

sustainable  lafayette

ANNUAL REPORT 2009

TURNING LAFAYETTE INTO A
SUSTAINABILITY SUCCESS STORY

Our Mission

MISSION:

Our mission is to provide the community of Lafayette with the information, inspiration, tools, and assistance that facilitate the adoption of sustainable practices. Furthermore, we seek to act as a model, mentor, and partner for other interested communities.

APPROACH:

Sustainable Lafayette works in a collaborative, practical, and constructive manner. We build on success already underway, and we localize information and tools to be the most relevant and useful for the community. We try to partner with organizations inside and outside of Lafayette that can help us achieve our mission.

THOSE SERVED:

We serve the people and organizations within Lafayette that play a role in the community's sustainability (residents, local businesses, schools, property owners, city government, and community organizations) in order to benefit the environment and future generations.

President's Message

Dear Board, Committee Members, Volunteers, and Community Members:

2009 was a truly exciting year for Sustainable Lafayette and our efforts to build a more sustainable community. It felt like the year that we arrived as a well-known organization around town with a great reputation for being positive and getting things done. Committees that we created in the fall of 2008 really emerged and created significant breakthroughs in 2009. Spring was dominated by the Events Committee organizing the most ambitious Earth Day Festival ever with five "Going Local" zones, over 50 vendors, speakers, three musical groups, movies, recycling drop-off, lunch, and more. When summer arrived the Local Food Committee took the spotlight by getting a trial farmers market organized, approved, and managed, and also pinpointing two locations in Lafayette where community gardens could be developed. Then in the fall, the Green Schools Committee held the first ever Green Schools Summit and launched a partnership with the Lafayette School District to work on greening our schools, and specifically to audit each school campus for energy, water, and waste-saving opportunities. Any of these would have been significant by themselves but in combination and combined with other programs like Green Rheem, educational workshops, leading the Chamber Green Committee, launching a partnership with the new Library, and other efforts, it was a remarkable amount of progress, especially considering annual expenses of only about four thousand dollars!

All of this momentum led the Board to decide to incorporate as a 501(c)3 non-profit in October which will enable many new types of fundraising in 2010 and hopefully even more progress and success in 2010!

Steve Richard, Board President, 2010

Programs at a Glance

PROGRAM	ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2009
Success Stories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Published 20 new success stories and reached 60 total stories published
Web Site & Newsletter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Published e-newsletter every month Added new web site features like a Lamorinda Recycle Guide Created SL group on Facebook, and Twitter account Set up volunteer sign-up form and database
Organizing Educational Programs & Workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Published the SL “Tip of the Month” every month in the Lafayette Today. Developed a partnership with the Lafayette Library & Learning Center, participated in the grand opening, and donated 50 environmental movies to the new library. Helped organize and promote “Climate Change - Kids Making a Difference” in March with about 150 kids and parents attending. Organized “Get Water Smart” workshop in June with 30 people attending.
Greening Our Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Held first ever Green Schools Summit in October with over 30 attendees - superintendent, principals, science teachers, PTA reps, etc. Initiated partnership and project with Lafayette School District to audit energy, water, and waste at all schools to identify the best cost-saving opportunities. Involved with a wide variety of other efforts to green our schools, including organizing a district-wide, student organized green week in April.
Creating More Local Food Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocated, coordinated, and promoted a trial farmers market in September that drew 500 people each week. Conducted a comprehensive survey of residents, businesses, and farmers and presented summary to City Council. Worked with CCCFM, City, and Chamber to help develop contract for permanent market in 2010. Researched sites for a new community garden and developed plans to create a garden near Burton Valley School. Supported efforts by The Urban Farmers to find 20 families that want to have their property farmed during 2010.
Green Rheem Film Night	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helped organize and promote 11 Green Rheem Film Nights in 2009, covering a wide range of environmental topics, with about 1000 total attendees and providing over \$4K in revenue to the struggling theater.

