



Sustainable California Libraries Climate-Focused Projects Take Root for Year Two of Grant

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[Sacramento, Calif.] — Fifteen California library systems will host local projects that focus on climate education, climate resilience, and community engagement for the 2023-2024 year, as part of the second year of the Sustainable California Libraries grant program. These projects will span the state from National City to Shasta, with a focus on local resources and community strengths.

“California’s public libraries are working to combat the impacts of climate change by reducing their carbon footprint and working with local partners to build and share community sustainability solutions,” said California State Librarian Greg Lucas. “We’re honored to be able to help them in their work.”

About eight in ten California adults say climate change is a top concern or one of several important concerns for them personally. The Summer of 2023 has brought extreme weather to California and community interest in programs about everything from compost to green space conservation continues to grow. Libraries are uniquely positioned as community hubs that provide trusted information about climate change and resilience, effectively connect with community-based organizations, work as partners in developing a model for community resilience centers, and provide relevant programming for all ages.

Projects funded through the Sustainable California Libraries grant program focus on local climate education, environment-focused civic engagement, water conservation, air quality, energy efficiency, reducing waste, and supporting local climate action and resilience plans. Activities planned for the 2023-2024 grant period include transportation to local farms and green spaces, seed library creation and seed saving workshops, gardening and low waste workshops for developmentally disabled adults, creation and expansion of Libraries of Things including hand and battery-powered tool lending libraries, conservation focused programming for all ages, home and vehicle electrification information sessions for all income levels, a plastic pollution and solutions exhibit, bilingual sustainable gardening workshops, expansion of pollinator teaching gardens, sustainability lecture series, and workshops on building a healthier, more resilient future for all community members.

A list of the upcoming Sustainable California Libraries projects is posted at

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.

In addition to acting as a steward of California's history, the State Library is investing nearly \$500 million to modernize and renovate the state's 1,127 local libraries, bringing the Dolly Parton Imagination Library to every California child under the age of 5, and building a statewide eBook library with diverse titles in 80 languages. [State Library website](#)



Sunnyvale Public Library Earth Day event 2023 photograph by Neha Paralkar

Alt Text

A child in yellow sweater leans on a table with seed packets and bags displayed. Easy ups and groups of people in the background.