

Nature Village Sustainable Family Living, Phase II

Project Lead: Mila Moran, Tavia Tipton

Sponsor: University Village

TGIF Grant: 18,840

Project Theme: Education & Behavior Change



Project Location

2013 Application Submission

Status: In Progress

Nature Village is a multidisciplinary group of University Village resident volunteers and campus sustainability students, staff and organizations working towards the goal of building a sustainable community at the University Village at UC Berkeley. Nature Village grows, supports, and inspires sustainable living by:

- Promoting sustainable living through education and outreach.
- Increasing awareness of protecting the environment, saving the energy, improving waste management, and reducing carbon footprint.
- Providing Berkeley Environmental Alumni Network (BEAN) Speed Networking Event, February 26, 6pm-8pm guidance and resources on sustainable living best practices.
- Creating unique green living environment that is suitable to our multicultural community.
- Collaborating with campus groups and departments to implement new operations, programs, and initiatives that realize sustainability metrics.

Project Description: Nature Village Phase II will build upon the 2012 TGIF Nature Village Grant Project by implementing a sharing campaign, a hazardous and electronic waste program, expanding the Green Family Program, and shooting a 3 minute Nature Village video.

Goals:

- Reduce the Environmental Impact of the University Village.
- Improve the knowledge and lifestyle practices of residents in relation to resource management, including water, energy, natural gas, and solid waste.
- Create a stronger sense of community and life experience at University Village through an active participation in environmental programs and activities.
- Open a new opportunity of Experiential Environmental Education for children and families.

Project Implementation Plan

Calendar Format

Task	Description	Time Frame
Increase resident participation	Nature Village volunteers will recruit 100 more families to have a total of 150 during community events, on-line registration and personal	Summer 2014

	invitations.	
Distribute Drying Racks (Laundry Project)	Collaboration with Power Save Green Campus to distribute laundry drying racks acquired with TGIF funding to 50 families	
Surveys (Laundry Project)	Design and apply surveys for baseline and follow up	
Buy more racks (Laundry Project)	Buy 100 more racks with University Village funding to have a total of 150 in use	Summer 2014
Water Project	Distribute a saving water tool to reduce water flow to 50 families in East Village in collaboration with Power Save Green Campus & UC Berkeley Science Shop.	
Research (Water Project)	Kareem Hammoud, UC Berkeley student, will evaluate the gas and water saving as consequence of the flow reduction in collaboration with Power Save Green Campus and Nature Village	
Buy more Water Saving Tools (Water Project)	Buy 100 more water saving tools with University Village funding to have a total of 150 in use, and also distribute at West Village to have a bigger impact.	Summer 2014
Hire UC Berkeley study to develop Green Family network	Nature Village will provide guidance, information and outreach to develop this on-line (web and mobile) network to promote and facilitate sustainable lifestyle options	
Green Family Network	Get 400 users involved in Network so Nature Village can have more outreach and involvement, receive feedback, to incentivize sharing of materials and knowledge and to strengthen the sense of community.	Summer 2014
Install e-waste collectors (Waste Management)	Collaborate with CRRS to install at least at 2 strategic points into the Village to reduce the amount of electronics going to the landfill	
Collect e-waste	The materials collected will be taken to a company for its recycling and proper disposal	
Compost Pilot	In collaboration with CRRS & Compost Alliance, collect household compost collection containers; distribute educational materials; install general compost collection carts and signs at the 4 trash enclosures piloted.	
Compost Pilot Evaluation		
Compost – Whole Village	Compost services will be offered to the 974 apartments of the Village in collaboration with the Resident Program.	
Community Events (ReUse)	Facilitate the reuse of materials between Village residents, through yard sales and swaps	Ongoing
Create tool library (ReUse)	To share the basic tools needed for a household while living at the Village	
Green Cleaning	Nature Village will create a material with Green Cleaning recipes to promote its use between Village residents, reducing the use of toxic cleaning products and its contaminating consequences in our home	

	and the environment.	
Nature Village Video	The story of Nature Village will be captured in a video, from the stage of "idea" from a Village resident, all the process to create a sustainability group, showing what Nature Village now means for its volunteers and families involved in its programs.	