

Sustainability Committee: Year in Review: 2017-18



What is Sustainability?

- The physical development and ***institutional operating practices*** that meet the needs of present users ***without*** compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, particularly with regard to use and waste of natural resources. Sustainable practices support ecological, human, and economic health and vitality.” UCLA



“You will make better decisions once you begin thinking long-term rather than short-term.” — **Adam Kirk Smith**

“Most people spend more time planning a vacation than they do planning a life” — **Chet Holmes**

Sustainability

- How we operate
- Sustainability asks you to think/plan/act
 - Long Term
 - With others in minds including
 - Everyone's kids, grandkids, great grand kids...
 - It's not about me



We stopped buying bottled water for PRNC Board Meetings...



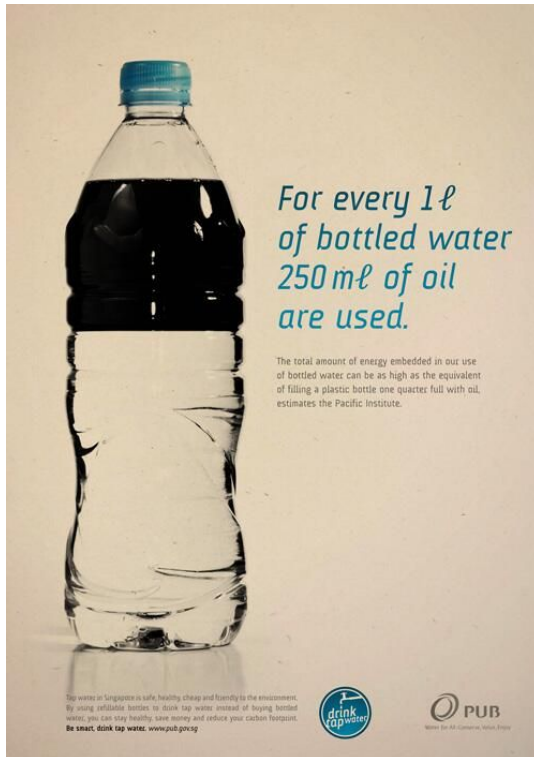
...and provided
our own
tumblers and
water instead!



Banning the Bottle

Bottled Water

- Cost \$ every meeting AND



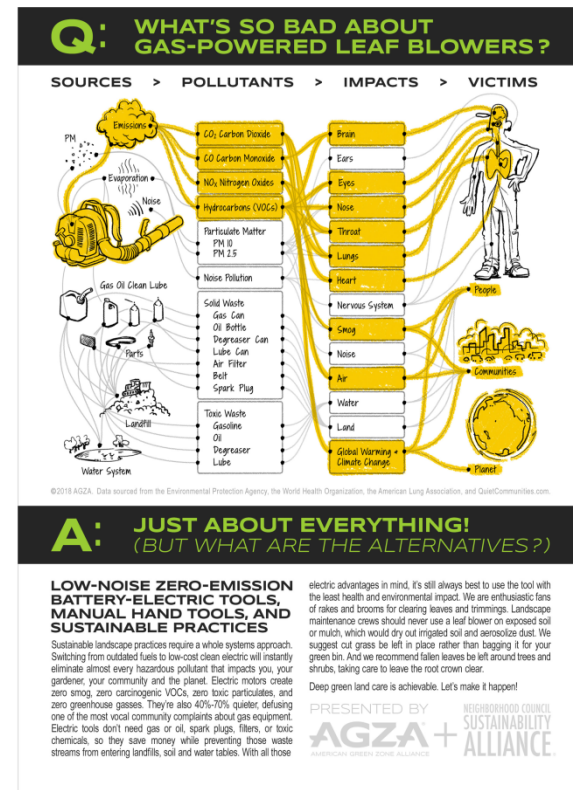
Reusable tumblers & Igloos

- **People:**
 - Helps People because we can spent \$ elsewhere for our community
- **Profit**
 - After initial \$, 0 cost!
- **Planet**
 - Less oil (None used in new metal PRNC tumblers)
 - No energy used for recycling water bottles

Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance

Old name: Leaf Blower Working group

- Susan joined the NCSA as the PRNC representative.
- Joined Leaf Blower workgroup, now named **Environmental Health Committee**
- Could use more members to advocate for city of LA to go electric with municipal landscaping equipment like South Pasadena!



