



City of Phoenix



Becoming the most Sustainable Desert City on the Planet.

WELCOME TO
WHAT'S HOT / WHAT'S COOL.



WHAT'S HOT/
WHAT'S COOL

The **TOP FIVE** coolest things happening this winter:



US Reenters Paris Climate Agreement

We're back in the Paris Climate Agreement. One of many environmental changes President Joe Biden took into action soon after being sworn in. Learn more about the agreement [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Phoenix Mural Festival at The Grand Canalscape](#)
February 3rd - March 6th

[City of Phoenix Runoff Election](#)

March 9th

Council Districts 3 and 7 will elect a Council Member to serve a four-term that begins on April 19, 2021.

[Urban Heat Island Workshop for Phoenix Area Teachers](#)
ASU Center for LTR (Long Term Ecological Research)
February 20th 9am - 12pm



[Youth Climate Virtual Workshop](#)

February 20th 1pm - 2:30pm

[Public Works Household Hazardous Waste Pilot Program](#)

March 15th - 26th

Visit the link above for more info or call 602-262-6251 to schedule your HHW Home Pick-up.



Solar Tax Credit Incentive

Thinking about adding solar to your home? We have great news: the 26% federal solar tax incentive has been extended until 2023! The Federal Investment Tax Credit (ITC) is taken out of the cost of installing your solar system. But hurry, in 2023 the incentive drops to 22%, and it will be ending completely in 2024. Find out more about the ITC and other solar incentives [here](#).



What's Amazing

This week, the UK government launched a £9m competition to identify cutting-edge ideas that can enhance train passenger journeys and decarbonize the UK rail network! Read more [here](#).



General Fund Budget

Did you know you have a say in the City's \$1.4 billion General Fund operating budget? [FundPHX](#) has an online tool that gives residents the opportunity to provide input on how the budget is prioritized. Try out the balancer tool [here](#)!

Also, make sure to check out our next edition for the calendar for upcoming budget hearings.

Did You Know?

There are over 300,000 charging stations to plug in your electric vehicle?! Click the link below to check out PlugShare's great new app that maps nearby charging stations.

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2025 Phoenix Food Action Plan

The Office of Environmental Programs partnered with several organizations and other governmental entities to develop a plan for achieving the City's 2050 Local Food System goal of a healthy, sustainable, equitable, and thriving local food system. The plan outlines goals, objectives, and actions that set a foundation for providing healthy food to all. Learn more about the plan [here](#).



We want to hear from you!

What's Hot/What's Cool is planning a webinar series to educate city residents about local environmental issues and share information about the sustainability projects we are working on. Let us know what you would like to learn more about! Take the survey [here](#).

City of Phoenix Strategies to Address Homelessness Plan

Thanks to community input, the City of Phoenix has been able to better shape its plan to address short term and long term goals concerning the City's homeless population. Take a look at the revised plan and latest updates tackling these concerns [here](#).



Last edition, we mentioned the \$600 million settlement Flint, Michigan was facing due to water quality issues. The amount is now \$640 million and is currently in the preliminary approval stages. Eligible residents can register to participate in the settlement. Additionally, the former Governor among others are to be charged for the water crisis and you can read all about it [here](#).



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Eco-Friendly Valentine's Day Date Ideas



Check out these great eco-friendly date ideas to help celebrate this year's Valentine's day!

- Get your loved one delicious 100% slave-free chocolate from [Tony's Choclonely](#).
- Make lunch or grab to-go from a local organic restaurant and have a picnic in the park
- Go shopping at a thrift or antique store
- See nature! Go on a walk, bike or hike
- Visit the Phoenix Art Museum
- Explore the city together on public transit
- Volunteer with a nonprofit that you both care about
- Cuddle up and put on one of [these](#) documentaries about sustainability

For more ideas, check [here](#)

Join Our E-mail List!



Environmental Policies Get A Boost

Policies supporting environmental protection definitely received a boost in the last few weeks; not just in adhering to the goals that accompany the Paris Agreement, but in the implementation of dozens of environmental actions—and the review of dozens more—that will help to improve public health and the

environment. The new administration identified 48 EPA regulations and other actions, to review and potentially reverse while exploring other possible actions for the future. The regulatory areas the EPA oversees include air, toxins, waste and water. Below are just a few examples of important policies under consideration that will better protect our air, land, water, wildlife and our biodiversity:

- review the navigable waters protection rule: Definition of 'Waters of the United States' to better protect important waterways
- reinstating of superfund tax to speed cleanups of contaminated sites
- introduce more stringent criteria pollutant standards to substantially reduce emissions from power plants
- introduce an "Environmental Justice Screening Tool" into its rulemaking process
- update the control of air pollution from airplanes and airplane engines: GHG Emission Standards and Test Procedures
- review the "Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient (SAFE) Vehicles Rule" for model years 2021– 2026 of passenger cars and light duty trucks

These policies under consideration are important for the protection of important environmental assets. Watch for future issues of this newsletter to highlight other policies under consideration that support the vision to improve the quality of life for all, while allowing nature to thrive.



Did you enjoy this newsletter?

Got a question?
Ask one of our experts at

sustainability@phoenix.gov

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