

# Green's Good

## The Bay Area Green Business Program Promotes Environment-Friendly Practices

*Automotive repair shops. Wineries. Printers. Dry Cleaners. Hotels.*

What do these disparate businesses have in common? They're a cross-section of the more than 250 businesses participating in the San Francisco Bay Area Green Business Program-- and the list keeps growing.

The **Bay Area Green Business Program** was launched in 1995 by the Bay Area Hazardous Waste Management Facility Allocation Committee. Chaired by **Mayor Rosemary Corbin** of Richmond and administered by ABAG, the committee oversees hazardous waste planning and waste reduction efforts for the nine Bay Area counties.

Modeled on the Sonoma Green Business and Palo Alto Clean Bay programs, the Bay Area Green Business Program promotes environmental compliance and the use of "best practices" to prevent pollution and conserve resources.

Business participation is voluntary. County coordinators assist businesses in complying with environmental regulations and in moving beyond compliance to meet higher standards for waste reduction, pollution prevention, and energy and water conservation.

Certified green businesses receive public recognition, which includes the right to display the Bay Area Green Business logo in their shops and advertising. This "seal of approval" announces their achievements to an increasingly environmentally-savvy buying public.

Not only do businesses, consumers, and the environment benefit from the Green Business Program, but so do local governments. Some jurisdictions have achieved cost savings through consolidated inspections. Others have improved coordination, communication and cooperation between departments and agencies. Many have also reported improved relations with the business community.

There are 33 certified Green Businesses in **Alameda County**: 24 auto and 5 print shops. Ten newly-certified companies were honored at a special May 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Economic Development Alliance for Business in Hayward. State Treasurer Phil Angelides was the keynote speaker.

This summer, Alameda's program will be "field testing" a newly developed checklist for hotels. In the next year or so, the county plans to expand the program to dry cleaners, grocery stores and restaurants.

*For more information on Alameda County's Program, contact Pam Evans, Environmental Health Department, at 510/567-6770 or e-mail [PEvans@co.alameda.ca.us](mailto:PEvans@co.alameda.ca.us).*

**Contra Costa County** kicked off its Green Business program in April of 1998 and is rolling

steadily along. By April of this year it had 33 auto shops on board. By next April, the county plans to certify another 17 auto shops, for a total of 50; sponsor two EPA-designed workshops for auto shops and inspectors; and certify at least five car dealers. The auto workshops teach how to wash car parts with water-based systems rather than solvents; how to clean floors without run-off; how to use refillable bottles rather than individual cans of brake cleaners or lubricants; and how to recycle antifreeze.

The county plans to kick off a program for printers in November and certify five printers by April 2000. The county also intends to begin applying "green standards" to its own corporation yards and agencies.

*For more on Contra Costa County's program, contact Robin Bedell-Waite at*

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# Introducing the City of Oakley

## The 101st City in the Nine-County Bay Area

On July 1, 1999, the Bay Area will welcome the newly-incorporated **City of Oakley** as the newest city in California. With a population of 22,000, Oakley is located in eastern Contra Costa County, near the cities of Antioch and Pittsburg.

The council-elect has been busy establishing policies and procedures to govern the new city. A recent special session was held to develop a mission/purpose statement for Oakley and to identify one-year goals and strategic objectives.

Oakley's elected officials want to maintain the city's character while providing the services needed by the people who live and work there. Councilmembers are already examining ways to address smart growth, urban sprawl and traffic congestion.



### **Oakley Council-Elect Members**

Mayor Pat Anderson

Mayor Pro Tem Brad Nix

Councilmember Jeff Huffaker

Councilmember Carol Rios

Councilmember Tinker Vanek

*City Manager Michael Oliver*

*City Clerk Nancy Ortenblad*

*Phone: 925/625-5745*

## Bay Area Jurisdictions Earn Planning Awards

Several Bay Area jurisdictions were recently honored for their achievements in local planning by the Northern Section of the California Chapter of the American Planning Association.

The Distinguished Leadership Award was given to the **City of San Jose's Department of Planning** for its many years of consistent progress in fostering a variety of planning policies that have led to a more sustainable and livable city. San Jose was also recognized in the Comprehensive Planning category for its neighborhood revitalization plan.