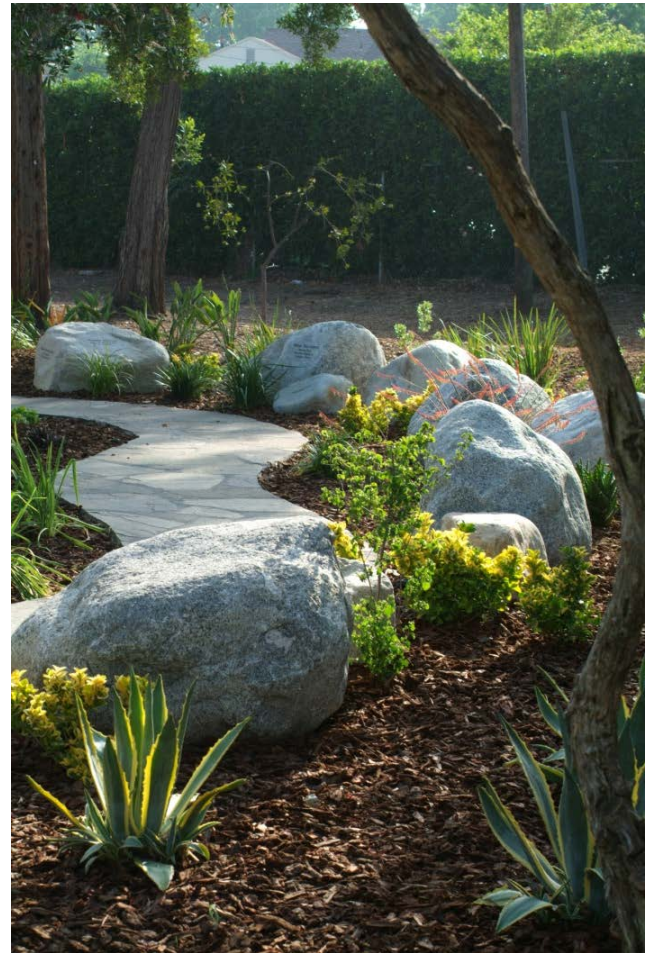
Advocating Electric Landscaping Equipment

- In fact, by 2020, leaf blowers and other small gas engines will create more ozone pollution than all of the passenger cars in the state.
- People
 - Healthier for workers (see flyer!)
- Profit
 - Equipment cheaper in the long run: no gas to buy, no combustion engine
- Planet
 - No polluting PM



South Pasadena's example

- The City of South Pasadena, in conjunction with the American Green Zone Alliance (AGZA), will hold a special ceremony on Thursday, February 26th at Garfield Park to celebrate the momentous accomplishment of having the first municipal park in the country maintained one hundred percent gas and emissions free.



Second Annual Earth Day!

Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council cordially invites you to our annual:



MEALS/GAMES/CRAFTS/TREES

- Free Meals & Sustainable Items!
- **Information Tables:**
PRNC, NWNC, Climate Reality Project, NASA, DWP, SoCal 350 & more!
- Local Government Speakers!
- Kids Games & Activities!
- Scavenger Hunt for Teens!
- Reserve one free TREE PEOPLE tree!:
LA City residents: rsvp@prnc.org & note "TREE" in subject line



PORTER RANCH
neighborhood council

PO Box 12317
Porter Ranch, California 91371-2317
(818) 217-6288



UNITY IN OUR COMMUNITY

This 'green' event is sponsored by Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council & Northridge West Neighborhood Council

- **People:**
 - Free trees, food, fun, kites, games, educational booths/giveaways
- **Profit:**
 - powered by solar so no cost for diesel
- **Planet:**
 - vegan food option
 - 50 more trees planted in our community

