

APRIL - JULY 2025

SCENE

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF CUPERTINO

Vision for the Future:
Cupertino's Sustainability
Stewardship and
City Work Program

CITY OF



CUPERTINO

PLUS: CELEBRATE **EARTH AND ARBOR DAY FESTIVAL** | OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF
COOPER'S CLEAN AIR QUEST | STAY UPDATED ON **WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS**

A Message from the City Manager

In this edition of the SCENE, we shine a spotlight on environmental sustainability — a core value for the City of Cupertino and our community. With Earth Day on the horizon, it is the perfect time to reflect on how we can all play a role in protecting our environment and preserving Cupertino's natural beauty for future generations. This issue highlights the City's ongoing sustainability initiatives, from reducing greenhouse gas emissions to promoting waste reduction and water conservation. Together, through our collective efforts, we can make a positive impact on our local environment and beyond.

Building a sustainable future requires not only environmental stewardship but also a clear vision for our community's growth and resilience. Through the recent Priority Setting Workshop, the City Council adopted a Strategic Vision Framework to guide policy decisions and set priorities for the next two fiscal years. As part of this process, the Council revisited the Strategic Goals and created a separate goal of "Environmental Sustainability." This refinement ensures a dedicated approach to both environmental initiatives and a brighter green future.

With ongoing Earth Day celebrations, this time serves as a powerful reminder that even small actions can lead to meaningful change. Whether you are joining us for our Earth Day celebration, participating in community clean-ups, or adopting sustainable practices at home, your contributions matter. The City remains committed to providing resources and programs to support residents and businesses in making eco-friendly choices. I encourage everyone to get involved and explore the many ways you can contribute to a greener, more sustainable Cupertino.

Thank you for your continued partnership and dedication to making Cupertino a thriving, sustainable community. We are building a future that prioritizes environmental stewardship, community well-being, and long-term resilience. I invite you to stay engaged, participate in upcoming events, and share your ideas as we work toward a brighter, more sustainable tomorrow.



Pamela Wu
City Manager

CONTENTS

FEATURES

3

City Work Program

Learn more about City Council's vision for the future with the City Work Program.

4

Celebrate the Earth

Reflecting on Cupertino's Earth and Arbor Day Festival.

INSIDE

6

Cooper's Clean Air Quest

Immerse yourself with the official launch of Cooper's Clean Air Quest a virtual reality (VR) adventure.

9

Housing and Development

Explore the latest updates in Objective Design standards and learn more about major project developments.

10

Wildfire Preparedness

Stay updated on the latest tips on wildfire prevention and emergency planning.

11

Calendar of Events

See a compilation of upcoming, family-fun events.

Questions or comments about *The Scene*? Contact staff at communication@cupertino.gov.

CITY WORK PROGRAM

Vision for the Future: City Council to Identify Priorities for Next Two Years

The City of Cupertino is taking bold steps towards an exciting future. In March, City Council participated in a Priority Setting Workshop facilitated by City staff to map out the City's strategic direction for the next two years. The workshop provided an opportunity for Council to celebrate the current City Work Program progress, advocate for priority projects, and conduct rank voting to establish the City's Work Program for Fiscal Years 2025 - 2027.

A major outcome of the workshop was the adoption of a Strategic Vision Framework, which will guide future policy decisions and set organizational priorities. The framework outlines the broad goals and specific focus areas that the Council will concentrate on, ensuring a clear and unified vision for Cupertino's future. As part of this process, the Council adopted six goals, including "Environmental Sustainability" and "Fiscal Strategy." This refinement allows for a more focused approach to both environmental initiatives and long-term financial planning.

FY 2025 - 2027 City Work Program will implement City Council's priority projects that address critical issues and enhance community services. Stay updated on the City Work Program by visiting cupertino.gov/cityworkprogram.

STRATEGIC VISION

City Council Goals



Focus Areas

Fiscal Resilience

Small Business
Revitalization

Emergency
Management

CITY WORK PROGRAM

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY



Celebrating Community and Sustainability at the Earth and Arbor Day Festival

On Saturday, April 5, thousands of community members gathered at Cupertino Library Park Field to celebrate the 17th Annual Earth and Arbor Day Festival. The event brought together families, organizations, and local leaders in a shared commitment to environmental stewardship and climate action.

The day kicked off with a volunteer tree planting, where residents of all ages got their hands dirty planting new trees across the City. Throughout the afternoon, festivalgoers explored interactive activities, educational booths, sustainability-themed games, and enjoyed live entertainment. Local organizations shared tools and ideas to help community members reduce their environmental impact — from composting and water conservation to clean energy and zero waste tips.



