

Sustainable Benician

Community Recycling & Waste Services



We'll handle it from here.™

FILM SCREENING

Symphony of the Soil

Wednesday, June 27th • 6:00PM–8:30PM
Benicia Public Library, 150 East L St.

Symphony of the Soil is an award winning 104-minute documentary feature film that explores the complexity and mystery of soil. Filmed on four continents and sharing the voices of some of the world's most esteemed soil scientists, farmers and activists, the film portrays soil as a protagonist of our planetary story. Using a captivating mix of art and science, the film shows that soil is a complex living organism, the foundation of life on earth. Healthy, living soil enhances the earth's natural ability to hold carbon in the soil, thus reducing the emission of "greenhouse gasses" into the atmosphere and thereby alleviating global warming.



Free Upcoming Classes by Sustainable Solano. Sponsored by Republic Services.

Registration for these classes and more information at www.sustainablesolano.org

DRIP IRRIGATION DONE RIGHT

Johnnie Mitchell, Former Water Conservation Specialist for Contra Costa Water District, and owner of East Bay Sprinkler & Drip

Tuesday, July 31th • 7PM–8PM
Benicia Public Library, 150 East L St.

If you don't have a rainwater catchment system, conserve water with a properly adjusted smart timer and inline drip irrigation. They are an efficient method of delivering water to any landscape. Qualified Water Efficient Landscaper (QWEL), Johnnie Mitchell, will cover the benefits of in-line drip systems, best practice methods, and four must-have tools when owning an in-line drip system.

FALL FREE COMPOST GIVEAWAY

Supplement your soil in time for your winter vegetables

Saturday, August 4th • 9AM–1PM
E St. Public Parking Lot off First St.



Bring your own container and we will fill it. Five gallon buckets work best. Up to 30 gallons per household. Please bring driver's license for each household. Benicia residents only. To receive a reminder message, email MKnutson@RepublicServices.com with Benicia Compost in subject line.

At the compost giveaway, we will also be accepting gently-used clothing, costume jewelry, house goods, bicycles, toys, and games. Sorry, no large items, mattresses, or furniture. HELP others less fortunate. Donations will go to the nonprofit, "Faith Food Fridays," where customers do not pay for items they need.

Make the Right Planning Choices for Your Next Party

Having a party? Make the right choices for the environment when planning your summer BBQ, wedding, or graduation party. Hosts and hostesses often forget the long term price paid for the short term convenience of the wrong single-use items for parties.

The first choice is always to use real dishes, glasses, silverware, and cloth napkins. Colorful bandanas are an easy and inexpensive way to purchase as napkins. For dishes, if you don't have, or can't borrow enough for your event, consider purchasing at a second hand store. A little mix and match can add interest to your table setting. Don't want to store it? Donate it back to the store. (See picture-first choice)

The second choice is compostable paper plates, especially if they are made from recycled content. Thick, rough-textured, white ones break down in the landfill best, or ones that are shiny on the surface to avoid leakage are ok. Bamboo single-use utensils can be found at WebstaurantStore.com and are so much better for the environment. (See picture-second choice)

Did you know a plastic fork can take up to 100 years to break down in the landfill? If it is the really strong plastic, like the "fake silver" kind, it can take up to 1000 years!

If you have to purchase a vinyl table cover instead of cloth, reuse it. Don't forget about the center piece. A second hand glass vase can be used over and over. Fill with greenery from your yard, or add store-bought flowers. Or borrow/share decorations. Don't buy plastic throw-away junk.

Worst choice is Styrofoam (cups or plates), plastic plates, single-use plastic knives, forks, and spoons, and disposable hard plastic serving bowls or trays. (See picture-worst choice)

Are cups made with sugarcane or potato starch a good choice? Sorry, since they are now a hybrid bioplastic, they cannot be recycled and rarely composted. They only break down in the landfill a little faster.

Next issue: There is a big difference between compostable and biodegradable.

FIRST CHOICE



SECOND CHOICE



WORST CHOICE



**Solano County Mini
Maker Faire®**

Saturday, June 30th, and Sunday,
July 1st from 10AM – 6PM, both days
at Solano County Fairgrounds.

New lower-priced tickets are only \$6. Watch for coupons.

Benicia Mini Maker Faire is now known as Solano County Mini Maker Faire. They are excited to have a broader platform to be able to bring in makers and exhibitors from across the region to inspire and entertain attendees with a unique brand of hands-on learning and DIY spirit.

Visit solanocounty.makerfaire.com/2018 for more information.



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