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In this quarter's newsletter: (click section name to jump directly to the topic)

- [Welcoming Rebecca](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [Plant-Based Eating](#)
- [Recycling and Zero Waste](#)
- [Event Recap: Northern California Electric Equipment Expo](#)

Welcoming Rebecca

Welcoming Sustainability Program Manager Rebecca Lucky

The Sustainability and Resiliency Division is excited to welcome Rebecca Lucky, Sustainability Program Manager, to our team. She is enthusiastic to join a city known for its commitment to sustainability and combating climate change. Drawn by Mountain View's dedicated resources and leadership in addressing equity, Rebecca was inspired by the City's vibrant community of innovative and environmentally conscious individuals.

Rebecca's impactful contributions at her last role with the City of Menlo Park include spearheading the prohibition of single-use plastic bags and facilitating the transition to all-electric buildings. She also worked closely with gardeners to transition from gas-powered equipment. Speaking with Rebecca, she highlighted the positive shift in collaborative energy and understanding within sustainability conversations over the 15 years of her career so far. Looking ahead, Rebecca is excited about Mountain View's 2035 climate strategy, which will emphasize resilience in the face of climate challenges. The city looks forward to achieving further positive strides with her teamwork and leadership.



Ongoing Resources and Rebates

- [SVCE Future Fit](#): Find information and rebates from your local electric utility. Their FutureFit Homes Rebates currently offer up to \$8,000, including up to \$2,000 for new Heat Pump Water Heaters.
- [BAYREN Home Rebates Program](#): Additional rebates may be available.
- City of Palo Alto Utilities Tips: [Kitchen energy waste](#), [space heating](#), and [upgrading lighting](#).

Upcoming Sustainability Events

Silicon Valley Reads 2024

Each year, Silicon Valley Reads brings Mountain View together with neighboring Santa Clara County libraries and other organizations to read and learn about an important topic that will jumpstart conversations. This year's theme, "A Greener Tomorrow Starts Today," will showcase books and events that focus on environmental sustainability.

We invite you to read one of the [featured books](#) and attend special events to address the critical and urgent need to take action toward sustainability.

To celebrate the start of Silicon Valley Reads:

- Join us for a kickoff event at the Visual Performing Arts Center at De Anza College on [Wednesday, Jan. 31](#) and engage in a conversation with authors and contributors to the featured books.
- Younger children are invited to a Silicon Valley Reads Inspired Storytime on [Tuesday, Feb. 6](#) that will showcase The Forest Man and related songs, stories and rhymes.
- Attend the Sustainability and Resiliency Division's event at the Mountain View

Public Library Thursday, Feb. 29 at 6:30. Check the [Library calendar](#) for more details and other themed events.



Save the Date: Combined Arbor and Earth Day 2024

The City of Mountain View's first combined Arbor and Earth Day Celebration will be held Saturday, April 20, 2024, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Rengstorff Community Center and Park. The Community Services Department and Sustainability Division are joining forces and resources to bring a combined event, including a Mayor's tree planting, hands-on workshops, interactive activities, electric vehicle demos, live animal programs, plant-based food, a kid's area, music, art, vendors, a tree walk, and giveaways. Staff is in the initial planning stages, so stay tuned for more information to come!



Zero Waste Events



Save the Date: Paper Shredding Event

Saturday, March 2, from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the SMaRT Station, 301 Carl Rd., Sunnyvale.

Protect your privacy by securely shredding and recycling confidential papers such as bank statements, pay stubs, cancelled checks and credit card offers at this free event for Mountain View and Sunnyvale residents. Proof of residency is required. The event line closes at 3 p.m. sharp. Late arrivals will be turned away. Limit of five bags or banker size boxes per household.

For more information visit MountainView.gov/ZeroWasteEvents.



Save the Date: Compost Basics Workshop

Saturday, February 24, from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. at the Community Center, 201 S Rengstorff Ave., Mountain View.

Discover backyard composting basics and how compost provides nutrients for your plants at this FREE event for Santa Clara County residents. Learn more at MountainView.gov/ZeroWasteEvents.

Register: Mountain View Sea Level Rise Tour

Saturday, March 9, from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. at Shoreline Regional Park

Join the City of Mountain View for a 1-mile trail walk around Shoreline Regional Park while learning about City actions to enhance community resilience. Members from the Sustainability Division and Public Works will lead a tour of infrastructure projects that aim to reduce sea level rise impacts while improving wildlife and recreation at Shoreline Regional Park.

Register for this event [here](#) as space is limited.



Save the Date: Repair Café

Saturday, March 17, from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Hacker Dojo, 855 Maude Ave., Mountain

View.