In the Education Project category, the **City of Rohnert Park** received the award for its city center design and development plan, and the **City of San Francisco** was presented the award of merit for the Mission Bay Community Visitor's Center.

For Advocacy Planning, the **City of Berkeley** received an award for its Homeless Continuum of Care Plan.

**Marin County** was recognized in Focused Issue Planning for its Telecommunications Facilities Policy Plan.

**The City of Fremont** received the award for Planning Implementation for its Design Guidelines for Small Lot Single Family Residential Developments, and the Award of Merit for Development Standards and Design Guidelines for Wireless Telecommunications Facilities. **The City of Santa Clara** also received a Planning Implementation award (for a small jurisdiction) for the Agnews West Mixed Use Concept Plan.

In the planning project category, the **City of San Mateo** was recognized for the Hotel St. Matthews. San Mateo also received an award of merit in comprehensive planning for the Bay Meadows Specific Plan.

ABAG congratulates its city and county members recognized for their excellent contributions in physical, economic and social planning.

## The Bay Trail Celebrates It's Tenth Anniversary

The Bay Trail Project celebrates an important milestone in July. Ten years ago, ABAG's Executive Board adopted The Bay Trail Plan, which articulates the vision of a continuous path around and across San Francisco and San Pablo Bays. It sets forth the alignment, policies and a framework for implementation.

The Plan was the result of a two-year planning process by a 37-delegate Bay Trail Advisory Committee that represented 31 local, regional, state and federal organizations and agencies. Subcommittees focused on localized alignment and policy recommendations for transportation, trail design, financing and environmental issues.

As part of the anniversary commemoration, all shoreline jurisdictions that did not originally adopt resolutions of endorsement are being invited to do so.

### News from Sacramento



The Bay Trail Project has a staunch political ally in **Senator Liz Figueroa** (D-Fremont). Senator Figueroa has not only assumed office

in Attorney General Bill Lockyer's former district, she has also taken over the reins as legislative sponsor for the project originally envisioned by then-Senator Lockyer.

We are indebted to Senator Figueroa for her strong leadership this year in seeking funding to speed development of the Bay Trail. More



*The Bay Trail Project celebrates ten years and 210 miles of completed trail.*

than half of the 400-mile path has been completed to date.

The Bay Trail Project also received unprecedented, tri-partisan support representing the Democrat, Republican and Green parties. Senator Figueroa's legislative aide, Aaron Carruthers, also deserves special thanks for his tireless help and guidance.

As we went to press, Governor Davis signed the state budget which included \$2.5 million for the Bay Trail's competitive grant program. Under the program, local jurisdictions develop key Bay Trail segments and employ the California Conservation Corps (where possible) to build, landscape and maintain the trail. Local jurisdictions will be contacted in the near future about the opportunity to apply for these grants.

We particularly appreciate the many member jurisdictions who sent letters to the Legislature and the Governor in support of the Bay Trail funding. *Thank you!*

### Trail Happenings

The most recent Bay Trail segment was celebrated July 1 at **Sunnyvale Baylands Park**. A dedication ceremony and barbecue were held to commemorate the event.

Trail enthusiasts are invited to walk the spectacularly beautiful two-mile Presidio Waterfront portion of the Bay Trail on Saturday, July 10 from 10 a.m. to noon, and witness the transformation of Crissy Field (in progress). This event is co-sponsored by the Bay Trail and the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. (Meet at the Crissy Field entrance near Marina Blvd.) For details, call Bay Trail Planner Niko Letunic at 510/464-7915 or e-mail [NikoL@abag.ca.gov](mailto:NikoL@abag.ca.gov).

*For more information on the Bay Trail or the grant program, call Bay Trail Project Manager Janet McBride at 510/464-7935 or e-mail [JanetM@abag.ca.gov](mailto:JanetM@abag.ca.gov).*

## The Bay Area Green Business Program



Santa Clara County recognizes its city partners for jointly offering the Green Business Program. Top, l-r: Supervisor Donald F. Gage; Supervisor Pete McHugh; Dan Firth, Environmental Protection Coordinator, City of Palo Alto; Supervisor S. Joseph Simitian, Supervisor James T. Beall Jr. Bottom, l-r: Supervisor Blanca Alvarado; Dan Lieberman, City of San Jose Environmental Services; Lisa Jensema, Environmental Program Coordinator, City of Gilroy; Teri Patan, Chemical Control Specialist, City of Gilroy; Carol Berg, Santa Clara County Green Business Coordinator.

