



DATE: June 9, 2014

AGENDA ITEM 5

**TO:** Environmental Commission

**FROM:** J. Logan, Staff Liaison

**SUBJECT:** Monthly staff report

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Receive monthly staff report

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**BACKGROUND**

Monthly staff reports and updates will be discussed as listed below.

**DISCUSSION**

Review and discuss Environmental Commission approved by Council 2014/15 Work Plan goals, projects, assignments, target dates, status, and subcommittee assignments.

**Attachments:**

- A. Environmental Commission approved 2014/15 Work Plan
- B. Recycling guide for Multi-Family Complexes

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**  
*Approved 2014/15 Work Plan rev. 6\_9\_2014*

Goal	Projects	Assignments	Target Date	Status
Provide environmentally - relevant information to the community to improve sustainability	City website – Environmental information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate with staff on website changes. Add additional content as appropriate (Reed, Bray, Yuan)</li> </ul>		
	Public Information Forums	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initially focus on forums relevant to CAP reduction goals and water conservation (Ardehali, Hedden, Keller)</li> </ul>		
	Speakers at EC meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invite several speakers to present relevant environmental information at EC meetings (All)</li> </ul>		
	Understand community's needs for environmental information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Conduct a community survey to understand residents' and businesses' environmental information needs</u></li> <li>• <u>subcommittee: Ardehali, Eyre</u></li> </ul>		
	Provide suggestions on environmental aspects of Community Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For Conservation and as a way to demonstrate sustainability methods to the community</li> </ul>		
Climate Action Plan	Assist departments on CAP implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subcommittee to work with staff to develop additional Work Plan items and community outreach activities (Eyre, Bray, Hedden)</li> </ul>		

	Investigate and recommend ways for our community to improve on CAP measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initial focus is on improving transportation and energy efficiency (e.g. investigate appropriateness of options such as PG&amp;E programs, Acterra Residential Energy Efficiency Program, etc. (Eyre, Bray, Hedden)</li> </ul>		
	CAP Measures dashboard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define and implement in coordination with staff (Bray, Keller)</li> </ul>		
Water Conservation	Programs to reduce water usage and encourage conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assist staff, as appropriate, in developing and/or communicating water conservation measures</li> </ul>		
Restrictions for use of selected environmentally-harmful products	Expanded polystyrene (EPS) ban	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assist staff on outreach before ban is implemented on 7/4/14 (<del>Ardehali, Yuan</del>)</li> </ul>		
Solid waste diversion and source reduction practices	MTWS diversion rate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have Mission Trail present diversion trends at EC meeting. Investigate possible ways to improve diversion rates (All)</li> <li>Assignment from Council, 3-25-2014: Council directed the Environmental Commission to review the revised solid waste ordinance. <u>Subcommittee: Hedden, Yuan, Keller</u></li> </ul>		
Green Business Practices	Encourage Green Business Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to research means of getting more businesses to achieve Green Business certification (Yuan)</li> </ul>		



# Proud to Serve the Los Altos Community

## A Call to "B Water Wise"

Governor Brown on January 17th proclaimed a State of Emergency due to the severe drought. The Santa Clara Valley Water District and California Water Service have adopted measures in response. Californians are asked to reduce water use by 20%. Los Altos on average are already using 13% less water this year. Conserve more by following these tips:

- ✓ Avoid overwatering or over-spraying landscaping.
- ✓ Identify and fix any plumbing and irrigation leaks.
- ✓ Put recyclables in your blue cart or bin!
  - Recycling aluminum and steel reduces water pollution and uses 40% less water.
  - Recycling one ton of paper and one ton of glass saves almost 20,000 gallons of water.
  - Recycling one ton of glass requires 12,000 gallons less water than making glass from raw materials.
- ✓ Visit [valleywater.org](http://valleywater.org) and [calwater.com/conservation](http://calwater.com/conservation) to learn more ways to "B Water Wise."



### Did you know?

- It takes 3-gallons of water to produce 1-gallon of bottled water. Use your refillable water bottle whenever possible!
- It takes 49% less water to make recycled paper than to make virgin paper—a great reason for buying paper with the highest recycled content you can find!

#### Sources:

[www.cleanair.org](http://www.cleanair.org)  
[www.coastal.ca.gov](http://www.coastal.ca.gov)  
[www.nemcog.org](http://www.nemcog.org)

[conservatree.org](http://conservatree.org)  
[www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)  
[www.deq.state.or.us](http://www.deq.state.or.us)

Please contact us for recycling assistance:  
650-473-1400 • [www.MissionTrail.com](http://www.MissionTrail.com)

## Mark Your Calendar

*Service will be provided as usual during the weeks of Independence Day and Labor Day.*

*Arts & Wine Festival*  
July 12-13, 10am - 6pm  
Main & State Streets - Downtown Los Altos

Visit the event calendar at  
[www.MissionTrail.com/LosAltos/](http://www.MissionTrail.com/LosAltos/)  
for more information on this and other exciting events.

*Remember that natural wine cork can be composted and belongs in your green Organics cart! Wine bottles are recyclable and belong in the blue!*



It's Good to Recycle Your Junk Mail...

It's even better to stop getting it!

CatalogChoice.org and StopJunkMail.org provide free services to help reduce unwanted mail. Visit to opt out of catalogs, coupons, credit card offers, phone books, circulars and more.



## Contact us:

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