



## Sustainable California Libraries Grants Spark Climate-Focused Projects in Communities Across California

For Immediate Release: October 25, 2022

Contact: Alex Vassar

(916) 603-7177

[press@library.ca.gov](mailto:press@library.ca.gov)

**[Sacramento, Calif.]** — Twenty California local library systems have been selected to receive first-ever funding from the State Library to support projects focused on sustainability and climate resilience.

Climate is consistently at the top of California community concerns. As community hubs, libraries provide trusted information about climate change and resilience, work as partners in developing a model for [community resilience centers](#), and provide programming for all ages. A [July 2022 Sustainable California Libraries report](#) found that climate change is also consistently important for library staff.

Projects receiving funding through the new Sustainable California Libraries grant program focus on climate education, environment-focused civic engagement, water conservation, air quality, energy efficiency, reducing waste, and supporting local climate action and resilience plans.

Specifically, these grants support activities such as environmental education programs, teaching gardens, lending libraries including tools, seeds and other items tailored to community needs, climate-focused service groups, sustainability conversations, and more.

“California isn’t going to meet our ambitious climate goals without strong community participation, and it’s trusted places like libraries that are going to make that happen,” said California State Librarian Greg Lucas. “These innovative programs created at the local level are an important step in reaching those goals.”

Libraries receiving grant funds are partnering with local air quality management districts, nonprofits, community gardens, parks, nature centers, indigenous communities, and city and county Offices of Sustainability. Programming will take place inside libraries, in library gardens and green spaces, and out in the community in partnership with a rich variety of local organizations. Sustainable California Libraries projects will be documented, and best practices shared with other libraries and with the public.

A list of the first year of the Sustainable California Libraries projects is posted at [www.library.ca.gov/services/to-libraries/sustainable/](http://www.library.ca.gov/services/to-libraries/sustainable/).

*This project is supported in whole or in part by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian.*

## End of Press Release ##

**About the State Library:** Established in 1850, the California State Library is the central reference and research library for state government and the Legislature. The library collection includes more than 4 million titles, 6,000 maps, and 250,000 photographs, and includes an extensive collection of documents from and about the state's rich history. Around the state, the State Library also serves California's local libraries, providing more than \$500 million state and federal funds to support public libraries and delivering statewide library programs and services. [State Library website](#)

###