

### Coalition Partners

- Care for God's Creations
- 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
- Davis Joint Unified School District
- Davis Waste Removal
- Explorit
- Green Sanctuary
- Putah Creek Council
- Sierra Club Yolano Group
- 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) 757-5642*



### YOLO ENERGY WATCH

In August of this year Yolo County entered into a partnership with Pacific Gas and Electric Company to bring energy efficiency services to county residents, including those who live in Davis. This partnership is called the Yolo Energy Watch program and it was formed partly in furtherance of the Climate Action Plan adopted by the city council and brings significant opportunities for increased energy efficiency to the city.

The Legislature requires Investor Owned Utilities (this includes PG&E) to reduce demand through increased energy efficiency as a first priority before developing additional generation capacity and has "decoupled" the rate structure from the amount of energy provided so that PG&E can be rewarded for its efforts to use less electricity.

If you look on your PG&E bill you will notice, both in the area for electricity and gas charges, a line item for "Public Goods" fees. Ratepayers have been paying this fee to support energy efficiency programs throughout the state: now Davis will be able to recoup some of those funds to make homes, businesses, and government more energy efficient: initial efforts will focus on the government and business sectors. Importantly, the definition of "government" includes any nonprofit organization.

If you own or operate a business or a nonprofit organization and are interested in a free assessment of what energy efficiency opportunities might be available to you, contact John Mott-Smith at [johnmottsmith@comcast.net](mailto:johnmottsmith@comcast.net). In addition to the no-cost, no obligation energy audits your business or nonprofit might be eligible for various rebates and other incentives, *continued on next page....*

*Yolo Energy Watch, continued from page 1...*

as well as free installation of such energy efficient lighting, occupancy and daylight sensors, LED exit signs, refrigerator strip curtains, vending machine misers, and other cost effective measures

In addition, the Yolo Energy Watch can help with benchmarking overall energy use so that businesses and nonprofits can determine areas of potential cost savings, arranging technical assistance and more in-depth audits to identify complex energy-efficiency projects, such as boiler, chiller, HVAC upgrades or replacements, server virtualization, and computer power management, and providing or arranging training opportunities.



### Cool Davis Festival

With two days of splendid sunny, wind-free weather, Mother Earth smiled on the Cool Davis Initiative and its first efforts to inspire and empower the citizens of Davis to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while having fun:

- Saturday, Oct. 9, volunteers worked on ten different Action projects. They replaced a fence at the Raptor Center, worked along Putah Creek doing native plant restoration, did grounds clean-up and planting at Davis High School, the Community Gardens, and the 8th and K Street FARM project, worked on retrofitting two "recycled" houses that will become cooperative housing for low-income residents, sewed veggie bags, re-organized bike parts at Bike Forth, rehearsed an environmental play, and even composed songs for the planet. Volunteer photographers caught the action and had a good time, too.
- Sunday, Oct. 10, the Green Living Festival blossomed into far more than we dreamed with around 1500 visitors - three times the expected number. The Vets Memorial Center parking lot was full and

the front lawn was crowded with bicycles. Outdoor exhibitors shared their knowledge and wares from Apex Cycles and Service to Solar Power to Zipcars with an engaged public; The Search for King Carbon filled the theater with laughing families; ACME challenged watchers to decide the case for or against Mother Earth; the Mayors' Panel and EcoHero Award winners inspired all who came; Tree-O, youthful singers, and musicians impressed their audiences; the innovative carbon cafeteria gave us all new hints to lower our carbon footprints; the courtyard was a beehive of activity; CALPIRG UCD volunteers painted "350" and "Cool Davis" on youthful cheeks; our food providers including those who served delicious and healthy local food treats were pleased as pie to be honored with their certificates as exemplary green businesses; children eagerly did their own challenge adventure to collect green footprints for a raffle, and all the participants and volunteers brought a spirit of openness and enthusiasm. Our Coalition Partners set up exhibits inside and out and engaged the public in their own unique efforts to take care of our planet. And all seemed to have a great time. **Cont. on next page...**



To subscribe to future editions of the Cool Davis Initiative Newsletter visit [www.cityofdavis.org/](http://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.

Cool Davis Festival, continued from page two... One visitor summed up her experience, "Astonishingly varied, interesting and energetic, the attendance phenomenal, a full parking lot in addition to zillions of bikes! Thank you!"



As co-directors of the Cool Davis Weekend, we thank the organizing committee members whose knowledge, skills, resources, and passion complemented each other and produced a synergy that carried the day. Together, we created a celebration of life and our planet and taught people how climate solutions are possible, not so hard to accomplish, and often economical. We feel blessed to have had the opportunity to work with all who helped with the Cool Davis Weekend – including the Cool Davis Initiative Core Group, Cool Davis Coalition Partners, and all of the volunteers who helped in myriad ways. With appreciation, Judy Moores and Lynne Nitler





## November 15 is America Recycles Day!

Log on to [www.americarecyclesday.org](http://www.americarecyclesday.org) and take the recycling pledge! While you're there, browse their website, they have a lot of interesting information! For example, did you know that recycling is one of the easiest ways you can help slow climate change and global warming? By recycling at home, you help significantly lower carbon emissions associated with extracting virgin materials, manufacturing products and waste disposal. Recycling one ton of paper, bottles and cans can prevent the release of 3 tons of greenhouse gas.

Every community has its own guidelines for what should and should not be recycled, and how the process should take place. If you move to a new place, contact your local public works department or recycling organization to learn about recycling in your area. That way you can be sure you're doing your part, and doing it right. Recycling information for Davis is available online at [www.davisrecycling.org](http://www.davisrecycling.org).

### Tips for a sustainable Thanksgiving

There are many simple things you can do to have a planet-conscious Thanksgiving. Here are some tips for a sustainable Thanksgiving:

Support your local farmer and buy local and organic

#### *Stay close to home*

- o Organize guest carpools
- o If driving, make sure your car is in good condition (tires inflated etc.) and drive at 55mph for the best gas mileage
- o If you need to fly, consider buying carbon offsets

#### *Use real place settings*

#### *Compost, recycle, reuse*

- o In addition, consider donating to a food bank.

#### *Give something back*

- o With all you have to be thankful for this holiday season, don't forget the earth. Something as simple as planting a tree can be a great way to say thanks and help fight global warming while potentially starting a family tradition. After all, a family of four can get all the oxygen it needs for a year from one tree.

#### *Share the knowledge*

- o The holidays are the perfect opportunity to share the

"green" with less-knowledgeable relatives and friends. Tout the organic and local food, wowing them with facts such as "Everything you're eating today came from under 100 miles away, is 100% organic, and only cost \$\_\_." Even you'll be amazed that it's true!

#### *Get moving!*

- o The exhaustion you feel on Thanksgiving is from all of the fat, sugar and calories. Take part in a Turkey Trot running race in your community-you'll feel a lot better and perhaps have a bit more room for pie.

#### *Have a no-waste meal.*

- o Think about how much tinfoil, paper goods and leftover food are thrown away, to spend many, many years in a landfill. The average US family wastes \$600 worth of food annually. Landfills are a significant source of global warming causing greenhouse gas emissions. Instead, use re-usable products and wash them, if possible in a dishwasher with eco-friendly detergent.