The Earth and Arbor Day Festival not only celebrated our planet and its trees but also highlighted the importance of taking action to protect it. With hands-on learning opportunities and inspiring community engagement, the event encouraged community members of all ages to take action by planting trees, reducing waste, or supporting local sustainability efforts.



Thank you to everyone who joined the City for our annual Earth and Arbor Day Festival.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Be a Steward of the Storm Drains

Rain or shine, the City of Cupertino needs your help to keep storm drains clear of debris and pollutants. The City's Environmental Programs team encourages you and your family to become a steward of the storm drains on your block or in your neighborhood by checking on them regularly to make sure they are clear by checking on them regularly to make sure they are clear of debris to avoid flooding. Here are tips to prevent pollution:



- Only rain down the drain! If you see anything besides rainwater going into the gutter or storm drain, that's pollution that could reach our creeks! Please immediately call the City at 408-777-3354 (weekdays 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) or the County at 408-299-2311 (all other days/times).
- Use a commercial car wash instead of washing your car at home. Washing your car in the driveway, street or carport can carry detergents, oil, brake dust, metals and other chemicals to the storm drain that leads directly to local creeks and the Bay. Find a participating car wash in Santa Clara County that offers discounts at mywatershedwatch.org/discount-card.

- Never dump household hazardous waste outside. Properly dispose of items such as paints, cleaners, pesticides, and motor oil through Santa Clara County's Household Hazardous Waste program. For more information and a full list of accepted items, visit hhw.santaclaracounty.gov.

For more pollution prevention tips, visit mywatershedwatch.org.

Environmental Recycling Day and On-Call Collections

Do you have unwanted stuff?

Environmental Recycling Day and On-Call Collection are available!

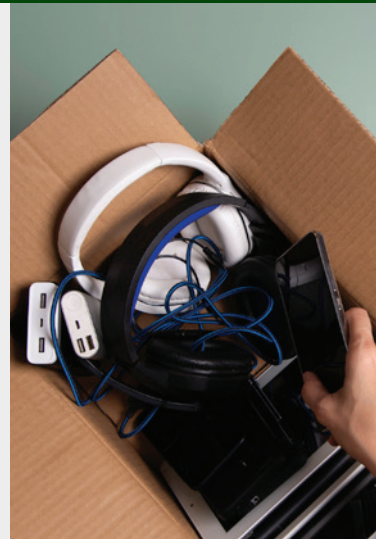
On April 26 from 8 a.m. to noon, the City will be hosting its Paper Shredding and Environmental Recycling Day at De Anza College, Parking Lot A. This event offers residents a free drive-through, drop-off service to encourage the extended use of products and to prevent valuable resources from being sent to the landfill.

View acceptable items at cupertino.gov/environmentalday.

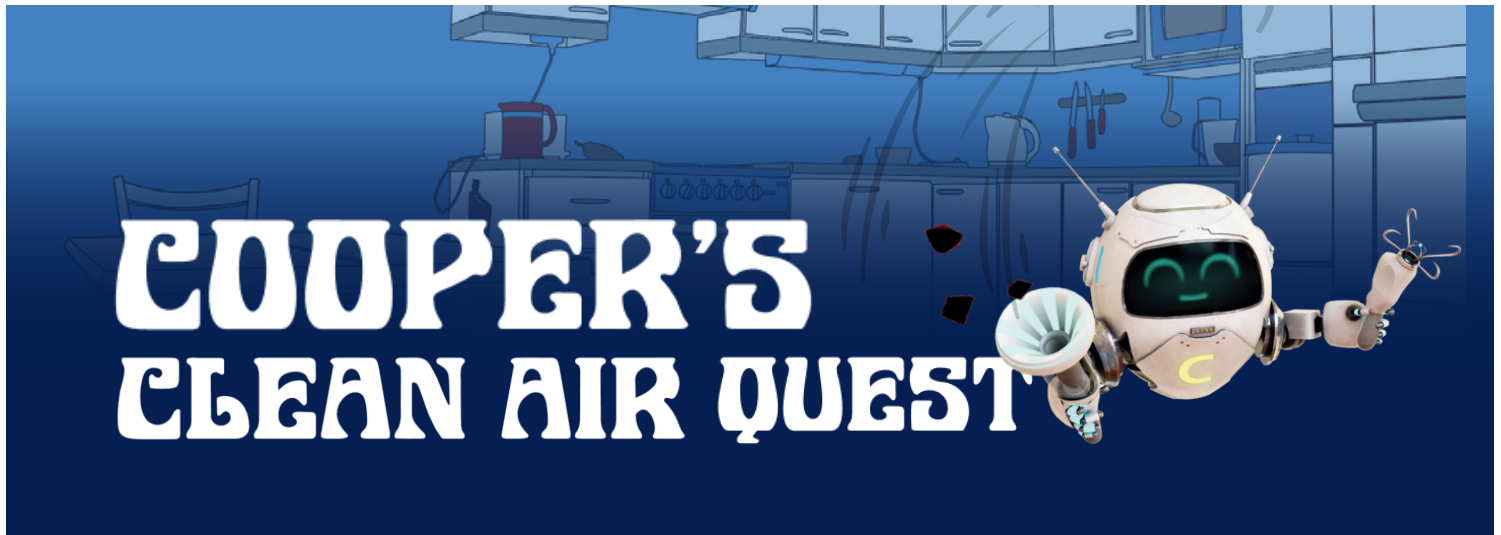
Got a bulky item that is not fit to donate?