Sustainability

- Impacts PRNC Board business and all committees/ activities/ events

Beautification

Education & Schools

Homelessness Solutions Committee

Land Use

Outreach

Public Safety & Traffic

Earth Day

YMCA/CD-12 CleanUp

Tree Removal

No longer print out every MSR for Board Meetings



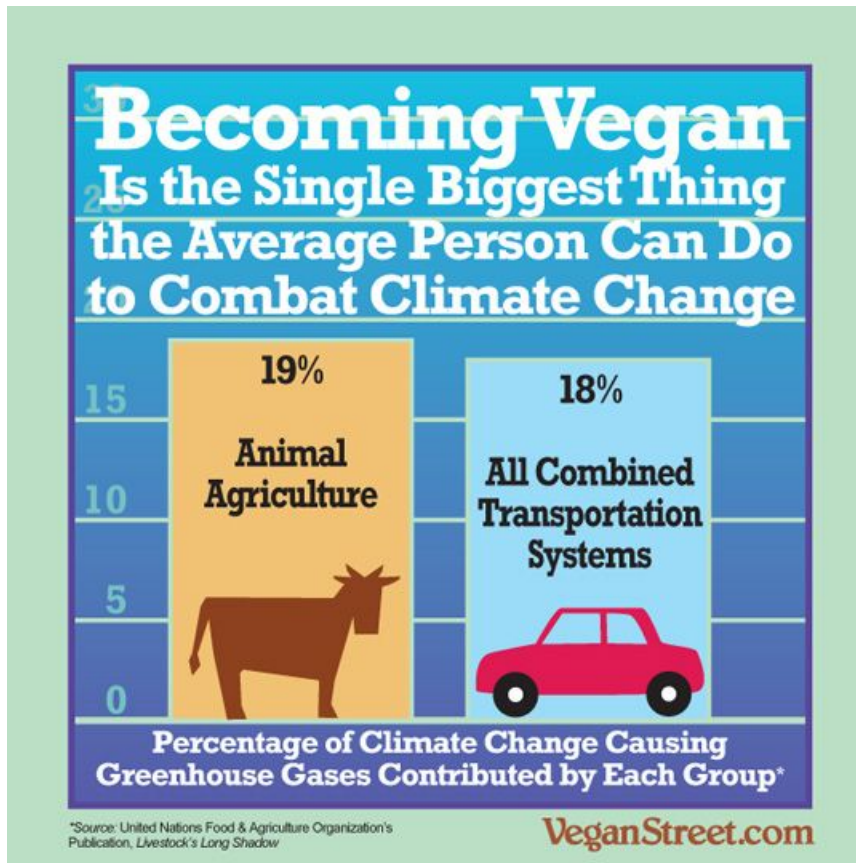
- **People**
 - Efficiency of meeting: Board members read MERS & attachments ahead of time online & don't waste stakeholder time
- **Profits**
 - Saves printing \$
- **Planet**
 - Saves trees

Beautification Committee: Dead trees removal



- **People**
 - Makes our community safer, more attractive
- **Profits**
 - Keeps more trees from dying due to bark beetles
- **Planet**
 - Makes space for new live trees that clean the air

