with other Bay Area cities and the San Francisco-based Business Council on Climate Change (BC3) to provide a solar and electric vehicle (EV) group-buying program. The pro-

gram, SunShares, makes it easier and more affordable for Bay Area residents to go solar or to purchase an electric vehicle by offering discounts, free workshops, and helping renters learn more about their clean energy options. Plus, partici-

pants can still take advantage of the 30% Federal Tax Credit.

Register by November 15 to receive a no-cost, no-obligation solar proposal or EV discount code, as well as financing options. To register for the program, visit bayareasunshares.org.

Also mark your calendars to attend the workshop at the El Cerrito City Hall on **October 15 at 6 PM.**

For more information, please contact BC3 at sunshares@bc3sfbay.org or the City of El Cerrito at (510) 525-7622.

Updates from the Recycling Desk

The recycling industry is currently undergoing some dramatic changes. In an effort to improve environmental quality domestically, China has placed strict limitations on the recycled materials it receives. Since China had previously been a major importer and processor of recycled materials, this action is having large impacts on recycling programs across the

globe, by forcing programs to produce cleaner recycling streams.

You can help ensure that your items still get recycled. Before placing anything in your recycling container, please make sure all items are Empty, Clean, and Dry. Dirty or wet items can contaminate the recycling stream and often end up going to the landfill, along with everything it might have contaminated. For

example, when water or food waste mixes with clean paper, it creates mold and destroys the paper fiber, rendering the paper unrecyclable.

Taking the extra steps to keep all materials in your bin Empty, Clean, and Dry will help ensure that your recyclables will be turned into new products and not be going to the landfill!

(Continued on page 3)

Prepare Now for the Rainy Season

El Cerrito residents should keep in mind that creeks and culverts can overflow during periods of heavy rain. The City needs your cooperation and assistance in assuring that the storm drain system functions properly. Here are some tips on how you can help:

- If you have a creek on your property, make sure that debris and vegetation do not block the flow of water. The City does not maintain creeks on private property.
- If you have a storm drain grate in the street near your home or business, check it frequently during heavy rains. Make sure no trash or leaves block the grate. If you observe a catch basin that is not draining or needs to be cleaned, contact the City at (510) 215-4369.
- Make sure the gutter in front of your business or residence is kept clear of anything that could divert the flow of storm water. Do not allow soil, trash, or other materials in the gutter area and never put or pour anything other than storm water in the drain inlet.

- If your property is flooded by water entering from the street, report the problem to the City at (510) 215-4369.
- To prevent flooding from the street, the City provides up to ten (10) sandbags per household before a storm hits or after it has arrived. The sand pile and bags for you to fill are available for El Cerrito and Kensington residents only and are available at the El Cerrito Recycling + Environmental Resource Center (7501 Schmidt Lane). Please bring proof of residency to the office.
- Make sure your home's drainage system is functioning properly and that surface run off and roof downspouts are not directed into your neighbors' yards, causing flooding on their properties.

If you have questions about storm drain system maintenance or need additional assistance, please contact the Maintenance Division at (510) 215-4369. If there is an emergency situation after business hours, please contact the Police Department at (510) 233-1214 for assistance.

Citywide Garage Sale Registration Information

HOST A GARAGE SALE!

Turn your old stuff into treasure! Register now to host a garage sale at your home during the Fall Citywide Garage Sale. Registration fees cover the cost of advertising and promotion, which includes posting your sale in the garage sale brochure, classified ads in newspapers and online.

Spread the word about the Garage Sale!

Make your event fun and enjoyable by providing refreshments, treats, prizes or other enticements! For more information, contact Laureteen Brazil in the Operations + Environmental Services Division at lbrazil@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us or (510) 559-7686.

Garage Sale Registration Form

Fall 2018 El Cerrito Citywide Garage Sale
October 13, 2018 | 9 AM to 3 PM

Registration forms are due by September 10 at 4 PM
 Mail or drop-off form, along with a non-refundable \$17 registration fee made payable to the City of El Cerrito, to:
Environmental Services Division - Citywide Garage Sale
 10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito CA, 94530

Name: _____

Street Address/Sale Location: _____

Nearest Cross Street: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address (please provide an email address, especially if you would like the opportunity to review your listing prior to publication): _____

Sale Description: Maximum of 20 words describing the items for sale and any other details about the sale: _____



Garage sale maps, locations, and listings available October 4, 2018 in print and online at el-cerrito.org/garagesale



Planning Improvements to Stormwater Infrastructure

The City of El Cerrito is currently undertaking two separate planning efforts to prioritize improvements to the City's storm drain infrastructure. Together, these planning documents will provide El Cerrito with a roadmap for how to prioritize spending on related capital projects and will develop a financial plan for implementation.

The **Storm Drain Master Plan** is currently in development and focuses on storm drain infrastructure projects that will improve the condition of the storm drain network and will increase the capacity where needed to reduce flood risk. The plan will ultimately provide an engineering framework, planning guidance, the basis for a financial plan, and a list of projects to prioritize in the City's Capital Improvement Program.

In the initial analysis, it was found that El Cerrito has more than 38 miles of pipe and channels, over 1,200 storm drain inlets, and 1,064 junction boxes/manholes. While much of this infrastructure was found to be in a good state, a number of locations were found to be in need of repair as they are at or near the end of their useful life. The Planning team also used a hydraulic model to map flows and identify improvements that would help most in reducing flood risk throughout the City.

A public meeting for the Storm Drain Master Plan was held on June 28th. For more information, please visit el-cerrito.org/659/Storm-Drain-Master-Plan or contact the City's Engineering Division at (510) 215-4382.

The City is also building upon the Storm Drain Master Planning effort to develop a **Green Infrastructure Plan**. "Green Infrastructure" refers to projects that utilize natural processes to slow water down, thereby reducing flood risk and improving water quality. Examples of green infrastructure include living roofs, such as the one located at El Cerrito's Korematsu Middle School, and rain gardens. The benefits of Green Infrastructure include: improvements to water quality, the recharging of groundwater supplies, flood mitigation, habitat creation, creek or wetland restoration, and other community benefits, such as urban greening, and traffic calming.

The City has already built a number of rain gardens including those at the Recycling + Environmental Resource Center, the City Hall and Public Safety Building, on the Ohlone Greenway, and on San Pablo Avenue at Eureka Avenue and at Madison Avenue.

The Green Infrastructure Plan, which will be available for public comment in the Spring of 2019, is focused on integrating green infrastructure into projects identified in the Storm Drain Master Plan and other planning documents. The Plan will prioritize projects for implementation and will set targets for the City to implement through 2040.

For more information about the Green Infrastructure Plan, please contact the City's Clean Water Program Coordinator, Will Provost, at (510) 525-7622 or wprovost@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us.

Recycling Desk Updates

(continued from page 1)

Do you need a larger bin? The Operations + Environmental Services Division wants to promote recycling and composting as much as possible. However, one way to reduce contamination in the recycling stream is by making sure no trash gets into the recycling container. If you have a small trash container and do not have enough space for everything, below are a few options to consider:

1. Contact East Bay Sanitary for a larger trash container at 237-4321, open 8 am to 3:30 pm, Monday thru Friday.
2. REDUCE single-use packaging by finding products that use less or reusable packaging; or REUSE items for longer to reduce the amount of waste you produce.

For more tips on how to reduce, reuse and recycle, contact the City's Recycling + Environmental Resource Center at (510) 215-4350 or green@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us.