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Suisun City to host first environmental festival

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For as difficult as it can be to turn on the TV and learn about another major wildfire or rising temperatures, there are things people can do to mitigate climate issues.

Suisun City, in conjunction with Sustainable Solano, will hold its inaugural Climate and Environmental Festival to raise awareness of what people can do locally and globally to prevent threats to the climate.

The festival is being put on through Sustainable Solano's Resilient Neighborhoods program, which aims to unite neighboring communities in working collaboratively to create regenerative ecosystems that perform such functions as producing food, filtering air and cycling water.

Jonathan Erwin, Resilient Neighborhoods program manager, said the event was chosen for Suisun because of various green projects being worked on in the city, including the second phase of the McCoy Creek Trail, a new Parks and Facilities Master Plan and programs such as the Clean Team, where volunteers work to clean up areas of the city.

“(We) realized there are a lot of green and environmental initiatives that are happening across the city,” he said. “In a way to kind of bring them together and bring all of that engagement together, (we) decided to host a festival.”



The festival will feature booths with family-friendly activities and talks by organizations on how communities can be environmentally resilient. The San Francisco Bay Conservation and Delta Commission will discuss the threat of rising sea level and provide strategies for Suisun City, and Anne Freiwald and Lydia Neilsen of Vital Cycles will discuss what residents can do in their own yards to make them more resistant to climate issues such as drought and flooding.

Erwin said agencies such as Solano Land Trust and various Suisun City government departments will have booths set up, and organizations interested in tabling at this event are welcome to email him at Jonathan@sustainablesolano.org.

Overall, Erwin hopes the event will create more environmental consciousness and spark a level of engagement over issues pertaining to the environment, ranging from wildfires to climate change.

“The thing I wish people would take away from this event is to be aware of things that are happening in Suisun and things in response to climate issues,” he said.

He also hopes it will instill a sense of action.

“People are doing this, and I can participate as well,” he said.

The festival will be held 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 9 at Suisun Harbor Theater, 720 Main St. Admission is free. The event will be outdoors and adhere to COVID-19 protocols. For more information, go to [Eventbrite.com/e/suisun-city-climate-and-environmental-festival-tickets-170477470704](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/suisun-city-climate-and-environmental-festival-tickets-170477470704).

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