Use the On-Call Pick-up program!

Cupertino residents are eligible for two on-call collections per year at no additional cost. Get your damaged or unwanted items picked up at the curb. Call Recology to schedule your pick-up at 408-725-4020.



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY



Immerse yourself in a virtual reality adventure with Cooper's Clean Air Quest, a game created by the City of Cupertino and funded by Silicon Valley Clean Energy!

Join us for our official launch at the Earth and Arbor Day Festival on April 5, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. You and Cooper, your home upgrade robot companion, will work together to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save the planet by electrifying home appliances.

Can't make it to our Earth & Arbor Day Festival? Stay tuned for more opportunities to play at future events, and you can also request the game to come to your event or school! Discover more information at cupertino.gov/cleanairquest.

Creek Cleanup Day

Get involved and help keep our waterways safe and clean by joining a creek cleanup. You can participate and host your own cleanup anytime throughout the year or join City staff for National River Cleanup Day on May 17 from 9 a.m. - noon. National River Cleanup is a day to protect our rivers, watersheds, and wildlife from trash and debris. Since its inception in 1991, more than 1.3 million volunteers have participated in thousands of cleanups across the country, covering more than 261,000 miles of waterways and removing more than 32.5 million pounds of litter and debris.

Keep up to date with upcoming cleanup events at cleanacreek.org/upcoming-events and sign up to be notified when National River Cleanup Day registrations open. For more information, visit cleanacreek.org.



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY



Do YOU Think Cupertino Should Adopt a Policy for Home Electrification?

The City of Cupertino is exploring a policy for transitioning home appliances and equipment from natural gas to renewable electricity. This transition is essential for fighting climate change.

We invite you to share your knowledge, experience, and opinions on home electrification by taking a short survey. This refers to using electric appliances and equipment, such as induction cooktops, heat pump water heaters, and heat pump air conditioning and heating systems in our homes.

Please participate in this survey to help us better understand:

- Community perspectives on home electrification
- The challenges residents face in electrifying their homes
- Opportunities for providing support and/or incentives to electrification



Please visit cupertino.gov/goelectricsurvey to take the survey or to learn more about this effort. Thank you for your participation!

Go Electric with Hassle-Free Home Upgrades

Upgrade your home with energy-efficient electric appliances for improved safety and comfort! Get a free home assessment, access to rebates, and installation support to make the switch easy and affordable. Qualified residents may even receive upgrades at no cost. Schedule your assessment today and learn more at svcleanenergy.org/full-service.

Support Cupertino's Local Businesses

Looking to support your local community while finding the best products and services around? Our easy-to-use, interactive map helps you discover a wide variety of businesses right here in Cupertino. From family-owned shops to hidden gems, you can easily search and explore local favorites, all in one place. Whether you're looking for a boutique, a café, or a service provider, shopping local has never been so simple. Start exploring today and make a positive impact in Cupertino with every purchase.

Explore the full map of local businesses here: cupertino.gov/businessmap.



Middle School Bike Skills Registration is Open!

Cupertino's annual Middle School Bike Skills summer workshops prepare participants for how to ride safely to school and beyond.

As children enter middle school, they are developmentally ready to spread their wings of independence and go places on their own but still need to learn how to keep themselves safe on the road. Also, middle school is often farther from home than a student's local neighborhood elementary school, so they may need to cross bigger roads to get there.

Middle School Bike Skills is a one-day bike workshop where participants learn how to become confident riders by learning the rules of the road, practicing bike handling skills, and putting it all into practice during a group neighborhood ride. One parent or guardian is required to attend with each student. Students and guardians both need to bring a bike and helmet.

Give your child and yourself the gift of independence this summer through bike safety skills. Sign up four weeks in advance to receive instructions on how to prepare for the workshop.

