



SNAIL News

SUNNYVALE NEIGHBORS OF ARBOR, INCLUDING LA LINDA
Representing over 1,600 households · Established 1995 · snail.org



You're Invited to Our Community Meeting on Zoom

Thursday, December 4, 7:00 p.m.

<https://tinyurl.com/SNAILZOOM>

Meeting ID: 899 2570 6502

One-tap mobile: +16699009128, 89925706502# (San Jose)

Dial by location: +1 669 900 9128 (San Jose)

All SNAIL residents, guests, and kids are encouraged to join. Our SNAIL community meets on the **first Thursday of the month** (except when it coincides with a major holiday). Meetings are typically 1.5 hours. Join us for all or any part. Membership in SNAIL is always free.

Mark your calendar for the next upcoming dates:

12/4, 1/8, 2/5, 3/5, 4/2

Message from the Chair

As the year comes to a close, I want to take a moment to reflect on what makes our SNAIL community so special. This year, we celebrated the 30th anniversary of our neighborhood, built new friendships, and worked together to make our streets safer, more welcoming, and vibrant. Your ideas, time, and energy truly make a difference.

Whether you're interested in volunteering, leading a project, or simply attending meetings, there's a place for you. SNAIL is our community, and together, we make it thrive.

December is also a time for gratitude and connection. I encourage you to reach out to a neighbor, participate in our community events, or bring your ideas to our next meetings. All ideas are good ideas, and every idea has the potential to make a difference. Whether it's a small suggestion for a neighborhood improvement, a new activity, or a fun block party, your contribution matters and can inspire others. Together, our collective creativity, energy, and enthusiasm strengthen the bonds that make SNAIL a truly special community.

Thank you for being an essential part of SNAIL. Wishing you and your family a joyful holiday season and a happy, healthy new year!

-Valérie Suarès, Chair

SNAIL'S Red Bows Tradition 2025

SNAIL will be hosting its annual Red Bows event to celebrate the holidays. Last year, thanks to all our Red Bow Bowtistas, our neighborhood looked beautiful and festive. It is the tradition for the bows to go up the weekend after Thanksgiving and taken down the first weekend in January.



A BIG Thank You to our new 2025 Bowtista volunteers! Because of you, all streets in SNAIL will have the trees decorated with Red Bows.

Thanks again to all our volunteers for making our SNAIL neighborhood look so beautiful throughout the years!

-Dorit Chapman, Red Bow Coordinator

Contribute to the SNAIL CRV Recycling Program



The SNAIL RECYCLING program has been a great success! Thanks to all of your recycling, our 30th Anniversary NNO celebration benefited from the funds received. Please keep them coming!

If you haven't contributed to this great community program, please consider doing so by dropping off your **cleaned and separated CRV** aluminum and plastic containers (no glass, please) to the home of Dorit Chapman or Valérie Suarès. Please make sure all items are **CA CRV ONLY**. EMAIL Valerie or Dorit with questions (see Page 3).

-Dorit Chapman, SNAIL Recycling Program

SNAIL Newsletter Deadline

Submit an article to bit.ly/snailarticle or SNAILeditor@snail.org by Friday, December 5th for publication in our January edition.

Neighborhood Street Sweeping

Our streets are swept every two weeks the day after trash pickup. Please move your car off the street on these dates:



East SNAIL	Tuesdays 12/9, 12/23 , 01/06, 01/20
West SNAIL	Wednesdays 12/10 , 01/07, 01/21

Urgent Need: Help Feed Sunnyvale Students

Many Sunnyvale School District families are facing food insecurity with the uncertainty of SNAP funding. The Sunnyvale Education Foundation is partnering with SSD to provide grocery gift cards to students in need and we need your help now.



- Nearly 1 in 4 students relies on Free & Reduced Lunch.
- Almost half of SSD students are socioeconomically disadvantaged.

Families in our school community are facing an urgent food shortage, and we need your support right now. Every dollar helps put meals on the table for those struggling to make ends meet.

With your help, we can approach this unprecedented food emergency with compassion, generosity, and urgency. To donate to this campaign online visit or click on the QR code to the right:
<https://tinyurl.com/feedstudent>



To donate by check, make check payable to Sunnyvale Education Foundation with "Feed SSD" in the memo line and drop off or mail to: Sunnyvale Education Foundation, 819 W. Iowa Ave, Sunnyvale, CA 94086.

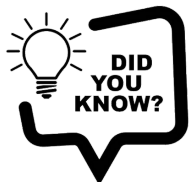
If you are a part of a corporation or another organization that would like to contribute or partner with us, please reach out to info@sunnyvaleeducationfoundation.org and a member of our team will get back to you.

