
CLIMATE PROTECTION CHECKLIST FOR ALAMEDA COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

CASA Mission Statement: CASA is a community-wide coalition that will raise awareness, mobilize community action, and facilitate implementation of programs to achieve the goal of Alameda's Local Action Plan for Climate Protection (to reduce Alameda's carbon emissions to 25% below 2005 levels by the year 2020) and to increase community sustainability and well-being.

As one of the many wonderful community organizations in Alameda, you are critical to CASA's success! Please consider taking the following actions to lead by example and help Alameda meet our climate protection objectives. In addition to protecting the climate, many of the items will also help reduce your organization's overhead costs.

1. Invite CASA representatives to speak at one of your organization's meetings: Email Joyce Mercado at jlmercado246@gmail.com
 2. Endorse CASA's Mission, establish a green coordinator for your organization and commit to incorporating the following sustainable activities within your organization.
 3. Encourage public transit usage, carpooling, bicycling and walking to your organization's meetings and events.
 4. Incorporate the Four R's, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rot (compost) into your organization's operations:
 - Set up blue and green bins in addition to gray bins at meetings and events (cluster 3 types of bins together with labels). Consider redeeming bottles and cans as a fundraiser (see www.planetalameda.com for redemption locations). For help on recycling almost anything see www.stopwaste.org/home/index.asp.
 - Offer tap water in pitchers or large Igloo style dispensers instead of bottled water at meetings and events (\$ saver!). Bottled water has a high environmental cost due to transportation fuel usage, even if the plastic bottles are recycled.
 - When possible use reusable dishes/glasses/silverware instead of paper disposables/plastic silverware (\$ saver).
 - Reduce paper consumption by offering an electronic newsletter option to members, and printing non-formal documents on the other side of used printer paper (\$ savers!). Purchase paper products made from post consumer recycled paper.
 - When possible obtain items for free on Alameda Freecycle (groups.yahoo.com/group/AlamedaFreecycle/), buy them used (www.ebay.com or www.craigslist.org or www.creativereuse.org), (\$ savers!), or buy items made from recycled materials.
 5. If your organization has a facility, take these steps:
 - Schedule a free energy audit with AMP by calling 510-748-3900 and implement recommendations (long term \$ saver).
 - Schedule a free waste audit with Public Works by calling 510-749-5840 and get recycling and composting service from Alameda County Industries by calling 510-483-1400.
 - Plant a tree (or 2 or 3 or more) if space allows and incorporate drought tolerant landscaping.
 - Install a bike rack (ask BikeWalkAlameda at www.bikewalkalameda.org for guidance if needed).
 6. Distribute and encourage your membership to use the CASA Residential Climate Protection Checklist and Resource List at home to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions while helping their household budget.
 7. Tell CASA about your organization's environmental successes (email: jlmercado246@gmail.com). With your permission we'd love to highlight your success at one of our meetings, on our website or facebook page with your permission.
 8. Learn more about CASA at www.casa-alameda.org, join our email distribution list to hear about upcoming events by emailing info@casa-alameda.org and like us on [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/casa.alameda). We welcome feedback on this checklist.
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