

Coalition Partners

- B&L Bike Shop
- Care for God's Creations
- Caffè Italia
- Ciocolat
- City of Davis
- Community Alliance with Family Farmers
- Davis Bicycles!
- Davis Bike Collective
- Davis Energy Group
- Davis Farm-to-School
- Davis Farmers Market
- Davis Food Coop
- DHS Environmental Club
- Davis Joint Unified School District
- Davis Waste Removal
- Dos Coyotes
- Explorit
- Good Humus Produce
- Green Sanctuary
- JHS Earth Club
- Parent Institute for Infant Brain Development
- Putah Creek Council
- Sierra Club Yolano Group
- Stewards of God's Creation
- Tree Davis
- Tuleyome
- UCD Arboretum
- Yolo Basin Foundation
- Yolo Clean Air
- Yolo Federal Credit Union
- Yolo Food Bank
- Yolo Land Trust
- Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District
- Valley Climate Action Center

If you are interested in becoming a partner, contact Dominique Sayer at (530) 747-5824.



CDI's First Partner Event – A great Success

By: Judy Moores

On May 25, the CDI Core Group hosted the first ever event for Partners with a buffet breakfast at the lovely Eleanor Roosevelt Circle Dining Hall. City Council Member Rochelle Swanson welcomed the three dozen Partners and Core Group members who gathered for delicious food from Caffè Italia, a slide show about CDI projects, and a chance to discuss some important questions in small groups followed by sharing key points with the whole group.

The first discussion question centered around Davis's strengths with regard to meeting the challenge of becoming a sustainable community. Answers included lauding our use of bikes and the clubs, businesses, and the city for support of biking, UCD and the wealth of other knowledge resources in the city, a responsive City Council and City staff, great food resources such as, Farmer's Market, a savvy community, and a sunny climate as an energy resource.

The second question posed asked what

important things do we need to work on to reach a low carbon future. Answers ranged from the need for local food processing to xeriscaping to more cooperative forms of transit such as car-sharing and car-pooling to safe routes for bikes to more comprehensive and efficient public transportation to solar farms to educating the population with steps they can take to easy ways for people to report what they have done. *Continued on next page....*



The third question asked the group to envision what Davis might look like in 20 years as it moves toward carbon neutrality. The group provided visions of service clusters in walkable-bikeable neighborhoods throughout the city, more multi-use buildings, 95% diversion of waste from landfill, more centrally located community gardens, lots of bikes everywhere, a sense of leisure and less frenetic life styles, energy efficient buildings with solar panels all over town, a team powered bike-tram, more homes with veggie gardens, fewer out-of-town trips, more neighborhood entertainment: music, dancing and art activities, every neighborhood with a car-share plan, and a healthier, happier population.



We, who are part of the CDI Core, were thrilled with the turnout, the enthusiasm of those who attended, and their thoughtful responses. If we are to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, all of us need to work together. The participation of all our Partners and others in Davis is critical to building a sustainable future for ourselves, our community, and our planet. We look forward to additional events for CDI Partners and invite those who are not yet Partners to contact us about becoming involved in our efforts to meet the challenge of the climate crisis with hope and fun and good-planning. – Judy Moores



CDI Partner Information

Cool Davis Initiative Partners include local area groups, such as, businesses, non-profits, faith groups, school committees, city committees, and others. The only requirement of Partners is that they support and agree with the mission of CDI: to inspire our community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, adapt to a changing climate, and improve the quality of life for all. (And have fun, too.)

This spring the CDI Core Group has begun to contact potential partners to find out what local groups are already doing about carbon reduction and how CDI can help. Advantages to becoming CDI Partners include the opportunity to learn more about the CDI and its many Partners, share their own organization's actions relative to the climate crisis and find mutual ways to help each other meet challenges, participate in mutually reinforcing publicity, collaborative projects, and net-working, and have representatives attend CDI core group meetings and Partner events. Some partners may co-sponsor CDI projects; others may propose projects that fulfill the CDI mission as well as the partner orga-

nization's goals. While most potential partner groups are initially approached by CDI Core Group members, others contact CDI and request to become a partner.

Cool Davis Initiative welcomes the following new Partners.

B & L Bike: Manager Christy Tamm notes that their mission is to get people on bicycles and make the experience enjoyable for them. She is pleased to report that B & L Bike has had two successful "Ladies Nights" to get more women comfortable stepping into a male-dominated sport and to let women meet other women who cycle. She makes a point of explaining to her customers that biking can reduce their carbon footprint, and is always looking for ways to reduce energy use, such as emailing receipts instead of printing them.