### Green Business (cont. from page 1)

925/646-2286 or e-mail [rbwaite@hsd.co.contra-costa.ca.us](mailto:rbwaite@hsd.co.contra-costa.ca.us).

**Napa County** has six auto shops certified as Green Businesses. The county has been reaching out to professional associations to encourage other businesses to join. Wineries and agricultural businesses have also been contacted to assess their interest in the program. As interest grows, the county plans to expand the Green Business Program to include these other sectors.

The county currently maintains its own facilities as green businesses. It also intends to continue to explore other 'green' ideas such as using recycled materials in construction, demolishing structures in a manner that allows recycling/reuse of materials and goods, and retrofitting existing structures to improve resource efficiencies.

For more information, contact Green Business Coordinator Jill Pahl at 707/253-4410 or [JPahl@co.napa.ca.us](mailto:JPahl@co.napa.ca.us).

The **Santa Clara County** Board of Supervisors officially adopted a "Green Government Pledge," the first step in adopting a Green Business Program, on Earth Day, April 20, 1999. The pledge commits the county to working cooperatively with other environmental agencies, to working cooperatively and in an educative manner with businesses, and to lead by example by complying with environmental regulations and supporting government efforts towards resource conservation and pollution prevention.

The program is open to any interested businesses in the cities of San Jose, Gilroy and Palo Alto and the unincorporated county. Officials hope other cities will elect to participate in the future. The county is interested in testing the program with a variety of types and sizes of businesses. Several companies have already expressed interest, including a photo lab, hardware store, packaging manufacturer and auto repair shop. The county hopes to have 50 businesses signed on by next spring.

For more information, contact Carol Berg, Green Business Coordinator, at 408/441-1195 or you may send an e-mail to [carol\\_berg@qmgate.pln.co.santaclara.ca.us](mailto:carol_berg@qmgate.pln.co.santaclara.ca.us).

In **Sonoma County**, the Bay Area Green Business Program is moving full steam ahead with wineries and printers. Utilizing grants provided by the US Environmental Protection Agency and the California Integrated Waste Management Board, the County produced certification checklists and promotional t-shirts, held a kick-off meeting for printers, and certified the first "green" wineries. Wineries have shown particular interest in the program; the first six were recognized by the Board of Supervisors on the 15th of June, and 32 more are in process.

To promote the program, the county will acknowledge certified wineries in the annual publication of the Sonoma County Harvest Fair award winners, along with a description of the Green Business program. The booklet is distributed at the prestigious annual Awards Night ceremony in September, held the week before the Harvest Fair.

The Sonoma Green Business Program has certified more than 125 auto shops in the Santa Rosa area. The program recently won a national award from the Joint Center for Sustainable Communities for cooperative efforts to develop sustainable communities. The award will be featured in a formal report presented to the President and Vice President and forwarded to members of Congress.

For more information, contact Green Business Coordinator Sophia Galifaro at 707/527-1152, or [sgalifar@sonoma-county.org](mailto:sgalifar@sonoma-county.org).



Alameda County businesses certified as "Green" (l-r): Pam Evans, Alameda County Green Business Coordinator, Marsha Wilson, Kahler's Werkstatt; Mike Garcia, Norco Billings Printing; Gary Raver, Glen Moor Auto Repair; Michael Mann, Hesperian Chevron; Greg Martin, Hayward Auto Chrysler Plymouth Jeep; Dana Meyer, Albany Hill Auto, Patrick Doyle, Abbey Press.

# Bay Area Housing Needs Determination

## An Update on the Allocation of Regional Housing Needs



ABAG's Housing Methodology Committee (HMC) finalized its recommendations for a strategy to distribute state-generated Regional Housing Need numbers to Bay Area cities and towns.