Let's come together to make sure every child in our community has enough to eat.

To learn more about Sunnyvale Education Foundation, visit www.sunnyvaleeducationfoundation.org.

-Peggy Shen Brewster, SEF and SSF Board Member

Home Electrification Mandate – What's in our Future?



Overview

On March 15, 2023, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) adopted amendments to its regulations — *Regulation 9, Rules 4 and 6* — that carry the weight of law.

These rules will ban the sale and installation of gas water heaters starting January 1, 2027, and gas furnaces starting January 1, 2029 across the nine-county Bay Area.

The Challenge

Few residents — including policymakers — fully recognize the scope of what it takes to transition from gas to electric appliances. For most households, electrification requires major renovations to support the increased electrical load from new electric systems.

These upgrades can range from \$50,000 to \$250,000 or more per home, depending on age and condition. The cost of the new appliances themselves is minimal compared to the price of upgrading electrical panels, wiring, and infrastructure.

Older homes, particularly those built in the 1970s or 1980s, often need extensive work and can easily exceed \$100,000 in renovation costs.

Even if every homeowner could afford these upgrades, there are not enough qualified contractors to retrofit the approximately 2 million residences that would need updating across the Bay Area.

Additionally, local transformers and the regional electrical grid would require major upgrades to handle the increased demand — and there is no guarantee the grid could reliably support the added load.

The Law

Starting January 1, 2027: Sale or installation of gas water heaters will be prohibited in the nine-county Bay Area.

Starting January 1, 2029: Sale or installation of gas furnaces will be prohibited.

Background

The [Bay Area Air Quality Management District \(BAAQMD\)](#) is the regional agency responsible for regulating air pollution in the nine-county Bay Area.

In March 2023, it adopted a rule banning the sale and installation of new gas water heaters and furnaces as part of its strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality.

There are an estimated 2.5 million residences in the region, and the vast majority will need at least some level of modification to accommodate all-electric appliances.

While replacing gas appliances themselves may cost around \$10,000, the home electrical upgrades required to support them can cost several times more — typically \$50,000 to \$250,000.

The high cost, workforce shortages, and infrastructure constraints raise questions about the region's readiness to meet the upcoming deadlines.

What Can You Do?

Residents and stakeholders who wish to express concerns or suggest alternatives can participate in the ongoing rulemaking process. When submitting comments, outline how the proposed regulations could impact your household, community, or industry.

- BAAQMD is currently accepting public comments on potential amendments to *Rules 9, 6 and 4*, which may allow for more flexibility and additional transition time. You can share your feedback via email to ruledevelopment@baaqmd.gov.
- Engage through public comments, community coalitions, or advocacy groups can help ensure that the transition to cleaner technologies is equitable, affordable, and achievable. Here is the link to their calendar <https://tinyurl.com/calendargas>
- Sign the online DO NOT BAN Natural Gas petition: <https://tinyurl.com/nobangas>
- If you want to make the switch from gas to electric appliances: Check these websites for incentive programs: California offers state incentive programs for specific regions and households, which your contractor can usually apply for on your behalf. You can enter your location and other information into [the Switch Is On](#) (check out their product and vetted vendor pages) and [Rewiring America](#) (they have a "savings calculator") to get a sense of existing opportunities and find a contractor. One of the biggest is [TECH Clean California](#), which can cut thousands of dollars off the upfront cost of installing electric heat pump water heaters or heat pump HVAC systems. Funds are limited and awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, so it's worth checking soon — reservations open periodically and often fill up within a few months.

-Valérie Suarès, Chair



Columbia Neighborhood Center (CNC) News

For current information on programs, call CNC at (408) 730-7800, email CNC@sunnyvale.ca.gov or go to city website, Sunnyvale.ca.gov

