

## Community Focus Statement G: Strive to make Lucerne Valley energy self-sustainable.

**Action Statement G.3: Programs to educate the community on the importance of a sustainable lifestyle and ways to minimize the footprint left on the environment.**

G3

**Benchmark:** Flyers prepared describing ways to live sustainably and where to get additional information or take classes.

**Champion:** Volunteer group or person or can be identified by the community

**Estimated Cost:** \$500–\$1,000



Example of energy saving devices such as solar cells and compact florescent lighting. Photo source: EECBG

Sustainability is often viewed as balancing the needs of the environment and the community. A sustainability program will guide community efforts to become more sustainable and resilient by promoting and supporting sustainable behaviors in the community. In a sustainability program, public officials, businesses, and residents can make social and economic decisions that allow the community to thrive by understanding the environment without compromising natural resources or hurting the future of the community.

The program would promote education and community involvement. Environmental programs and policies can contribute to environmental sustainability by encouraging recycling, composting, community gardens, and natural gas amenities. General information, issues, regulations, and upcoming events related to environmental sustainability can be displayed on informational materials and distributed in newsletters and bill inserts. Topics would include, but not be limited to, drought and state- and local-mandated water-use restrictions, indoor and outdoor water conservation, seasonal water use, water quality and usage regulations, solid waste disposal and diversion, and simple ways to achieve a healthier and cleaner environment. This information would encourage users to reduce their footprint by checking all plumbing for leaks, keeping showers short, turning off water while not in use, replacing older appliances and electrical fixtures with more efficient models, irrigating appropriately in response to seasonal changes, and participating in energy-efficient rebates. The information can help businesses integrate environmental responsibility into their operations in a manner that is sustainable as well as profitable. Businesses can determine which solid waste reduction, pollution prevention, energy conservation, and water conservation measures would be the best fit and achieve the most savings and incentives for long-term environmental sustainability.

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The Community Action Partnership of San Bernardino County (CAPSBC) provides an Energy Education and Environmental Services Program to help conserve energy by reducing the consumption of natural resources. It also aims to make homes more comfortable and more healthful, lower the cost of utility bills, provide energy education,

and process applications for the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP). CAPSBC also has a Weatherization Services Program, which includes free updates (installation of applicable weatherization measures such as insulation, duct repair, filter replacement, heating units, etc.) for energy-saving improvements. In addition, Southern California Edison and the Southern California Gas Company offer several rebates, incentives, and assistance programs to make homes and businesses more energy efficient. Residents and business owners can receive further information on sustainability at monthly garden club and Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) meetings at the Lucerne Valley Community Center, and at Lucerne Valley Chamber of Commerce meetings at the Lucerne Valley Senior Center.

Action	Action Leader	Timeline	Resources
1. Create a community organization	Champion	Month 1	Community Action Partnership of San Bernardino County, Energy Education and Environmental Services <a href="http://www.capsbc.org/energy-education-environment">http://www.capsbc.org/energy-education-environment</a>  County of San Bernardino, San Bernardino County Code, local legislation current through Ordinance 4308, passed July 12, 2016
2. Identify opportunities to bring greater involvement to sustainability measures such as providing information, technical assistance, and incentives to residents and business owners to consider sustainability during site development and operations.	Community Organization, Lucerne Valley & Johnson Valley Municipal Advisory Council, with support from CAPSBC EEES	Month 1	
3. Coordinate with community partners to continue to identify and support policies and regulations to implement sustainable site development and operations, such as updating codes, design guidelines, and zoning, as appropriate.	Community Organization, Lucerne Valley & Johnson Valley Municipal Advisory Council, with support from CAPSBC EEES	Months 1–2	County of San Bernardino Land Use Services Department
4. Create education materials to inform and encourage residents and business owners to participate in sustainability efforts such as recycling, composting, water conservation, energy retrofits, and solid waste reduction.	Community Organization	Months 2–4	Community Action Partnership of San Bernardino County, Energy Education and Environmental Services Program <a href="http://www.sbcounty.gov/capsbc/eesheap.html">http://www.sbcounty.gov/capsbc/eesheap.html</a>
5. Review sustainability efforts and implement new improvements and incentives to assist the community at large.	Community Organization	Annually	County Service Area 29, Meetings <a href="http://csa29.com/Meetings_Info.html">http://csa29.com/Meetings_Info.html</a>