The distribution methodology includes adjustments to redistribute low-income housing units and takes into account numerous factors, including vacancy rates and jobs/housing balance. It will be used in the distribution of the Regional Housing Needs assigned to the Bay Area Region by the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). A representative from

HCD attended the last meeting of the HMC on June 18, and provided additional insights into the State's process for deriving regional allocations. **HCD is expected to provide an initial regional allocation to ABAG during July.**

The HMC's methodology, along with an appeals process and policy, will be reviewed by the Executive Board on **July 15**. After negotiations with the State, **ABAG is expected to begin distribution of the regional allocation in September.**

Once the allocation process has begun, jurisdictions will have 90 days to review and respond to their alloca-

tion. ABAG will then have 60 days to consider any proposed changes to specific allocations. An additional three-month period is provided for potential appeals of the jurisdictional allocations.

According to State law, ABAG's regional allocation must be completed by **June 30, 2000**.

From **July 1, 2000** through **June 30, 2001**, jurisdictions will be required to update the housing element of their general plans to incorporate the new housing need allocation.

*For more info, call ABAG senior planner Alex Amoroso at 510/464-7955 or e-mail AlexA@abag.ca.gov.*

## ABAG Offers its First Online Training Program

The ABAG Training Center has launched the Bay Area's first online OSHA training course.

This online program allows site workers, certified under *Hazwoper* regulation, to fulfill the annual training obligation mandated by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) for state certification in hazardous materials.

In the past, it has been challenging for many workers to attend the traditional OSHA training due to work or other time constraints. Workers who are unable to lose a day of work to attend class, or those who would have to travel excessive distances to an available classroom, now have the option of fulfilling their

OSHA training requirements from their personal computers-- thanks to ABAG!

The curriculum, taught by Safety Compliance Management (instructors to major corporations and the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory), meets the competencies outlined in OSHA regulation. The course reviews the handling and physical effects of hazardous materials; reviews identification and descriptions of hazardous materials; and provides an update on the function and operation of the latest personal safety equipment.

OSHA Certification is mailed out to upon successful completion of the online course.



In an effort to improve and expand the services available to the Bay Area community, ABAG continues to provide programs that meet the needs of residents. Since its inception, the ABAG Training Center has taught over 14,000 students.

*For more information about ABAG's online training program, go to <http://www.abag.ca.gov/training>.*

## Fremont Housing Program Wins National Award



The **City of Fremont** was recently selected as an Outstanding Achievement Award Winner for its Housing Scholarship Program in the **1999 City Livability Awards Program**, sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

The Housing Scholarship Program is a partnership between private landlords, job training agencies, nonprofit housing developers and the City of Fremont. Responding to the shortage of affordable housing in Fremont, the program provides transitional affordable housing for lower-income families whose heads of household are enrolled in job training. Landlords provide rent discounts up to 50% for one year for families with children. Once the job-training participant becomes employed, rents gradually increase to market rates.

To date, approximately 145 Housing Scholarships have been awarded. Almost 90% of recipients have successfully completed job training and secured employment. Over 120 of these families now pay market rates.

The Housing Scholarship Program is a successful model for giving families the support needed to become economically self-sufficient.

*For more information, contact May Lee with the City of Fremont's Office of Neighborhoods at 510/494-4506.*

## LINCC Bridges Gap Between Child Care & Economic Development

According to a recent study, the National Economic Development & Law Center warns that the shortage of affordable child care services in the Bay Area is at a crisis level. The growing shortage will negatively impact the area's economy due to increased worker absenteeism, which limits the region's ability to attract and retain business. The report also classifies child care as a critical element to the area's economy.



Anticipating this crisis, the Center launched the Local Investments in Child Care (LINCC) program in 1997, in an effort to increase the supply of affordable child care. The LINCC project coordinates local child care planning councils, resources and referral agencies to bridge the gap between child care and economic development.

The project includes the **Counties of Alameda, San Mateo**, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Monterey, Kern, Los Angeles, San Benito and Ventura.

Some progress has been made. Alameda created a child care loan fund, Santa Clara is hosting a countywide economic summit next year and San Mateo persuaded its Economic Development Association to include child care as an economic indicator.