Workshop Dates
(Sundays 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.):

- June 8
- June 22
- August 10
- August 24

Location:

Cupertino Senior Center
21251 Stevens Creek Blvd,
Cupertino, CA 95014

Learn more and sign up at cupertino.gov/saferoutes/msbs.

Financial assistance is available upon request. Program brought to you by Cupertino Safe Routes to School (SR2S) in collaboration with Wheel Kids.

HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT



Objective Design Standards

In 2018, California introduced "objective standards" in SB 35, changing planning and design reviews. The State has since included this language in other laws, such as SB 330, to simplify housing projects. Objective standards ensure clear, measurable criteria, limiting local discretion over development. To align with State requirements, Cupertino adopted Objective Design Standards (ODS) as part of its 6th Cycle Housing Element, approved in May 2024 and certified in September 2024. ODS helps developers understand the City's design expectations more clearly, ensuring new buildings align with community goals.

The City recently began developing additional ODS to clarify design expectations for new projects. A community meeting in February 2025 introduced the process, allowing residents to share input through a survey. The draft ODS is expected for public review by late summer 2025, with more engagement opportunities in the coming months. Visit cupertino.gov/ods for updates.



Stay Informed on Major Development Projects

Have you ever wondered where to find information on a major development project in your neighborhood or anywhere in the City? Check out the submitted applications for major development proposals at cupertino.gov/majorprojects. For questions related to proposed development projects, please reach out to planning@cupertino.gov.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS



Cupertino Joins Countywide Effort to Build Fire-Resilient Landscapes

The City of Cupertino is proud to partner with the Santa Clara County FireSafe Council on their West Santa Clara Landscape Resiliency Project. Fuel reduction projects in the Wildland Urban Interface, such as this one, will improve wildfire safety throughout the area. The project will achieve streamlined CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) compliance using the California Vegetation Treatment Program (CalVTP), implementing ecologically restorative fuel reduction across more than 110,000 acres in western Santa Clara County. Treatments will focus on the Wildland Urban Interface and areas where high fuel loads are impacting the health of ecosystems.

According to Seth Schalet, CEO of Santa Clara County FireSafe Council, "The creation of the West Santa Clara Landscape Resiliency Project, funded through our CAL FIRE Forest Health Grants, is a major step forward for Santa Clara County wildfire preparedness."



Regional Wildfire Readiness Workshops

With rising wildfire risks in California, preparedness is vital. This spring, the Santa Clara County Fire Department (SCCFD) is hosting Wildfire Readiness Workshops to help residents with wildfire prevention, emergency planning, and evacuation readiness.

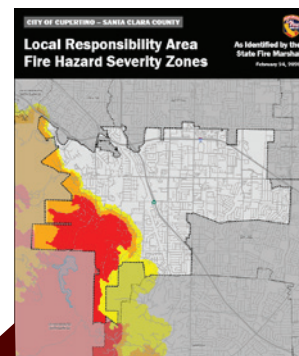
For workshop dates and location, please register online at cupertino.gov/wildfire-preparedness-workshops. Additional questions can be directed to SCCFD at 408-378-4010.

Fire Hazard Severity Zone Maps

On Monday, February 24, CAL FIRE released the finalized Local Responsibility Area (LRA) Fire Hazard Severity Zone maps for Santa Clara County. These maps identify residences in moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones, based on statewide criteria including fuel loading, slope, and fire weather. Some homes previously outside these zones may now be included.

This designation offers benefits such as access to resources like Firewise community programs and chipping services. However, the maps are state-issued and cannot be altered by the County Fire. The City of Cupertino is required to adopt an ordinance to accept these LRA maps.

It's important to note that these new designations will not affect insurance, as insurance companies use their own models, independent of the LRA and State Responsibility Area maps. The map and finalized designations will guide the City and County in future planning and response efforts, such as the Community Wildfire Preparedness Plan and the West Santa Clara Landscape Resiliency Project.



[Click here to view map.](#)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Earth and Arbor Day Festival

Saturday, April 5

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Library Field

With nearly 100 booths hosted by local nonprofits and businesses, the festival offers interactive activities, eco-friendly crafts, and valuable sustainability resources. Learn more at cupertino.gov/earthday.



Hack Cupertino

April 12 - 13

Quinlan Community Center

<hack> Cupertino — a 13-hour overnight hackathon where teams tackle a top-secret challenge revealed during the opening ceremony. Designed as a space for teens to de-stress, socialize, and showcase their coding skills. Learn more at cupertino.gov/hackcupertino.