<p>Organizing the Lafayette Earth Day Celebration and other events.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organized the largest Lamorinda Earth Day Festival ever, with the theme of “Going Local,” which involved over 50 vendors, speakers, musicians, videos, food, drawing near 1000 people. • Organized the first ever Green Zone at the Lafayette Art & Wine Festival and educated the public using “Did You Know?” easels placed around the Festival. • Participated in the Lafayette Reservoir Run, educating about disposable coffee cup waste and selling reusable ones.
<p>Helping Local Businesses Go Green</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued working with the Chamber Green Committee to develop Green Business Recognition program. First window signs now appearing. • Organized a half dozen Lamorinda Green Drinks events to allow local businesses and residents to share ideas and best practices. • Helped Chamber with efforts to promote shopping local - TryLafayetteFirst • Began working on program to help local businesses “Nix #6” - transition away from using Styrofoam containers
<p>Working with the City of Lafayette & Environmental Task Force</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnered with the City of Lafayette on the annual Lafayette Green Awards - 7 new winners announced in April • Spoke out on behalf of sustainability in the Lafayette Downtown Plan at City Council and Planning Commission meetings. Urged community members to get involved and provide feedback. • Coordinated Earth Day Festival.
<p>Working Across the County</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helped Sustainable Contra Costa organize and judge first ever county-wide sustainability awards • Met with representatives from Danville and San Ramon to share our best practices about creating a sustainability group.

2009 Financial Summary

	2008	2009
Assets		
<u>General Fund:</u>		
Cash in		
Mechanics Bank	\$946.00	\$1,775
Total Assets	<u>\$946.00</u>	<u>\$1,775</u>
Liabilities		
Net Assets	\$946.00	\$1,775
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$946.00</u>	<u>\$1,775</u>

REVENUE AND EXPENSES 2009

	2008 *	2009
Revenue:		
Product Sales		\$2,182
Earth Day Fees		\$1,704
Board		
Donations		\$1,000
Grants		
Dues		
Total Revenue		\$4,886
Operating Expenses:		
Earth Day		\$1,361
General &		
Administrative		\$150
Resale Product		
Purchase		\$1,991
Supplies		\$439
Web Expenses		\$116
Total Expenses		\$4,057
Net Assets 2009:		
Net Assets		
Beginning of Year		\$946
Net Assets End of Year		<u>\$1,775</u>
Net Change in Assets		<u>\$829</u>

Our Leadership

Steve Richard - Co-Founder & Board President

Bart Carr - Co-Founder, Chamber Green Committee Chair

Ann Johnston - Secretary, School Committee Co-Chair

Barbara Williams - Treasurer, School Committee Co-Chair

Janet Thomas - Board Member, Local Food Committee Chair

Becky Shafi - Board Member, Event Committee Chair

Greg Wikler - Board Member, Education Committee Co-Chair

Michael Dawson - Board Member, Education Committee Co-Chair, Technology Director

Rebecca-Callahan Klein - Board Member, Business Development

Linda Riebel - Board Member

Kim Curiel - Board Member

>> More information on our board members is available on our web site.

Thank You!

Thank you to all of our partners including: The Lafayette Environmental Task Force, The Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, Sustainable Moraga, and the Lafayette Library and Learning Center.

Thank you to everyone that volunteered on a committee or at an event in 2009 including:

Terry & Jeff Black, Sharlene Fook, Joe Droessler, Carol Murota, Susan Dannenfelser, Susanne Frey, Barb Hollenback, Leslie Westphal, Susan Hahn, Beth Ferree, Leslie Pease, Jae Koenig, Siamack Sioshansi, Kevin Feinstein, Heidi Plumb, Merry Wingfield, Dick Strong. Sorry, if we've missed anyone!

Thank you to our 2009 Earth Day Festival sponsors: The Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, The Lamorinda Weekly, Contra Costa Certified Farmers' Markets, Capay Oaks Farms, Dolan's Lumber, PG&E, and Pure Power Distribution.