*For more information, visit the National Economic Development & Law Center at <http://www.nedlc.org>.*

## Cities and Counties Sue Gun Makers to Curb Gun Violence



Several Bay Area cities and counties joined in the filing of a lawsuit against the gun industry, charging gun manufacturers with unfair and deceptive business practices and negligent sales of a dangerous product. This legal strategy — successfully used against the tobacco industry — relies on sweeping consumer protection laws.

The **Cities of San Francisco, Oakland and Berkeley**, and the **Counties of Alameda and San Mateo** joined Sacramento, Los Angeles, Compton and West Hollywood in a coordinated statewide action against the gun industry.

The lawsuit was filed against 28 gun makers, seven distributors and three trade associations, and targets manufacturers of inexpensive guns known as "Saturday night specials." (California leads the nation in production of Saturday night specials.)

Specifically, the suit charges the gun industry with creating an illegal secondary market for guns, designing guns to appeal to criminals, increasing production to meet illegal demand, evading federal and state gun control legislation, manufacturing and selling defective and unsafe guns, and making false claims about the safety of their products.

Similar suits were filed in 10 cities and counties nationwide, including Chicago, Miami and New Orleans, as a means of holding the gun industry responsible for gun violence.

The local governments want to force gun makers to turn over profits as restitution for expenses incurred as a result of gun violence.

*For a copy of the legal brief, log on to the San Francisco's City Attorney's website at [www.ci.sf.ca.us/cityattorney/casesdl.htm#guns](http://www.ci.sf.ca.us/cityattorney/casesdl.htm#guns).*

## Water Transit Initiative for the Bay Area

*The Bay Area was once the ferry capital of the world.* So says the Bay Area Council-- and they want you to get involved in water transit.

Working with the Bay Area Economic Forum and the Bay Area Water Transit Task Force, the Council has developed a 15-minute video on the Bay Area Water Transit Initiative called "Charting the Course."

To help promote the development of a world-class water transit system, the Bay Area Council would like to: send you an Action Plan; arrange for a speaker to attend a meeting or event; provide you with the latest update on water transit legislation; and let you know how you can help make water transit a reality in the Bay Area.

*To request a copy of the videotape, call the Bay Area Council at 415/981-6600. You can get more information about the water transit initiative at <http://www.bayareacouncil.org/watertransit>.*

## Regional Government Resources on the Internet

For information on regional governmental entities, take a look at the following websites. May of them can also be accessed through abagOnline.

- \* **Association of Bay Area Governments** - <http://www.abag.ca.gov>
- \* **Bay Conservation and Development Commission** - <http://ceres.ca.gov/bcdc>
- \* **Regional Water Quality Control Board** - <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/~rwqcb2>
- \* **Metropolitan Transportation Commission** - <http://www.mtc.dst.ca.us>
- \* **National Association of Regional Councils** - <http://www.narc.org>

## City and County Resources on the Internet

For city and county information, look at the following websites:

- \* **League of California Cities** - <http://www.cacities.org>
- \* **California State Association of Counties** - <http://www.csac.counties.org>
- \* **National League of Cities** - <http://www.nlc.org>
- \* **National Association of Counties** - <http://www.naco.org>
- \* **U.S. Conference of Mayors** - <http://www.usmayors.org>

## State Government Resources on the Internet

If you would like to follow state legislation or policies, ERAF proposals, the state budget, be sure to review the websites listed below. Also, look for opportunities to "subscribe" to individual bills or online publications; once you have signed on to indicate your interest, many organizations will send you e-mails as information changes or new reports are produced.

