

Sustainable Solano
Vallejo Resilient Neighborhoods
2019 Demonstration “Resilient Hub” Application

Yes, we would like to create a demonstration “Resilient Hub” in our neighborhood.

Please list the full street address, primary contact name and phone number for each participating household in your team:

What would you like to name your “Resilient Hub”?

(Example: The Ripple Effect)

Household #1

Address: _____

Primary Contact Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Household #2

Address: _____

Primary Contact Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Household #3

Address: _____

Primary Contact Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Household #4

Address: _____

Primary Contact Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

*Throughout this application, please use the **house number** to identify individual homes when required.*

Vallejo Resilient Neighborhoods – a model for the entire community!

The main goal of Sustainable Solano’s Resilient Neighborhoods Program is to continue our work in strengthening environmental, social, and economic justice throughout Solano County. For the first, pilot phase of the program we will be installing two demonstration “Resilient Hubs” in Vallejo in 2019, each consisting of three to five households.

Program Objectives

The Resilient Neighborhoods program is designed to bolster the capacity of our communities through the restoration of regenerative ecosystem services in our urban landscape. Utilizing techniques from biomimicry and permaculture, we will facilitate the installation of sustainable solutions that can help transform the built environment from a resource sink, into a functioning producer of ecosystem services. Our goal is to create an oasis of productivity and beauty to nourish you and inspire others.

This program introduces a concept of shared solutions and collective actions to the community, in which a few nearby houses cooperate to install and enjoy various sustainability elements. Utilizing low-cost, low-tech measures, these clusters of homes will transform into a Resilience Hub. Each pilot Resilience Hub will receive a suite of sustainability measures, free of charge, tailored to its unique composition, addressing both the individual homes and surrounding communal areas. The hubs will include features like greywater systems, shade trees and structures, and edible landscaping. This program has the potential to demonstrate that, block by block, neighborhoods can produce clean air, clean water, healthy soil, sequester carbon, reduce heat, and support biodiversity like the native ecosystems next door. These environmental benefits have a cascading effect into health and wellness, and when implemented in a cooperative model of shared services, provide the framework for social benefits like disaster preparedness and community support networks.

We envision the pilot “Resilient Hubs” as the first step in building a countywide resilience network that will expand in scope as we continue to build our capacity. We are aiming to find participants that are looking to be a part of something bigger – and who want to join in a long-term partnership with us as a champion for their community.

What you can expect from us

Based on the standard “Resilient Hub” Model, we will design a suite of site-specific resiliency measures for your home and provide all plants and materials at no charge to you.

We will place a call for community volunteers for the installation, but strongly encourage you to invest in bringing your friends, family, and other neighbors together to participate in the installation days. We also expect you to participate in all installation events.

We'll provide maintenance instructions and future development suggestions, as your "Resilient Hub" may be expanded in a number of exciting ways that we will be looking to partner with you on in the future when appropriate.

Members of Sustainable Solano will need access to your properties from time to time to take measurements and monitor the progress of the installations at your "Resilient Hub". All visits will be held at dates and times mutually agreed upon in advance by the participating households and Sustainable Solano.

What we will expect from you

We expect the "Resilient Hub" neighbor-partners to operate as a team before, during, and after the installation.

We expect active participation from you during the installation of your "Resilient Hub". Your job after the installation is to take care of your "Resilient Hub" by responsibly managing not only your own property, but supporting your neighbor-partners in managing theirs when needed.

We are asking you to make your Resilient Hub open to the Sustainable Solano team for at least five years after the installation date on mutually agreed upon dates for monitoring. We will require access to the participating properties in the "Resilient Hub" to take measurements and gather data about the installation's progression regularly over the first year. We will ask you to participate in surveys about your experience and provide utility bill information for our data sets.

The Hubs will be designed with a diverse set of measures and techniques that vary from home to home, which will best serve the participating households if shared cooperatively. We expect our "Resilient Hub" participants to have a personal commitment to bolstering their relationships with their partner-neighbors in this program, as well as the larger surrounding community.

Over time, we hope to expand this program to reach the broader neighborhood and ask that our "Resilient Hub" participants be open to growing their role in the community and serving as a resilience leaders in a larger capacity.

Selection criteria will be based on the feasibility of each proposed site, as well as a personal commitment from all applicants to the vision and mission of the Resilient Neighborhoods program. **The success of this program will require a commitment to social change by our participants, and we will be looking for community members who are interested in partnering with us on a long-term journey to build your neighborhood's capacity for resilience, and expand this work throughout the community.**

As you can see, a “Resilient Hub” requires a strong commitment to learning, some technical skills, interest of sharing your knowledge with others and a sense of belonging to a greater community. We highly recommend that you attend our public workshops and speaker events in Vallejo and surrounding Solano County cities. This will make you a more informed candidate of our program. You can register for these workshops online at sustainablesolano.org.

**If that all sounds good to you, please tell us about your
“Resilient Hub” Team:**

Please tell us about yourselves and why you are interested in participating in this program. Please work together to answer the questions below.

Please select a “Resiliency Champion” that will serve as the main point of contact, and act as a team leader for your group throughout all phases of the program. This “Resiliency Champion” will be the team member that acts as a liaison between Sustainable Solano and other “Resilient Hub” members.

