APRIL 2014

MILL VALLEY
LIVE SUSTAINABLY

Enjoy Earth Day related events and programs throughout Mill Valley and Marin County during the month of April.

FRIDAY, APRIL 4th

First Friday : Planting Ideas*
7:00pm – 9:30pm | Mill Valley Public Library | Free
* Advanced Registration required.

SATURDAY, APRIL 5th

Mill Valley Volunteer Day
10:00am – 2:00pm | Mill Valley Downtown Plaza | Free

Safe Routes Bicycle Education : *Family Biking*
10:00am – 2:00pm | Tamalpais Community Center | Free

SUNDAY, APRIL 6th

Earth Day Marin : *Special Event*
11:00am – 5:00pm | Redwood High School | Free

MONDAY, APRIL 7th

SeedSmart: Seed Lending Library Launches
10:00am | Mill Valley Public Library | Free

Update to City Council on Sustainability and Zero Waste Initiatives
7:30pm - 9:00pm | Mill Valley City Hall | Free

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9th

Honey Bees in Marin : *Talk*
6:00 – 7:30pm | Mill Valley Community Center | Free

Growing Tomatoes in Mill Valley During a Drought
7:00 – 9:00pm | Mill Valley Public Library | Free

SATURDAY, APRIL 12th

Spring Plant Sale
10:00am – 3:00pm | Indian Valley Campus | Free

Eggstravaganza: Zero Waste Event
8:00am – 11:00am | Mill Valley Community Center | Free

SUNDAY, APRIL 13th

Spring Plant Sale
10:00am – 3:00pm | Indian Valley Campus | Free

SATURDAY, APRIL 19th

From Big to Small, Planting Seeds Can Be Fun
1:00pm – 3:00pm | Mill Valley Public Library | Free

MONDAY, APRIL 21st

Kids Garden Class *(K - 2nd grade) - Limit 12 Students*
3:30pm – 4:30pm | Mill Valley Community Center | Free

TUESDAY, APRIL 22nd

Earth Day - Celebrate our rich legacy of stewardship by volunteering or taking time to reflect on what we can do, as individuals and as a community to preserve our planet for future generations.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23rd

Eco Climate Creature Workshop* *(2nd grade and up)*
2:30pm – 4:00pm | Mill Valley Public Library | Free
* Advanced Registration required.

SATURDAY, APRIL 26th

Mill Valley Beautification Day
9:00am – 12:00pm | Mill Valley Community Center | Free

SUNDAY, APRIL 27th

The Invisible Peak : *Film/Talk*
4:00pm | Community Church of Mill Valley | Free
Sponsored by MV StreamKeepers & Earth Stewardship Group

TUESDAY, APRIL 29th

Basic Backyard Composting: *Talk*
6:30pm – 7:30pm | Mill Valley Community Center | Free

CITYOFMILLVALLEY.ORG/SUSTAINABILITY

MILL VALLEY

WHAT BUSINESSES CAN DO

Upgrade to energy-efficient lighting and equipment. Energy-efficient lighting can significantly cut your electricity bill and reduce emissions. Small businesses can get free, no-obligation assessments to identify energy savings through the SmartLights program. The program offers start-to-finish technical assistance and instant rebates to help defray the cost of upgrading and/or repairing existing equipment. SmartLights can help with lighting retrofits, refrigeration and hot water heaters, and provides referrals to appropriate HVAC programs. Learn more at **smartlights.org**.

Purchase low and no-emission vehicles Use vehicles that have a lower impact on the environment such as hybrid, electric, compressed natural gas (CNG), and biodiesel-fueled vehicles. Vehicles should be properly maintained to improve performance and reduce emissions.

Reduce employee commute emissions. You can help your employees reduce their commute emissions by encouraging them to take transit, rideshare, or bike to work. The Transportation Authority of Marin provides information and programs on green commute alternatives, as well as a commuter tool kit that helps businesses build a successful employee commute program. Check it out at **tam.ca.gov**.

Recognize and promote your green efforts. Become a certified Green Business and improve your efficiency and community image while getting a marketing edge over your competition. You'll need to demonstrate that you take action to conserve resources and prevent pollution in both your facility and operations. Sign up at **greenbusinessca.org**.

Use environmentally responsible products. Buy paper products with at least 30% post-consumer content and purchase Energy Star-rated office equipment. Buy toxic-free cleaning supplies with a Green Seal or EcoLogo certification.

Reduce waste. Reduce your paper use by using duplex printing and reusing paper that's been printed on one side. Use electronic documents whenever possible, and scan, rather than fax, documents. Recycle office supplies and refill toners and ink jet cartridges. Provide reusable plates, utensils and cups for your employees, and eliminate single-use water bottles.

Green your electricity. Marin Clean Energy offers its customers the opportunity to purchase electricity from 100% renewable energy sources. It costs just one penny more per kilowatt hour over regular Marin Clean Energy rates. You can enroll at **mcecleanenergy.com/deepgreen**.

WHAT RESIDENTS CAN DO

Take transit or share a ride. One way to reduce driving is to take the bus, ferry or, starting in 2016, the SMART train. 511 SF Bay brings together all the information you need to plan your transit trip or find a ride share. Check it out at **511.org**.

Walk or bike instead of drive. Have your child walk or bike to school, and bike or walk to local destinations rather than drive. Safe Routes to School helps organize walking school buses and bike trains for a fun, healthy and safe way to get to school on time. Find out more at **saferoutestoschools.org**.

Shop locally. Reducing your annual driving mileage by just 10% can make a significant difference in cutting transportation emissions, plus it's a great way to invest in your local economy.

Install a solar energy system. A solar photovoltaic (PV) system could reduce your electricity consumption by 85% or more. PV systems today can be blended easily into both traditional and nontraditional homes, or installed as a ground-mounted system. Learn more at **gosolarcalifornia.org**.

Upgrade your home. Installing insulation, sealing duct leaks, and upgrading to energy-efficient furnaces, water heaters and windows could reduce your reduce your home's energy use by 20% or more. Property owners in Marin County can take advantage of a new energy efficiency program – Energy Upgrade California. Learn more at **marincounty.org/energyupgrade**.

Use CFL or LED bulbs. Replacing your incandescent light bulbs with energy-efficient Compact Fluorescent Lights (CFLs) or Light Emitting Diode (LED) can reduce your lighting energy use by 75% or more. For more information visit-**marinenergywatch.org**.

Compost your food waste or put your food waste into your green can. Composting your food waste could reduce your waste emissions by 25%. Today, nearly all of the Marin garbage haulers are offering curbside food waste collection. For more zero waste tips, visit **zerowastemarin.org**.

Go deep green. Marin Clean Energy offers its customers the opportunity to purchase electricity from 100% renewable energy sources. Sign up today at **www.mcecleanenergy.com/deepgreen**.

Use environmentally responsible products. Finding environmentally responsible products can be bewildering. Fortunately, there's a website that rates consumer products according to their environmental, health and social impacts. Check it out at **goodguide.com**.

SOURCE: WWW.MARINCLIMATE.ORG