- \* **State Assembly** - <http://www.assembly.ca.gov>
- \* **State Senate** - <http://www.senate.ca.gov>
- \* **Department of Finance** - <http://www.dof.ca.gov>
- \* **Legislative Analyst's Office** - <http://www.lao.ca.gov>
- \* **Secretary of State** - <http://www.ss.ca.gov>
- \* **California Budget Project** (non-governmental) - <http://www.cbp.org>

## Planning/Environment Resources on the Internet

- \* **American Planning Association (APA)** - <http://www.planning.org>
- \* **California Chapter of the APA** - <http://www.calapa.org>
- \* **California Environmental Resources Evaluation System** - <http://www.ceres.ca.gov>
- \* **Smart Growth Network** - <http://www.smartgrowth.org>
- \* **Urban Ecology** - <http://www.urbanecology.org>
- \* **Cyberbia** - <http://www.cyberbia.org>
- \* **Greenbelt Alliance** - <http://www.greenbelt.org>

## Regional Dioxin Elimination Task Force

The cities of San Francisco and Oakland passed resolutions calling for the elimination of dioxin. A regional task force is being convened and all Bay Area jurisdictions are invited to join. *For more information, please call Esther Hill in Oakland at 510/238-4930 or Francesca Vietor in San Francisco at 415/554-6390.*

## Save the Date: ABAG's e\*gov workshop

ABAG will present a one-day e\*gov workshop on Thursday, September 23, 1999. The workshop will highlight the newest innovations in conducting local government business over the Internet. *For more information, call 510/464-7964 or e-mail [SharonK@abag.ca.gov](mailto:SharonK@abag.ca.gov).*

## Call for Case Studies on Smart Growth

In conjunction with the Partnership on Smart Growth, ABAG is developing an inventory of Smart Growth practices from around the Bay and across the nation. We would like to hear about innovative efforts, best practices and relevant case studies. Please call Dahlia Chazan at 510/464-7909 or e-mail [DahliaC@abag.ca.gov](mailto:DahliaC@abag.ca.gov).

## Census 2000: Making your jurisdiction count

The California Planning Foundation is holding a conference: **The Upcoming Federal Census & Statewide Population Forecasting: What Planners Need to Know.** The event is Thursday, August 5, 1999 from 9 am to 4 pm. The cost is \$50/students, \$75/CCAPA members, or \$100/non-members. Please call 916/446-0522 to register.

*FYI: for Census 2000, each city's population will be based on January 1, 2000 boundaries. Be sure to finalize any annexations by 12-31-99!*

UJ

July 14-12:00noon  
 ABAGPOWER Executive Committee  
 Metro Center ABAGO Offices

July 15-3:30p.m.  
 Legislative & Governmental Organization  
 Metro Center ABAG Room 106B

July 15-5:00p.m.  
 Finance & Personnel Committee  
 Metro Center ABAG Room 102A

July 15-7:30p.m.  
 Executive Board  
 Metro Center Auditorium

July 23-9:00a.m.  
 Regional Airport Planning Committee  
 Info: Janice Richards, 510-464-7815

ACST

August 4-1:00p.m.  
 Regional Planning Committee  
 Metro Center Auditorium

August 18-12:00noon  
 ABAGPOWER Executive Committee  
 Metro Center ABAGO Offices

**The 1999 Bay Area Directory is available!!  
 Special Pricing for ABAG Members!!**

It's the best place to find out who is mayor and vice mayor of each city in the region, who sits on the city council and the names of department heads.

The Bay Area Directory includes addresses, phone/ fax numbers and e-mail addresses.

Special pricing is available for our members. We want every department that needs a copy to be able to afford their own.

The regular members' price is \$72 and the multiple copy price is only \$45 each.

**Call 510-464-7900 to order your Bay Area Directory.**

*(The non-member price for a single copy is \$90 and \$72 for multiple copies).*

# Living on Shaky Ground

The Lessons of Loma Prieta - Ten Years Later

## Thursday, October 14, 1999

### Oakland Marriott City Center (12th & Broadway)

Technical Sessions follow on Friday, October 15 at ABAG

- \* New Earthquake Probabilities from USGS
- \* Earthquake Hazard Mapping Around the Bay
- \* ABAG Damage Forecasts for Housing/Transportation
- \* Challenges for Utilities and Transit Providers
- \* Disaster-Resistant Communities: FEMA's Project Impact
- \* The Post-Quake Housing Crisis
- \* Earthquake Preparedness: Legislative Opportunities

Brochures will be mailed out in August. For more information, please call Michelle Fadelli, Manager of Communications and Governmental Affairs at 510/464-7922 or e-mail [MichelleF@abag.ca.gov](mailto:MichelleF@abag.ca.gov).



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