Resiliency Champion:

Your vision statement: Why did you choose to apply? What are your hopes, aspirations and vision for the future – for your household, your “Resilient Hub”, the larger neighborhood, your community and the world in general?

What does “resilience” mean to you?

What does your “Resilient Hub” look like?

What are your greatest strengths as a “Resilient Hub” team and as a neighborhood?

As a team, are you willing to serve the greater community in the years to come? In what capacity?

Please illustrate how your residences are oriented in relation to each other. You can provide a simple sketch, or include a Google Earth view with your residences indicated on the map. Please note street names and home numbers.

Individual Site Information

Every application is valued. The overall concept of Resilience is founded upon designs being “site specific”. Please be as accurate as possible in completing the following site survey. Keep in mind that one perceived disadvantage might not necessarily be a deal breaker. For example “it’s very windy”, or “I have thin soil” may give us an opportunity to demonstrate how we work with these features.

Please tell us about each participating residence of your future “Resilient Hub”, answer to the best of your ability.

Household #1

Please tell us about yourself and your household.

Address: _____

Primary Contact:

Other Residents:

(please include the first names and ages of children still living in the house)

Are any household members serving as volunteers for Sustainable Solano or any sustainability organization within Solano County? If yes, please list name(s).

Do you own or rent your home?

If you rent your home, do you have permission from your landlord/the property owner to apply for this program?

If you rent your home, if possible, please provide us with a copy of your lease.

How long have you been in this home?

Do you plan to thrive in this residence for the next 5 years?

Do you have pets that enjoy your outdoor space? Please list the type of pet(s) and the nature of their outdoor activity.

Skills Assessment for the Entire Household

Please reflect on your current skill level, and list all household members that have experience in the following areas and will be actively participating in the “Resilient Hub” program. Our skills and expertise are one of the most precious assets of a resilient community!

Organic Gardening:

Woodworking/Carpentry:

Natural Building:

Other:

Site Features

Does your street have sidewalks? (Please describe the street condition - are there overhead power lines, are there currently any trees or vegetation along the street? etc.):

To the best of your knowledge, does your home belong to a Homeowners Association or is it part of a Planned Unit Development? If the answer is yes: If possible, please provide us with a copy of your Homeowners Association’s bylaws, or any rules that apply to use of your home.

Lot Measurements: _____ feet long by _____ feet wide
total size _____ square feet

Wind Exposure: Is your sight windy? Does the wind change with the season? Please describe your observations.

Soil (as much information as you can provide: clay, sand, pH):

Current Vegetation:

Past Vegetation:

Is there irrigation in place? Please describe the current irrigation:

Does it flood during rainy season? Have you noticed any runoffs?

Site Topography (is it flat or slope, gradual or steep?):

Estimated Area of Roof (sq.ft. of your house):

Laundry:

Type of washer: front or top loader, brand, and year

Average number of laundry loads the household does in a week? _____

Property Sketch:

Please include the residence, laundry location, driveways, existing trees and bushes, North/South. NOTE: it does not have to be to scale, but please try to be as accurate as possible.

Your Complete Resilient Design Model

Resiliency is more than just a sustainably designed property. Different elements of a “Resilient Hub” design are listed below. Please carefully consider each of them.

Vallejo “Resilient Hub” Residence	Yes, I have it already	Yes, I’d like to have it	No, it’s not for me
Rainwater harvesting in ground			
Rainwater harvesting storage tanks			
Bioswales			
Greywater: laundry to landscape			
Greywater: shower to landscape			
Drip irrigation system			
Sheet mulch my lawn			
Fruit tree(s)			
Nut tree(s)			
Shade tree(s)			
Berries			
Grapes			
Mushrooms			
Plants to attract beneficial insects			
Native pollinator houses			
Composting			
Vermicomposting			
Shade structures (trellis, etc.)			
Light structure color			
Light roof color			
Energy efficient appliances			
Water-wise fixtures			
Emergency Supplies			
Chickens			
Bees			
Rabbits			
Ducks			
Aquaponics			
Join CSA			
Clothesline			
Dehydrator			
Rooftop solar			
Passive solar			

Other (please describe):

Pictures of proposed location: Please include 3-4 pictures of your home from different angles.

Household #2

Please tell us about yourself and your household.

Address: _____

Primary Contact:

Other Residents:

(please include the first names and ages of children still living in the house)

Are any household members serving as volunteers for Sustainable Solano or any sustainability organization within Solano County? If yes, please list name(s).

Do you own or rent your home?

If you rent your home, do you have permission from your landlord/the property owner to apply for this program?

If you rent your home, if possible, please provide us with a copy of your lease.

How long have you been in this home?

Do you plan to thrive in this residence for the next 5 years?

Do you have pets that enjoy your outdoor space? Please list the type of pet(s) and the nature of their outdoor activity.

Skills Assessment for the Entire Household

Please reflect on your current skill level, and list all household members that have experience in the following areas and will be actively participating in the “Resilient Hub” program. Our skills and expertise are one of the most precious assets of a resilient community!

