

ISSUE

Q3

July
2017

Quarterly
Newsletter

SustainableLB



Programs in Numbers Q2 2017

Mulch Delivery & Pickup:

180 Deliveries
3,747 since 2010

108.5 Tons
2,289 since 2010

Parkway Tree Planting:

56 trees planted
1,543 since 2011

Compost Pilot Program:

20 tons
167 since 2014

Edible Garden Food Donations

21 pounds
790 since 2011

this issue

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Urban Agriculture Incentive Zone Ordinance

Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones (UAIZ) are coming to Long Beach! On June 13th, City Council requested an ordinance be drafted to create a UAIZ program in Long Beach. This program would offer owners of vacant lots a lower tax rate for their property taxes when they enter into a 5 year contract to use the lot for urban agriculture. The program will help put vacant lots to use, benefitting both owners and the community.

On average food travels 1,500 miles to get to your plate. Bringing urban agriculture to vacant lots around Long Beach would increase our supply of healthy local food and reduce this source of pollution. Turning vacant lots into small farms or gardens would also reduce blight and create economic opportunities for local farmers. Creating teaching gardens and community gardens on vacant lots would provide more resources for communities to learn how to garden, be active, and access organic healthy produce. What's more, increasing our local food supply also makes Long Beach more resilient to the impacts of climate change by improving food security and bringing the community together around sustainable food production.

The UAIZ ordinance is expected to come to Council for a vote in October, and will go into effect 30 days later, if adopted. The Office of Sustainability is reaching out to the community to compile a list of residents, community organizations, local farmers, and vacant lot owners who are interested in participating. If you'd like to be involved in this program, or want to learn more, email us at Sustainability@longbeach.gov.

Commissioner Spotlight

The Sustainable City Commission recently elected a new chair and vice chair.



Chair Coby Skye is an 18 year resident of Long Beach and works as an environmental engineer with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, where he's worked on recycling programs as well as new transportation initiatives. Coby volunteers as a Board Member for the Long Beach Area Sierra Club.



Vice Chair Sona Coffee works to transform local governments into sustainable communities. Formerly with Manhattan Beach, she is now Irvine's Environmental Administrator. Sona is a 10-year Long Beach resident, and a proud USC alum. She is passionate about educating the public on climate and energy issues, and last year completed Vice President Gore's Climate Reality Leadership Corps.



Long Beach Recognized by The Climate Registry

Long Beach was honored to be recognized by The Climate Registry "In commemoration of their vision and environmental leadership." The Climate Registry held a luncheon to commemorate its 10th anniversary and honor 6 organizations that were both founding members and participating in Southern California Edison's Cool Planet Project. Long Beach's Aquarium of the Pacific was also recognized in this group along with Bentley Mills Inc., Dean Foods Company, West Basin Municipal Water District, and Gills Onions LLC.

"On our 10th anniversary, we're delighted to celebrate the organizations that have played such an important part in our history," said David Rosenheim, Executive Director of The Climate Registry. "We congratulate these members for demonstrating how a smaller GHG and energy footprint supports long-term prosperity." Mary Nichols, CARB Chair and TCR Board Member, and Diane Wittenberg, TCR's founding Executive Director, co-hosted the luncheon at the Huntington Library.

Edible Garden

Don't miss the upcoming Edible Garden Workshops! To RSVP or for ADA arrangements, contact Kelsey.Forster@longbeach.gov.

Wednesday Aug 2nd, 12-1pm
Planting and Using Herbs

Wednesday Sept 6th, 12-1pm
Growing in Small Spaces

The Sustainable LB Edible Garden is located at the Civic Center Plaza at 333 W Ocean Blvd. Enter the plaza from Ocean and go up the stairs through the first gate on your right.

EV Charger Giveaway

The City of Long Beach received a donation of Electric Vehicle Chargers from Mercedes Benz. We're giving them away to Long Beach residents who own or lease an EV and obtain an electrical permit.

Apply for your EV charger online at <http://bit.ly/EVgiveaway>

Recipients will be responsible for any and all expenses related to completing the electrical work necessary to accommodate the chargers at their homes, including City permit and inspection fees.



Sustainability Spotlight: Blue Restaurants

The Long Beach Water Department just launched a program to recognize restaurants that make an effort to conserve water. Restaurants will receive resources to use water more efficiently and save money. LB Water provides an on-site water efficiency survey and some water efficiency devices free of charge. LB Water will also connect restaurants with rebate programs that make other improvements more affordable. Recognized businesses will receive a “brag kit” to showcase their water saving accomplishment to customers, and will be featured in LB Water’s marketing channels.

Total water use in Long Beach is about 100 gallons per person per day, two thirds of which is residential use. The other third of that water is used to run local businesses, of which the highest users are restaurants. This program makes it easy for restaurants to make water efficiency improvements while giving them the recognition they deserve.

You can help this program spread and reach its goal of 100 Long Beach Certified Blue Restaurants by July 2018. To find Blue Certified Restaurants or get your restaurant certified, go to register.lbwater.org/restaurants.

Climate Central—Food’s Carbon Footprint

The food you eat has a huge impact on the environment, from the resources used to grow it to the fuel used to transport it. Here’s what to keep in mind when picking out your next meal.

- Shop locally to reduce the distance food travels and related emissions
- Beef is the most inefficient and polluting meat; it takes six times as much energy as chicken. Beef production also releases large amounts of methane, a powerful greenhouse gas.
- Change starts small. Try Meatless Mondays to get in one day a week with a climate saving diet.



Our Team

This summer, our office has the pleasure of working with two great interns. They are each working on special projects supporting Sustainability programs.



Stephanie Viramontes is a Long Beach native and junior at Humboldt State University. She is currently working with our office to ensure the smooth implementation of the Urban Agricultural Incentive Zones Ordinance. Stephanie is currently reading novels by bell hooks and Roxanne Gay, and working on handcrafting natural body products.



Macy Chang is working on the Willow Springs Native Plant Nursery Program. She is a sophomore at UC Berkeley, where she studies Biological Environmental Science. Born and raised in Long Beach, Macy enjoys partaking in many outdoor activities around the city, including beach volleyball, biking, and scuba diving.

Sustainable City Commission Meetings

Every fourth Thursday at 4:00 PM in City Council Chambers

July 27th, 2017

Presentations: Fleet Services' transition to a Green Fleet, Energy Efficient Mortgages and financing efficiency upgrades

September 28th, 2017

October 26th, 2017

November 23rd, 2017

Upcoming Events

Sat Jul 22, 2017

- 8:00AM, Litter Free LB—WESCA Cleanup
- 9:00AM, Greener Good Farmer's Market—West Long Beach
- 9:00AM, Local Harvest Farmer's Market—Bixby Park

Sun Jul 23, 2017

- 9:00AM, Green Acres Farmer's Market
- 9:00AM, Long Beach South East Farmer's Market
- 10:00AM, Alamitos Beach Cleanup

Join us at the Longview Litter Patrol

The first Friday of each month the Office of Sustainability teams up with volunteers to take care of this park at Willow Springs. We're taking a break in August, join us for the next event on **September 8th 3-4pm at 2755 Orange Avenue.**

Find more sustainable events in Long Beach on our Green Events Calendar at SustainableLB.com

HISTORIC PAST

INNOVATIVE PRESENT

SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



SUSTAINABLE LONG BEACH

Sustainable Long Beach's mission is to provide policies and programs that
Advance **environmental stewardship**,
Support **local sustainability practices** &
Create a **more livable** and **resilient** Long Beach.

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