

LIFESTYLE

Sustainable Solano conveys curtailing climate change

'Resilient Neighborhoods' starts in Vallejo



Educating young people is one of the goals of Sustainable Solano, which launches a Vallejo pilot program, "Resilient Neighborhoods," in 2019. (Courtesy photo)

By [RICHARD FREEDMAN](#) | rfreedman@timesheraldonline.com | Vallejo

Times Herald

PUBLISHED: March 15, 2019 at 6:00 pm | UPDATED: March 15, 2019 at 6:01 pm

5 Questions to Ask Your
Digital Advertising Agency

Get the insights

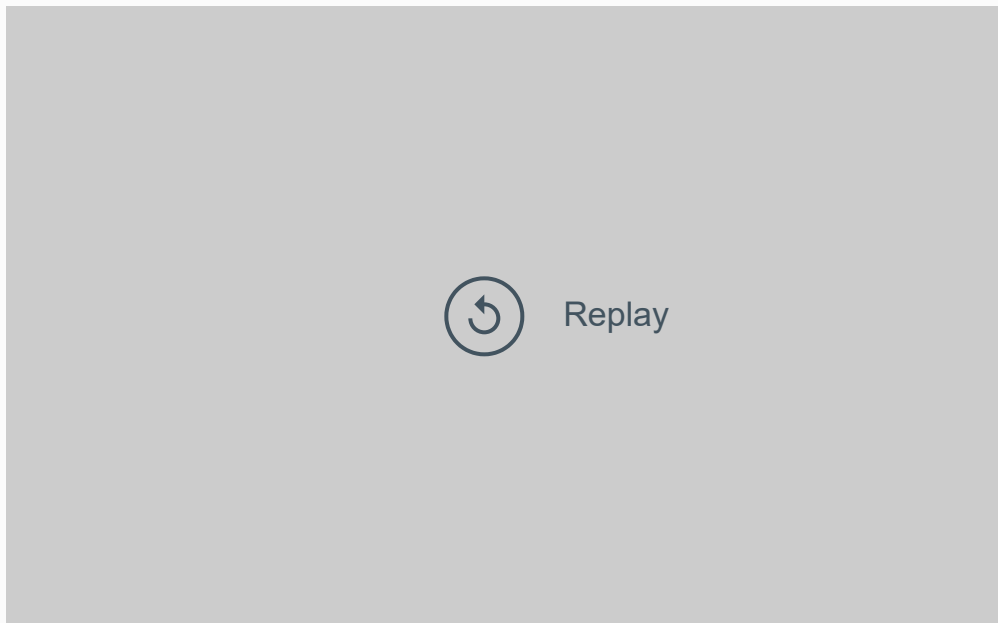
adtaxi

The thought of surfing in Nevada around the turn of the next century may be appealing to both Nevadans and owners of surf board companies. Not so for Californians who could find Kevin Costner's 1995 science fiction thriller "Waterworld" a bit too close to reality.

An overly gloomy climate change forecast? Perhaps. But an extremely high percentage of the world's scientists agree the planet is warming up.

Enter Sustainable Solano, "a grassroots, countywide movement uniting people and initiatives aiming to serve the future of Solano County, to promote ecologically sustainable, economically and socially just communities in a world that works for everyone."

ADVERTISING



A mouthful, perhaps, but in so few words, taking small steps locally to do something to fend off climate change's predicted predicament.

While Sustainable Solano celebrates its 20th year, 2019 is the launch of "The Resilient Neighborhoods Program" in an inaugural phase starting in Vallejo.

Funded by PG&E with support from the Vallejo Commission for the Future and Greenbelt Alliance, Sustainable Solano conducts two demonstration installations in the next year, including the first in May. The organization currently seeks a small cluster of three to five residences in disadvantaged area in need of revitalization.

Installations include laundry-to-landscape greywater systems, roof water diversion



“We’re preparing for the inevitable change — droughts, heat waves, flooding,” said Kassie Munro, Sustainable Solano’s program manager. “We’re looking at ways everyone can participate.”

Sustainable Solano provides educational workshops from community gardens to schools and churches and private installations in homes.

As mentioned, “we’re trying to find a group of neighbors who want to work together; finding neighbors who want to connect and invest in their community,” Munro said.

The immediate concern?

“I think education has become a big concern,” Munro said. “Not to get too deep, but with this political climate, there’s a reluctance to accept fact. We have science now. A lot of people are working hard to get the information out there. One of our biggest challenges is accepting of science, which is unsettling to me.”

Munro, 32, studied environmental science in college, “a very fact-based perspective,” she said.

Her answer to those doubting climate change exists?

“I tell them ‘Look around. Look at the fires. Look at the flooding,’” Munro said.

At the pending home installations, Sustainable Solano will plan “more edible perennial plants” providing healthy food families may previously “not have access to,” Munro said.

With California’s prolonged drought pronounced ended with this winter’s rainfall, it is difficult to explain to people that rain-water should be saved for gardening.

“It’s hard to tell people how important rain-water capture is while we’re recovering from massive flooding,” Munro said.

While North American may not become like the Dennis Quaid film “Day After Tomorrow” when everyone in the U.S. is forced to flee to Mexico because of extreme cold, “we have to prepare for extremes,” Munro said. “A good portion of Vallejo is wetlands. It’s going to hit us hard if projections play out.”

Munro frets that her generation can get overwhelmed with dooming climate change forecasts.



Though Sustainable Solano has a staff of only 10, there is a “big network of contractors and volunteers,” Munro said. “We’re a small, grassroots organization.”

For more information about “Resilient Neighborhoods,” call Munro at (805) 440-8798 or visit sustainablesolano.org.

Tags: [newsletter](#)



Richard Freedman



SPONSORED CONTENT

**Shocking Discovery
During a Home
Renovation Changes
Florida Couples Life
Forever** [↗](#)

By Upbeat News

upbeat