Organic Gardening:

Woodworking/Carpentry:

Natural Building:

Other:

Site Features

Does your street have sidewalks? (Please describe the street condition - are there overhead power lines, are there currently any trees or vegetation along the street? etc.):

To the best of your knowledge, does your home belong to a Homeowners Association or is it part of a Planned Unit Development? If the answer is yes: If possible, please provide us with a copy of your Homeowners Association’s bylaws, or any rules that apply to use of your home.

Lot Measurements: _____ feet long by _____ feet wide
total size _____ square feet

Wind Exposure: Is your sight windy? Does the wind change with the season? Please describe your observations.

Soil (as much information as you can provide: clay, sand, pH):

Current Vegetation:

Past Vegetation:

Is there irrigation in place? Please describe the current irrigation:

Does it flood during rainy season? Have you noticed any runoffs?

Site Topography (is it flat or slope, gradual or steep?):

Estimated Area of Roof (sq.ft. of your house):

Laundry:

Type of washer: front or top loader, brand, and year

Average number of laundry loads the household does in a week? _____

Property Sketch:

Please include the residence, laundry location, driveways, existing trees and bushes, North/South. NOTE: it does not have to be to scale, but please try to be as accurate as possible.

Your Complete Resilient Design Model

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Greywater: shower to landscape			
Drip irrigation system			
Sheet mulch my lawn			
Fruit tree(s)			
Nut tree(s)			
Shade tree(s)			
Berries			
Grapes			
Mushrooms			
Plants to attract beneficial insects			
Native pollinator houses			
Composting			
Vermicomposting			
Shade structures (trellis, etc.)			
Light structure color			
Light roof color			
Energy efficient appliances			
Water-wise fixtures			
Emergency Supplies			
Chickens			
Bees			
Rabbits			
Ducks			
Aquaponics			
Join CSA			
Clothesline			
Dehydrator			
Rooftop solar			
Passive solar			

Other (please describe):

Pictures of proposed location: Please include 3-4 pictures of your home from different angles.

Household #3

Please tell us about yourself and your household.

Address: _____

Primary Contact:

Other Residents:

(please include the first names and ages of children still living in the house)

Are any household members serving as volunteers for Sustainable Solano or any sustainability organization within Solano County? If yes, please list name(s).

Do you own or rent your home?

If you rent your home, do you have permission from your landlord/the property owner to apply for this program?

If you rent your home, if possible, please provide us with a copy of your lease.

How long have you been in this home?

Do you plan to thrive in this residence for the next 5 years?

Do you have pets that enjoy your outdoor space? Please list the type of pet(s) and the nature of their outdoor activity.

Skills Assessment for the Entire Household

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Organic Gardening:

Woodworking/Carpentry:

Natural Building:

Other:

Site Features

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Lot Measurements: _____ feet long by _____ feet wide
total size _____ square feet

Wind Exposure: Is your sight windy? Does the wind change with the season? Please describe your observations.

Soil (as much information as you can provide: clay, sand, pH):

Current Vegetation:

Past Vegetation:

Is there irrigation in place? Please describe the current irrigation:

Does it flood during rainy season? Have you noticed any runoffs?

Site Topography (is it flat or slope, gradual or steep?):

Estimated Area of Roof (sq.ft. of your house):

Laundry:

Type of washer: front or top loader, brand, and year

Average number of laundry loads the household does in a week? _____

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Mushrooms			
Plants to attract beneficial insects			
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Composting			
Vermicomposting			
Shade structures (trellis, etc.)			
Light structure color			
Light roof color			
Energy efficient appliances			
Water-wise fixtures			
Emergency Supplies			
Chickens			
Bees			
Rabbits			
Ducks			
Aquaponics			
Join CSA			
Clothesline			
Dehydrator			
Rooftop solar			
Passive solar			

Other (please describe):

Pictures of proposed location: Please include 3-4 pictures of your home from different angles.

Household #4

Please tell us about yourself and your household.

Address: _____

Primary Contact:

Other Residents:

(please include the first names and ages of children still living in the house)

Are any household members serving as volunteers for Sustainable Solano or any sustainability organization within Solano County? If yes, please list name(s).

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Natural Building:

Other:

Site Features

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Past Vegetation:

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Bees			
Rabbits			
Ducks			
Aquaponics			
Join CSA			
Clothesline			
Dehydrator			
Rooftop solar			
Passive solar			

Other (please describe):

Pictures of proposed location: Please include 3-4 pictures of your home from different angles.

Thank you for your interest in Vallejo Resilient Neighborhoods program, your commitment to a more sustainable, resilient community and your willingness to share your knowledge and your achievements with the entire community.

How to submit your application:

1. Email the complete application to kassie@sustainablesolano.org
Please put "VRN Application" in the subject line. Do not forget to attach photos.

2. Mail complete application to:

Sustainable Solano
P.O. Box 1215
Benicia, CA 94510

Vallejo homeowners can submit their application in March 2019. Application closing date is March 31, 2019. If you would like to be considered for the Spring installation in May 2019, please make sure your application arrives by 6:00PM on March 31, 2019.

We are looking forward to hear from you!