- **FREE Watercolor Class for Individuals with Disabilities (Age 8+)**, Every Thurs., 5:30-6:30 p.m. Location: Creative Arts Center, Paint Room, 550 E. Remington Drive. Registration required. Email CNC for registration link.
- **Sunnyvale Community Services @ CNC**, Thursdays, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Drop in and talk with a Sunnyvale Community Services staff about their services/programs such as financial, food and community resources.
- **FREE! Storytime at Magical Bridge Playground**, Fri. 12/5 at 4 p.m. Location: Fair Oaks Park, 540 N. Fair Oaks Avenue, in the playground stage. All are welcome, 30-minute program.
- **Drop In Yoga Classes** – Saturdays, 9:15 -10:15 a.m., Gym. Explore mindfulness and move your body gently. Engage both your mind and body in a healthy practice to build self-awareness, release stress, and leave you feeling calmer and more connected! All levels welcome. The class is offered in partnership with The Art of Yoga Project. Wear loose fitting, comfortable clothes. Bring a yoga mat, towel and water. Adults 18+, high school students (14-17) with signed parent consent, students (age 8 – 13) with parent or guardian present. Pay what you can, suggested \$3 donation/class, no one turned away for lack of payment. No childcare and children may not wait in the facility. Enter through the back door, along Morse Ave.
- **Parents Helping Parents @ CNC**, Wed., 12/10, 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. If you are in need of resources or info. for a child with disabilities, staff with Parents Helping Parents, a non-profit organization that specializes in helping families with a child with disabilities, will be at CNC monthly, 2nd Wednesday, to assist families.
- **Free! Legal Clinic (In-Person)**, Thurs., 12/11, 1 to 4 p.m. In partnership with Asian Law Alliance, consult with an attorney on legal issue in the areas of immigration, housing, public benefits, and family law. Consultations average 30 minutes. This month, consultations will be virtual via Zoom or over the phone. Registration required, call CNC to register a minimum of 3 business days prior to clinic date.
- **FREE! Food Distribution @ CNC**, Wed., 12/17 – a monthly food distribution program that usually takes place on the fourth Wednesday, 4:15 - 5:15 p.m. New families will need to register on distribution day. A Farmer's Market model, participants must park, walk into the parking lot and bring re-usable bags for bulk produce, fruits and a cart for dry and canned goods, eggs, milk, etc. Each family will pick up about 100 lbs. of food. Location: Columbia Middle School staff parking lot, 739 Morse Avenue.
- **Zumba classes in CMS Multi-Purpose Room** – Tues. & Thurs. 6:30–7:30 pm. Adults 18+, high school students (14-17) with signed parent consent, students (age 8–13) with parent or guardian present. Suggested \$3 donation/class, no one turned away for lack of payment. No childcare; children may not wait in the facility.

The publication of our newsletters, neighborhood events, and sponsored activities are supported through profits of our annual yard sale, advertisers, sponsors, and individual donations. Thank you for your support!

- **Drop-In Fitness Room** – Regular hours - Monday - Friday, 3:30 - 8 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.—12 p.m. - get active with cardio machines (treadmill, bikes, ellipticals), strength training machines and free weights. Bring water, towel and wear athletic shoes. \$1, Residents only. High school students with signed parent consent waiver. Middle school students are free, must attend with a paying parent/guardian. No childcare and children may not wait in the facility.
- **FREE! Youth Drop-In Basketball in CNC Gym** – Fridays, 7 – 10 p. m. - indoor youth drop-in basketball for middle and high school youth. Must have current school ID and signed parent consent form. Bring your own ball. Program will be canceled if no one shows after the first hour.
- **2026 Recreation Scholarship Program** will open on Dec. 12 - \$500 scholarship per youth, age 17 and under for families that qualify. Must reside in Sunnyvale and meet income criteria. Go to city website, Sunnyvale.ca.gov, and search "Recreation Scholarship" for application and details.

-Angela Chan, Youth & Family Resources Manager

City Holiday Events

Holiday Tree Lighting Celebration

Dec 6, 5:00-8:30 pm

Cityline, Downtown Sunnyvale (free)

High Tea at the Heritage Museum

Dec 6, 7, 13, 14, 2:00-4:00 pm

<https://tinyurl.com/museumtea> (\$55)

Holiday Lights Bike Ride

Dec 20, 6:30-8:30pm

<https://tinyurl.com/bikeholiday> (free)

Join the SNAIL Email Mailing List

Sign up at bit.ly/snailemail (one message per week, if any).



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Vice-Chair	Marco Vasquez San Augusto Ter 408-480-6173	SNAILvicechair@snail.org
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Treasurer	Dorit Chapman E. Arbor Ave	SNAILtreasurer@snail.org
Sunnyvale District #5 Councilmember	Richard Mehlinger 408-940-2495	mehlingercouncil@sunnyvale.ca.gov
Newsletter Editor	Izabel Martins E. Duane Ave	SNAILeditor@snail.org
Newsletter Distribution Coordinator	Dorit Chapman E. Arbor Ave	dorit.chapman@gmail.com

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Xiaozhu Kang
Columbia University PhD
Realtor® DRE# 01999507
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DAYDREAMER KANG
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Cell : (650) 683-6888
Wechat: daydreamerKang
xiaozhu.kang@cbrealty.com

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Merry Christmas
Happy Hanukkah
Happy Holidays