Environmental Recycling Day

Saturday, April 26

8 a.m. to noon

De Anza College, Parking Lot A
Declutter responsibly at Cupertino's Environmental Recycling Day! Drop off e-waste, confidential documents for shredding, reusable household goods, and more. View acceptable items at cupertino.gov/environmentalday.

Baer Blacksmith Shop Demonstration

Saturday, April 26

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

McClellan Ranch Preserve

Step back in time and learn about early Cupertino history and the craft of blacksmithing. Watch Cupertino Parks and Recreation's experienced blacksmith fire up the forge for live demonstrations.

Join-A-Ranger: Riparian Habitat and Native Plant Tour

Sunday, May 4

1:30 to 3 p.m.

Join a Stevens Creek Corridor Ranger for a guided tour exploring the native trees and plants of our local riparian habitat. Register at reg4rec.org.



Join-A-Ranger: AR Guided Nature Walk

Saturday, May 10

9:30 to 11 a.m.

McClellan Ranch Preserve

Join a Stevens Creek Corridor Ranger for an interactive nature walk featuring the City's new Augmented Reality App and your digital guide, Cooper. Register at reg4rec.org.

Creek Cleanup Day

Saturday, May 18

9 a.m. to noon

Regnart Creek

Help keep Cupertino's waterways clean! Join volunteers for a morning of environmental stewardship as we remove litter and debris from Regnart Creek. Supplies provided—just bring your enthusiasm! Keep up to date with upcoming cleanup events at cleanacreek.org/upcoming-events.



Baer Blacksmith Shop Demonstration

Saturday, May 31

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

McClellan Ranch Preserve

Step back in time and learn about early Cupertino history and the craft of blacksmithing. Watch Cupertino Parks and Recreation's experienced blacksmith fire up the forge for live demonstrations.

Middle School Bike Skills

June 8, June 22, August 10,

August 24

8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Cupertino Senior Center

Empower young riders with essential bike safety skills! This hands-on course teaches middle schoolers how to ride safely and confidently on city streets. Sign up at cupertino.gov/saferoutes/msbs.



Disco at Dusk

Friday, June 20

6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Cupertino Community Hall

Experience an unforgettable evening of music and dancing under the sunset! Each guest will receive their own pair of wireless headphones with three exciting channels to choose from. Learn more at cupertino.gov/disco.

Want more updates?

Sign up to be notified for Cupertino Connect, the City's twice-monthly community e-newsletter.

cupertino.gov/enotification



City Directory

City of Cupertino

Department	Phone / Email
Building Department.....	(408) 777-3228 Building@Cupertino.gov
Business License.....	(408) 777-3221 BL@Cupertino.gov
City Clerk.....	(408) 777-3223 CityClerk@Cupertino.gov
City Manager	(408) 777-3212 Manager@Cupertino.gov
Code Enforcement.....	(408) 777-3182 Code@Cupertino.gov
Planning Department	(408) 777-3308 Planning@Cupertino.gov
Recreation	(408) 777-3120 Recreation@Cupertino.gov
Senior Center.....	(408) 777-3150 Senior_Center@Cupertino.gov
Sports Center	(408) 777-3160 Recreation@Cupertino.gov
Street Light Maint.	(408) 777-3342 Maintenance@Cupertino.gov
Street Sweeping	(408) 777-3269 Maintenance@Cupertino.gov
Tree Maint.	(408) 777-3410 Maintenance@Cupertino.gov

Other Agencies

Organization	Phone Number
Animal Control	(408) 794-7297
AT&T	(800) 331-0500
California Water Service.....	(650) 917-0152
Chamber of Commerce	(408) 252-7054
Comcast	(800) 945-2288
Cupertino Library.....	(408) 540-3947
Cupertino Sanitary District.....	(408) 253-7071
Cupertino Union School District	(408) 252-3000
Fremont Union High School District	(408) 522-2200
Hazardous Waste Drop-off	(408) 299-7300
PG&E.....	(800) 743-5000
Project Sentinel (Landlord/Tenant Issues) ...	(408) 720-9888
Recology (Garbage & Recycling)	(408) 725-4020
San Jose Water Company	(408) 279-7900
Santa Clara Registrar of Voters.....	(408) 299-6863
VTA (Transportation Authority)	(408) 321-2300
Vector Control, Santa Clara County	(408) 918-4770

First Responders

Emergency Calls.....	911 or (408) 299-3233 (Police, Fire, Medical)
Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office.....	(408) 299-2311 (Non-Emergency)
Santa Clara County Fire Department	(408) 378-4010 (Non-Emergency)



Cupertino City Hall
10300 Torre Avenue
Cupertino, CA 95014



Need to report an issue or have a City-related question?
Visit: cupertino.gov/cupertino311 or call (408) 777-3200.