Ciocolat: Co-owner Kate Hutchinson says that she is "proud of giving employment to some really creative young chefs, and notes "that at Ciocolat, they make an effort to recycle, use re-purposed dishes, provide only biodegradable to-go containers, and do zero-waste catering." Also, the *Continued on next page...*

restaurant composts pre- and post-consumer waste and emphasizes purchasing local materials as much as possible. You may see Kate on Saturday mornings shopping at Farmer's Market for the restaurant.

Davis High School Environmental Club: Faculty Adviser, Sheri Sandberg-Ransom reports that club members are most proud of the installation of a drought tolerant garden with an emphasis on native plants on the eastern side of the DHS campus, new bike racks on eastern and northern sides of the campus, and instituting recycling of plastic and glass bottles and aluminum cans from classrooms and in outdoor areas. She said that the "northern bike rack expansion, in particular, helps to make the campus more user friendly to bike riders." She looks forward each fall to see what new ideas that new students will bring to the club about how to increase more recycling, bike riding, water conservation, and other ways to promote sustainability. She hopes that becoming a CDI partner will help the club facilitate partnerships within the community of Davis.

Emerson JHS Earth Club: Anna Amsler, faculty advisor to the student Earth Club, explains that the "current mission of the Club is to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill." The Club has worked to provide stainless steel water bottles to the entire student population at Emerson and obtained a refrigerated, filtered-water machine to encourage students to use their reusable bottles. Also, the club advocates recycling and now has 2 large recycling stations that are decorated to encourage students to sort and recycle the following items: cans, bottles, mixed recycling, food waste, cardboard trays, plastic sandwich bags, and drink pouches. The Club's biggest challenge is to obtain funding for additional projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and conserve water at the school.

Good Humus Produce: Farm co-owner Annie Main has helped organize and co-found the Davis Farmers Market, the Davis Food Coop, her farm-Good Humus Produce, and the Art & Ag Program. Good Humus Farm offers visits to Davis School and Waldorf Schools. With respect to sustainability, Good Humus has made on site improvements such as minimizing energy usage through appropriate technology. As farmers, she and her husband constantly try to conserve water through the use of native habitat and minimize soil

compaction in their production practices with the use of small tractors and hand implements. They have restored native habitat in water drainage areas to minimize erosion, planted wind breaks to minimize wind erosion, and maintain year round production for carbon sequestration. One of their major projects is One Farm at a Time (farm preservation with Sac & Davis Food Coop), which will provide a conservation easement for the farm to allow them to make an intergenerational transfer of farmland so that it will continue to produce food for future generations.

Parent Institute for Infant Brain Development: Diane Evans, Founder and Coordinator of this group, works to enable parent-to-parent training to maximize infant brain development. The Institute has provided workshops and information for programs such as Headstart in the County. She hopes that the Cool Davis Initiative will reach out to the Headstart families with ways that they can reduce their household carbon footprints for the sake of their children's future.

Stewards of God's Creation Group: Diane Colborn says that this group include members and friends of Davis Community Church who, "in response to God's love for us and for all creation, seek to live out our calling, both as a community and as individuals, to restore creation and to live in balance and harmony with the earth and all living creatures." The group has spear-headed efforts at the DCC to complete an environmental and energy audit of their church facilities, and have taken steps to implement the results of the audit, such as, using green building materials for renovations, building a 3-bin compost bin, and planting a community organic garden on church property. Other efforts include co-sponsoring the formation of a Davis chapter of the Voluntary Gas Tax Initiative and giving a number of educational classes on environmental stewardship and conservation including Low Carbon Diet classes.



Tuesday, June 14

2011 Second Annual Cool Davis Festival and Day of Service

Meeting for all participants and interested folks!
Veterans Memorial Game Room
7:00-8:30 p.m.

Bring fresh ideas, suggestions, and enthusiasm
Seasonal Refreshments
Inspirational Musical Surprise!

The Cool Davis Initiative is planning the second annual Cool Davis Festival at the Veterans Memorial Center on Sunday, October 16 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., after the Day of Service Projects on Saturday, October 15.

We are planning a festival that connects low-carbon lifestyle choices with our personal health and well-being, our transportation, the food we choose, the gardens we grow, the homes we make ever-more-energy-efficient and the thriving community we wish to create. The festival will be a gathering place of information, practical ideas, and inspiration.

Once again the Davis community will unite for a free celebration of theater, music, food-tasting, demonstrations, and interactive activities. This year we're planning a panel of food experts, an outside food-tasting courtyard, excerpts from Cloudburst by the Vocal Arts Ensemble, songs by Davis Madrigals plus other choruses and entertainment, and an interactive children's play by Nature's Theater. All performances will be on the theater stage with a few instrumental pieces in the courtyard and a roving fiddler. Well over 50 organizations will offer their suggestions for improving the quality of our daily lives even as we lower our carbon footprints. The MP room stage will give way to CA Energy Upgrade and other exhibits.

