

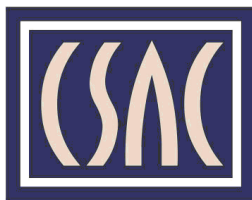


# Sustainability News

Climate Change - Land Use & Environment - Healthy Neighborhoods

## About ILG

[The Institute for Local Government](#) promotes good government at the local level with practical, impartial, and easy-to-use resources for California communities.



ILG is the nonprofit research and education affiliate of the League of California Cities & the California State Association of Counties.

## We Want to Hear From You!

ILG is interested in capturing a statewide snapshot of local sustainability policies and practices. **Watch for a short survey soon!**

Have a story to tell about what your agency is doing to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, save energy, and promote sustainability? [Share your story to be highlighted on our website!](#)

Find us on Facebook

Join Our Mailing List!

Welcome to the Sustainability News, a new service from the Institute for Local Government. Our goal is to highlight and share information about the innovative and exciting sustainability activities of California cities and counties. We invite you to share feedback about Sustainability News. Comments and suggestions can be directed to [sustainability@ca-ilg.org](mailto:sustainability@ca-ilg.org).

## Energy Efficiency & Conservation

Featured Climate Action & Sustainability Best Practice Area



### Why It's Important

Strategies to use energy more efficiently save money and resources. In addition, activities that conserve energy and use it more efficiently in agency operations and the community help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, since energy generation is the second largest source of greenhouse gas emissions.

### Where to Learn More

- [ILG's Energy Efficiency & Conservation Best Practices](#)
- [Energy Efficiency & Conservation Examples](#)
- [Working with Energy Utilities to Finance Energy-Efficiency Improvements](#)

## Engaging the Public in Energy Efficiency & Conservation Activities

### Why It's Important

Involving the public in the development of sustainability policies and programs builds community awareness and support for local actions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including their co-benefits.

### Where to Learn More

- [ILG's Public Engagement & Collaborative Governance Program](#)
- [ILG's "Promoting Community & Individual Action" Climate Action & Sustainability Best Practices](#)
- [How to Harness the Power of Your Community to Address Climate Change: A Local Officials Guide](#)

Read about what cities and counties around the state are doing to engage the public in energy efficiency and conservation activities:

- [Monterey County](#)
- [City of Chula Vista](#)

## Beacon Award Update

Cities and counties throughout California are participating in the Institute for Local Government's sustainability and climate change recognition program, the [Beacon Award: Local](#)



Local Leadership Toward  
Solving Climate Change

### [Leadership toward Solving Climate Change.](#)

Debuted in August 2010 as the first of its kind in California, the Beacon Award recognizes and celebrates cities and counties that:

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
- Save energy;
- Adopt policies and programs to address climate change; and
- Promote sustainability.

Participants working to achieving one of three award levels include to date: **Cities of Chula Vista, Citrus Heights, Hayward, Livermore, Palm Springs, Pleasanton, San Rafael, San Ramon, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Simi Valley, Tulare, Ventura & Woodland; Town of Apple Valley; County of Yolo.** [Learn about participants' climate action activities and accomplishments.](#)

### Hear From Beacon Award Program Participants



The Institute welcomes your agency's participation! Information about the Beacon Award program, including an online application and support materials, is available at: [www.ca-ilg.org/BeaconAward](http://www.ca-ilg.org/BeaconAward).

## Upcoming Events

**March 23, 2011** 1:00-2:00 p.m.

[Webinar: Understanding the Public Health Impacts of Climate Change in California's Vulnerable Populations](#)

**April 7, 2011** 10:00-11:30 a.m.

[Webinar: Recycling Programs at Apartment Complexes: Success Tips for Local Officials](#)

**April 19-20, 2011** Sacramento, CA

[Green California Summit 2011](#)

"Best Practices in Sustainability: Celebrating Leadership at the Local Level" panel, featuring ILG Program Director Yvonne Hunter, takes place April 20 at 10:45 a.m.

**April 27, 2011** 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

[Webinar: Communicating Climate Change as a Critical Public Health Issue](#)

**May 18, 2011** 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

[Webinar: Integrating Health & Equity into Sustainable Community Strategy Planning \(SB 375\)](#)

**Ongoing** Multiple Locations Statewide  
[Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative Greenhouse Gas Inventory & Climate Action Plan Free Training Series](#)

## Additional Resources

### New Guides

- [Understanding SB 375: Regional Planning in Transportation, Housing and the Environment](#) Institute for Local Government
- [Quick Start Guide for Setting A Greenhouse Gas Reduction Target](#) ICLEI
- [Quick Start Guide for Conducting a Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory](#) ICLEI
- [Quick Start Guide for Climate Action Planning](#) ICLEI

### New Reports

- [Solar Powering Your Community: A Guide for Local Governments](#) U.S. Department of Energy
- [Driving Change: Reducing Vehicle Miles Traveled in California](#) Public Policy Institute of California
- [Growing Wealthier: Smart Growth, Climate Change and Prosperity](#) Center for Clean Air Policy
- [Many Shades of Green: Diversity and Distribution of California's Green Jobs](#) Next 10



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