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Join us for a **TREASURE HUNT!**
April 18-22

1. Download the free app **Actionbound** to your phone from the Apple store or Google play.
2. Search for the DVC Sustainability hunt.
3. Click on the QR-codes the app directs you to around campus.
3. Watch the short videos and answer questions at each Bound.

**Winning participants will be awarded prizes!**

Visit [www.dvc.edu/sustainability](http://www.dvc.edu/sustainability) for more details.
SUSTAINABILITY NEWSLETTER

Sustainability Spotlight

Featuring an individual or department at DVC that is committed to sustainability.

Moises Rocha, Isma’il Al-Shabazz and the entire custodial staff
Taking recycling to the next level

Notice anything different around campus? How about side kick recycling containers at nearly every desk in our offices. The expansion of the 3-bin system. Instructional signage. And now the latest: educational videos about proper waste sorting. There’s been a lot going on behind the scenes at DVC thanks to Moises Rocha, Isma’il Al-Shabazz, and all the custodial staff.

“I’ve always been serious about recycling but that interest grew after taking an Environmental Justice Class.” said Moises. “When we don’t recycle and dispose of organics properly we are impacting our own communities. Landfills bring hazards such as odor, smoke, noise, bugs, and water supply contamination.”

Moises is able to work at the district level to assist in the development of short educational videos about proper waste sorting. He has coordinated with the custodial managers at all three colleges to make sure the signage is accurate and consistent, plus much more. This is all while being a full time police officer for the campus.

Isma’il and all the custodial staff have been custodial rock stars! The implementation of the side kick containers and three bin system has changed the way they do their runs. It’s been an adjustment on top of all the work they’ve done to keep our campus sanitary during the pandemic and they are still looking for ways to improve the process.

Let’s help them out by putting our garbage in the correct bins!
May is National Bike Month and Friday, May 20, is Bike to Work Day.

More Bay Area residents are biking than ever before, and while in-person celebrations were put on hold in 2020 and 2021, this May will see the return of in-person Bike to Work Day Energizer Stations. Whether you’re commuting or still working from home, you’re invited to get outside and on your bike May 20th. Besides the fresh air and exercise, enjoy meeting other cyclists and picking up free goodies at various Energizer Stations along your route.

https://511contracosta.org/bike-to-work-day/energizer-stations

$25 Drive Less Commuter Incentive

Make the change from a solo drive to a congestion and pollution-reducing commute and apply for a $25 incentive.

Who is eligible for the incentive?
Live or work in Contra Costa County, and;
Are 18 years of age or older, and;
You would otherwise drive alone or use Uber/Lyft for trips to work if this incentive were not available, and;
Agree to complete a brief program follow-up survey, and;
Agree to receive email communications from 511CC – opt out at any time.

Apply now! https://511contracosta.org/drive-less

Tips and Tricks: Get Ready for Bike To Work Day

1. Make sure your bike fits you properly. Bike size, saddle height and forward/backward position and handlebar height all play key parts in making you comfortable on your bike. If not, your local bike shop can easily help you get a great fit.

2. Get comfortable riding your bike. For many new cyclists, the biggest challenge is just getting comfortable riding – not to mention riding in traffic. Start by riding on quiet streets or empty parking lots, and then test out your skills riding with car traffic.

3. Remember the rules of the road. Bikes are subject to the same traffic rules as cars. That means stopping at traffic lights and stop signs, yielding to pedestrians, using “turn” signals to indicate where you’re going, etc.

5. Be safe. Riding at night? Be sure to “light up” – flashers on the back, lights on the front – so you can be seen coming and going. How about a little extra protection just in case? Gloves for your hands, helmet for your head. If you happen to fall – even at a very slow speed – you’ll be glad to have coverage to absorb the impact.

6. Carrying your stuff. There are lots of ways to carry your stuff to work. Give it some thought so you can pick the one that you like best. From knapsacks to rear racks to front baskets and much more, how you carry your stuff is as individual as you are.
Two perspectives

“What’s It Like to Own an Electric Vehicle? People often ask me this since I plugged in last summer. Initially, I chose an EV mostly for its environmental benefits, but I learned there are a number of other advantages as well:

1. They’re quiet. Really quiet. You can listen to solo piano music on the stereo and hear every note. No engine noise or mechanics distract from it.
2. They’re less expensive to operate. Electricity costs less than half what gasoline does per mile. EVs also don’t need oil changes, smog checks, or such frequent maintenance. Most experts estimate you can save up to $1,000 per year compared to a gas guzzler. This typically more than makes up for the increased cost up front, which you can subsidize with government rebates of up to $12,000.
3. They’re powerful. Compared to similar-sized gas vehicles, they have far more pick up. If you’re curious, google Tesla vs. Ferrari for videos of a drag race, where Tesla beats the Italian race car off the line.
4. They’re fun to drive. With the weight of the battery underneath the car, it creates a low center of gravity, improving the handling.
5. They’re convenient. Instead of stopping for gas, I plug in at home or at DVC. Typically, my car will go from 10-100% overnight on a 240-volt charger (the same as your electric clothes dryer). Also, with a true range of 220 miles, I only need to top off once a week.

The only drawback—one everyone wonders about—is road trips, which require more planning. Since you won’t find chargers on every corner the way you do gas stations, you have to plot out your pit stops in advance.

For me, that is a small concession. But don’t trust me. Go test drive one yourself.”
- David Hagerty

“After one year I like it now even more than I did when I first got it. The instant acceleration and minimalist dashboard take a little getting used to, but now I would never want to go back. It’s like driving a computer on wheels. I use my phone as a car key and everything is touch screen – even to open the glove box. Sometimes the car will update software when I’m not even in it – all WiFi since it’s connected to my home network.

I haven’t had a lot of range anxiety while driving within the Bay Area, but going for a road trip is a little different story. You have to really plan out your trip and make stops based on where the charging stations are. The vehicle is very proficient at calculating what the battery state of charge will be at a destination within a percent or two. But I tend to be conservative with pushing the limits and find it’s better to just make more frequent and longer charging stops. There’s a lot of great planning tools out there https://abetterrouteplanner.com and if you get a Tesla – Tesla has an extensive supercharger network and it’s growing.

I have found that the charging experience on long trips has forced me to “enjoy the journey” rather than making it a race to see how fast I can get to my next destination. Some would say it’s inconvenient to stop for 30-45 minutes just to charge your car. After all we can fill up a gas tank in just 5-10 minutes. But spending $80 to $100 dollars in gas in just 10 minutes isn’t exactly a picnic. You can fully charge your EV and it will cost somewhere between $18-$22.

Owning an Electric Vehicle is an investment that is well worth it. Consider that you will never need an oil change or a tune up. There are very few moving parts that will need repair or replaced. With the price of gas going up the savings will provide an immediate pay back.

The savings will pile up over the lifetime of ownership.”
- Sharrie Bettencourt

There are currently 20 EV charging stations on the Pleasant Hill Campus and 10 on the San Ramon Campus.

For information visit:
https://www.dvc.edu/about/sustainability/charging-stations.html