

Local Government Toolkit

Concerned About Your City's Impact on the Environment?

Join other California cities and counties that already cut their costs while reducing their environmental impact. The Local Government Toolkit is a one-stop-shop to help cities and counties save money and protect the climate.

Tools in the Local Government Toolkit

Cost-Saving Actions

Learn about no/low-cost actions local governments can take to save money in areas of energy and water efficiency, transportation, purchasing, building, recycling and green energy.

Financial Resources

Discover financial resources for your city or county. Many California state agencies, utilities, and other organizations offer incentives like rebates, grants, and no/low interest loans to implement climate-friendly actions.

Take Control: Carbon Footprint Calculators

Use different tools to calculate the amount of greenhouse gases (GHG) produced in your city or county. Access calculators and modeling tools to estimate GHG emission reductions from your municipal and community actions.

Create a Climate Action Plan

Learn how to create a Climate Action Plan for your city or county that will reduce community-wide emissions by 15% below current levels by 2020.

Success Stories: Who's Made the Change in California

Find out how other California local governments have successfully and profitably reduced their environmental impact. Contact us to feature your green local government.



Visit CoolCalifornia.org to get started with the Local Government Toolkit.
For more information, contact Dana Papke at 916.324.9615 or dpapke@arb.ca.gov.

RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA



Green Actions Snapshot

- Adopted Clean and Green Sustainable Riverside Action Plan, January 2007
- Greening power supply with renewable energy sources, 50% by 2013
- Increasing recycled water for agriculture and irrigation use, 2008
- Adoption of environmentally preferable purchasing policy to give preference to environmentally superior services and products, March 2009
- Implemented green building policy for all new municipal facilities in excess of 5,000 square feet to be built to LEED standards, February 2009

Environmental Benefits

- Actual/Measured:
 - Since 1999, Riverside Public Utilities customers saved enough kilowatt hours (kWh) of electricity equivalent to taking 23,691 cars off the road
 - 87 million kilowatt hours of electricity saved by community use of fluorescent light bulbs
 - Projected:
 - More than 5 billion gallons of recycled water used annually by 2015
- Estimated Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions**
- 34,800 metric tons CO₂e from lighting retrofits

Green Actions Snapshot

- Adopted Sustainability Implementation Plan, 2009
- Established LEED and Built It Green rating systems for City's Green Building Program
- Converted 100 parking meter poles into bike parking devices in 2008
- Completed new bikeways for Downtown and H Street in East Sacramento
- Planted 4,000 new trees since 2005
- Retrofitted and rebated 372 ultra-low flush and high-efficiency toilets in 2008

Environmental Benefits

- March 2007 Business Recycling Ordinance achieved 20% diversion of

commercial waste

- Weekly curb side recycling reduced residential disposal by approximately 20%
- Increased curbside recycling from 12 tons per year to more than 36 by converting from a three-bin system to single-stream recycling
- City Hall complex is among the top 5% of energy performers for large offices in the nation

Estimated Yearly Cost Savings

- In 2008, achieved 5.7% water savings citywide, equates to 3 million gallons saved, valued at an energy savings of \$247,000

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA



REDDING, CALIFORNIA



Green Actions Snapshot

- Installed 56 photovoltaic (PV) panels
- Replaced all traffic signals with LED lights
- Increased Redding Electric Utility's renewable energy mix
- Provided rebates for energy-efficient appliances and systems
- Adopted Earth Advantage green building program

Environmental Benefits

- Redding Fire Department Station No. 8 utilizes a solar array that produces 14.4 kilowatts of energy, 20% of the station's electricity demand
- Redding gave out 17,000 CFLs to

low-income households that save 750,000-1,000,000 kWh/yr

- Rebate programs save 18.8 million kWh a year

Estimated Yearly Cost Savings

- \$35,000 from net metering cost avoidance
- \$2.6 million from energy efficiency Public Benefits Programs

Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions

- 5.8 metric tons of CO₂e from Library solar array
- 7,500 metric tons of CO₂e from rebate program
- 83 metric tons of CO₂e from 56 PV panels