We're excited to make this second festival even more dynamic and meaningful than the first... with your invaluable input! Yes, we need volunteers to fill a wide range of positions from organizing a part of the demonstrations to recruiting volunteers to writing press releases to putting up posters.

Come to the June 14 meeting to join in the fun. Or contact Lynne Nittler at lnittler@sbcglobal.net or 756-8110.



2010 Event Pictures

CARBON REDUCTION ARTICLES REPRISE

Welcome to a new and regular feature of local articles that have appeared in the last month related to the climate crisis and local solutions. Each month we'll provide you with a list and short description just in case you missed these the first time around in our local Enterprise or other local publications.

Time to Revisit Public Power for Davis

Mark Braly of Davis, past chairman of the Davis Planning Commission and president of the Valley Climate Action Center summarizes what has changed in the current energy production environment and argues that now is the time for Davis to consider building a plant generate its own power. He highlights the activities of the Marin Power Authority as an example of how Davis and Yolo County may be able to move forward sooner than anyone thought. Read more... <http://www.davisenterprise.com/opinion/time-to-revisit-public-power-for-davis/>

"Farmers, nurseries and sustainable cities"

John Mott-Smith in his Per Capita Davis column in the Davis Enterprise profiles three interesting local efforts. Dixon Ridge Farms is a local farmer who has set carbon negative goals for his Walnut operation. John discusses Shade Houses where Dr. Heiner Leith, Professor of Environmental Horticulture, is experimenting with the use of solar photovoltaic systems in conjunction with nursery operations. He also highlights a recent seminar about a "Sustainable City Year". Faculty from the University of Oregon to talk about their "Sustainable Cities Initiative, sponsored by the UC Davis Institute for Transportation Studies. Read more... <http://www.davisenterprise.com/local-news/ag-environment/farmers-nurseries-and-sustainable-cities/>

What to do next?

John Mott-Smith's Per Capita Davis column in the Davis Enterprise summarizes the options for those who have already gotten started on carbon reduction in their homes and businesses. He outlines the many options for next steps and the resources and programs that are available to help you along with that change. Read more... <http://www.davisenterprise.com/local-news/per-capita-davis-what-to-do-next/>

Downtown employees enjoy 'green' commutes

Article by Joy Cohen profiles local downtown businesses and employees who are committed to commuting by bike. Read more... <http://www.davisenterprise.com/local-news/downtown-employees-enjoy-green-commutes/>

Submitting articles

If you have a carbon reduction or energy efficiency related announcement or article to share please let us know. Cool Davis Initiative Partners enjoy special benefits in announcing their special events and activities in our newsletter. The 15th of the month is the deadline for submitting fully edited articles. Send to: Chris Blackman at cblackman@yolofcu.org.



Eco-Friendly Gardening Tips for Spring and Summer!



- Water the lawn or garden during the coolest part of the day (early morning is best). The best time to water is between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m. Watering in the afternoon is inefficient since water is lost due to evaporation and wind. The second-best time to water is between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. Running an irrigation system excessively can waste a lot of water. Just one hour can use up to 250 gallons of water!
- Water plants differently according to what they need. Check with your local extension service or nurseries for advice.
- Set sprinklers to water the lawn or garden only - not the street or sidewalk. Make sure to check the weather forecast and turn off the timer when rain is predicted and use soaker hoses or trickle irrigation systems for trees and shrubs.
- Keep your yard healthy - dethatch, use mulch, etc. Make your own compost to use in your garden. Compost can be used as a fertilizer, serving as an excellent alternative to chemical-based fertilizers. Making your own compost involves mixing browns (such as dead leaves, branches or twigs, greens - such as grass clippings, vegetable waste, fruit scraps and coffee grounds) and water in a compost bin. Leave some mulch lying near your garden in a pile. Soon the ground beetles will nest underneath it. Ground beetles will then eat many of your other gardening pests.
- Hang Birdfeeders and Nesting Boxes Birdfeeders. Nesting boxes attract birds to your garden. Birds are a great benefit to gardens as they eat unwanted pests, such as snails and slugs. Instead of using pesticide against these little bugs, simply invite the birds in and they'll take care of the pests naturally.
- Allow some of your vegetables to go to flower. The flower will attract the bumble bees, allowing for the pollination process to begin.
- Buy flowers that will flower as late into the fall as possible. This will allow more beneficial bugs and bees to have plenty of time to pollinate.
- Wasting water wastes electricity. Why? Because the biggest use of electricity in most cities is supplying water and cleaning it up after it's been used! (CA Energy Commission)

To subscribe to future editions of the Cool Davis Initiative Newsletter visit www.cityofdavis.org/email. If you are not currently enrolled to receive email communication from the city, you may create an account at this time. Once complete or if you are a current user, log in and simply check the box for 'Cool Davis' to subscribe.