Get help repairing electronics or small appliances, fixing bicycles, mending clothes, and more! Repair Café Mountain View is a free alternative to landfilling things in need of repair. At Repair Café, volunteers will assist you to tackle the repair yourself or try to fix it while you watch and learn. For more information, visit RepairCafeMV.org.



[Click to return to top.](#)

Plant-Based Eating

Our plant-based eating program focuses on promoting healthy and sustainable food choices, supporting equitable access to healthy food, and spreading awareness about the positive health and environmental impacts of a plant-based diet.

Slow Cooker Peanut Tofu and Broccoli

We are right in the middle of cozy season. Here is a plant based slow cooker recipe to warm you up, care of [Six Vegan Sisters](#). Pair with a grain like quinoa or rice for a hearty lunch or dinner.

Ingredients

- 1 (14 oz) block extra firm tofu, drained and pressed
- 1 tsp olive oil optional, for sautéing
- 1 head (about 5 cups chopped) broccoli
- 1/2 cup coconut milk, full fat preferred
- 1/4 cup peanut butter
- 3 Tbsp soy sauce
- 1 tsp chili garlic sauce
- 1 Tbsp rice vinegar
- 1 tsp agave or maple syrup
- 1 tsp cornstarch



- 3 Tbsp water
- green onion for topping
- sesame seeds for topping

Instructions

1. Chop tofu into roughly 1-inch pieces. Optional for crispier tofu: If preferred, sauté the tofu in 1 tsp olive oil over medium-high heat until lightly crispy on all sides.
2. Chop broccoli into bite-sized pieces and set aside.
3. Add to your slow cooker coconut milk, peanut butter, soy sauce, chili garlic sauce, rice vinegar, and agave (or maple syrup).
4. Whisk all ingredients together and add the cubed tofu.
5. Cover and cook on low. Set timer for 2 hours (Note: you will have to add the broccoli and cornstarch slurry after 1 hour 15 minutes, and open to stir 20 minutes after that)
6. In a small bowl, combine the cornstarch and water and whisk well. With 45-minutes left on the timer, add the cornstarch slurry and chopped broccoli. Mix well, scraping peanut butter sauce off sides if stuck.
7. With 25-minutes remaining, open and stir one last time.
8. Serve over rice, quinoa, or your favorite grain. Top with green onions, sesame seeds, and more chili garlic sauce, if preferred.

Ginger Pear Jam

If you missed our Jam Making Workshop in December, you can find the recipe [here](#) for the Ginger Pear Jam we made. You can make this recipe without canning for fresh homemade jam or make and preserve it for up to a year using canning equipment.

We're busy planning more plant-based eating workshops in 2024!

[Click to return to top.](#)

Recycling and Zero Waste

Egg Cartons: Dirty Dozen Item of the Quarter



The “[Dirty Dozen](#)” are 12 items that can mislead anyone trying to recycle right. These items seem recyclable, but actually contaminate the recycling process. Please keep them out of your recycling cart.

One item on the Dirty Dozen list is egg cartons. Whether made of clear or foam plastic or molded paper, egg cartons cannot be recycled in our program. There is no recycling market demand for the types of plastic or foam used for egg cartons, and the paper fibers cannot be remade into new paper products.

Please place foam or plastic cartons in the trash. You can put molded paper egg cartons in the compost/food scraps cart, or compost them in a backyard bin. Learn more about the

Dirty Dozen by visiting MountainView.gov/DirtyDozen.

Free Compost and Mulch

Did you know the food scraps, food-soiled paper, and plants that you throw in your green compost cart are made into a finished compost product, full of beneficial nutrients to grow new plants? Mountain View and Sunnyvale residents can pick up free compost as well as tan mini-mulch (up to 96 gallons of each) from the [SMaRT Station](http://MountainView.gov/SMARTStation) (301 Carl Road, Sunnyvale) 7 days per week. Proof of residency is required. Please bring your own shovel and container. Call 408-752-8530 to check availability and visit MountainView.gov/Composting for more information.



[Click to return to top.](#)

Event Recap: Northern California Electric Equipment Expo

Northern California Electric Equipment Expo at McKelvey Ballpark

The City of Mountain View Parks Division hosted the Northern California Electric Equipment Expo at McKelvey Ballpark on Thursday, Oct. 19.

The event included vendors showcasing and providing hands-on experience with the latest all-electric landscape equipment. There were also presentations from the California Air Resources Board and industry experts on sustainable design. More than 100 participants from around the state attended the expo, including City staff from the Parks, Forestry, Fleet and Sustainability divisions.

The event was sponsored by Northern California Sports Field Management Association, Northern California Golf Course Superintendents and California Golf Course Owners Association.

[Click to return to top.](#)



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