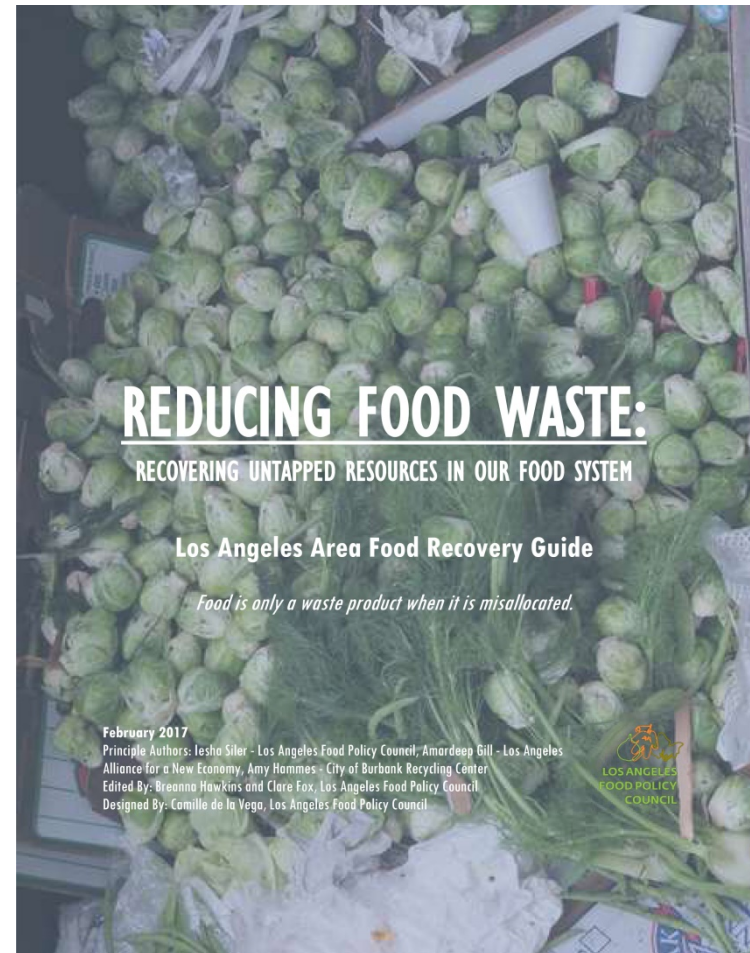
PRNC Board Meetings: Vegan dinner option available at every meeting now



- **People**
 - Chickens, turkeys, pigs and cows are collectively the largest producer of methane in countries like the US and Australia
- **Profit**
 - Cheaper to eat healthy now than pay for diet induced chronic diseases later
- **Planet**
 - See graph

PRNC Holiday Party: Decreased food waste

- Arrangement with Genesis House (Hope of the Valley) to **receive excess food** from Holiday Party December 2017
 - When food is discarded and broken down into landfills, it produces carbon dioxide, but it's also the leading contributor of methane in the atmosphere.
 - Methane is a greenhouse gas that's 84 times stronger than carbon dioxide after 20 years at trapping heat in the atmosphere, and is a product of these landfills as well as livestock.



Homelessness Solutions Committee: Public Transportation

- Homeless Liaisons
Meeting downtown LA:
 - Took Red Line Subway
- Van Nuys City Hall for
Laura's City Council
Award for work with
homeless:
 - Took Orange Line



PRNC Taking Public Transportation



- **People**
 - Gain leadership credibility: walking the walk not just talking
- **Profits**
 - Saves wear/tear on roads & decrease traffic
- **Planet**
 - Better air quality

Sustainability

- **Not** an all or nothing proposition
- Lots of options:
 - ***Thank You ALL*** for bringing PRNC tumblers for water!
 - Purchase solar panels for residence
 - Volunteer for Grid Alternatives
 - Carpooling
- “I cannot do everything, but still I can do something, and because I cannot do everything I will not refuse to **do the something** that I can do.”
 - *Edward Everett Hale*

Sustainability

- Donating tennis shoes with holes: NikeGrind
 - Donating shoes: YMCA
 - Eat vegan sometimes
 - Meatless Mondays
 - Get involved with the Los Angeles Area Food Recovery Guide & Programs
- **Nike Grind** materials are created from Nike's recycled surplus manufacturing materials and athletic footwear. Rubber, foam, fiber, leather and textile blends are separated and ground into a wide range of granules. Different Nike Grind materials are incorporated into performance products ranging from new Nike footwear and apparel to sports and play surfaces.



Sustainability

- Drought tolerant plants instead of lawn
- Donating clothes
 - Good condition: charities like Goodwill/Salvation Army/Hope of the Valley
 - Torn/with holes: Bring to H & M for recycling

