BEACON
SPOTLIGHT AWARD
WINNER
BEST PRACTICE ACTIVITIES

City of Scotts Valley
Sustainability Best Practice Activities

ILG INSTITUTE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT℠
Promoting Good Government at the Local Level

City of Scotts Valley

California communities are leading the fight against climate change. From small projects to large-scale programs, cities and counties are making great strides to create healthy, sustainable and economically prosperous communities. Participants in ILG's Beacon Program serve as leaders in this effort, making measureable contributions to reducing energy and greenhouse gas emissions, and sharing their sustainability best practices.

This document represents a collection of activities your agency has completed in 10 areas of sustainability. While local governments have a wide range of choices available to address climate change, these activities represent the unique opportunities and values in your community. These voluntary actions are essential to achieving California's goals to save energy, reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and create more sustainable communities.

SPOTLIGHT AWARD

Areas of Accomplishment

	SILVER LEVEL	GOLD LEVEL	PLATINUM LEVEL
Agency GHG Reductions		2017 (10%)	
Community GHG Reductions		2017 (17%)	
Agency Energy Savings	2016 (7%)		
Natural Gas Savings	2016 (5%)		
Sustainability Best Practice Activities	2017		
Beacon Award	2017		

Cities and counties throughout the Golden State should be proud of the accomplishments made through the hard work, innovation and collective community action. The Institute for Local Government applauds your achievements and thanks you for your continued participation in the Beacon Program.

The Beacon Program is sponsored by the Institute for Local Government and the Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative (SEEC). SEEC is an alliance between three statewide non-profit organizations and California's four Investor-Owned Utilities. The Beacon Program is funded by California utility ratepayers and administered by Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Diego Gas and Electric Company, Southern California Edison and Southern California Gas Company under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.

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Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative
Supporting California local governments

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activities

Silver
1. The AMBAG Energy Watch conducted energy assessments of all city facilities as well as an inventory of all the streetlights in Scott's Valley.

Gold
2. Through a partnership with the AMBAG Energy Watch, all city facilities have been benchmarked using the portfolio manager tool.
3. The City of Scotts Valley has been working with the AMBAG Energy Watch, in order to access technical assistance and financial incentives, including facility audits, rebates and on bill financing.

Platinum
4. Since 2008, working with the AMBAG Energy Watch, the City of Scotts Valley has completed numerous energy efficiency projects, including citywide streetlight retrofits, as well as HVAC retrofits.

Water & Wastewater Systems Activities

Silver
1. In 2012, PG&E sponsored Base Energy to perform an Integrated Energy Audit for the City of Scotts Valley wastewater treatment plant and city hall. The resulting in-depth report highlighted the estimated costs, potential savings and rebates of different energy efficiency retrofit opportunities.

Gold
2. In 2013, the waste water treatment plant aeration diffuser was upgraded, followed by the aeration blower in 2015. Combined, these two projects are saving 686,525 kWh per year.
3. Beginning in the summer of 2017, the City of Scotts Valley will be providing recycled water from the wastewater treatment plant to the Pasatiempo Golf Club for irrigation purposes. This allows the golf club to lower its usage of to potable water.

Platinum
4. The wastewater treatment plant has been retrofitted with an Aero Mod Rotary Drum Thickener, allowing sludge to be transported to Santa Cruz and used in an anaerobic digester, instead of being disposed of at the Monterey Regional Waste Management District (MRWMD) facility.

Green Building Activities

Silver
1. The city is implementing a green building and Information about green building is found on a dedicated page of the agency website.

Gold
2. The city has established a Green Building Educational Resources Fund, which is used to administer the Green Building Program and to educate the community on green building techniques.

Platinum

Waste Reduction and Recycling Activities

Silver
1. As part of the GHG inventory process, Scotts Valley is actively tracking the carbon footprint of its solid waste, both at the community level, as well as for city operations.

Gold
2. The City of Scotts Valley provides a detailed recycling guide to the community, which is available on the website.

Platinum

Climate-friendly Purchasing Activities

Silver
1. As per Scotts Valley's purchasing policy, preference given to recyclable products: "whenever available at a reasonably comparable price, quality and fitness for intended use, the purchasing officer shall purchase recycled materials and supplies". As per Scotts Valley's purchasing policy, preference is also given to local vendors.

Gold
2. All city contracts, rental agreements and leases must comply with the city's Food Packaging Ordinance and use biodegradable, compostable or recyclable disposable food containers.

Platinum

Renewable Energy and Low-Carbon Fuels Activities

Silver
1. In 2017, City of Scotts Valley joined the Monterey Bay Clean Power, a CCA, which will provide renewable energy to the community.

Gold
2. Scotts Valley is part of the Hero Program, a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program.
3. The Aero Mod retrofit at the wastewater treatment plant, allows wastewater sludge to be used in a anaerobic digester in Santa Cruz, producing energy from methane through a cogeneration system. The sludge would otherwise be disposed of at the MRWMD facility in Marina. Not only is the cogeneration system creating energy and reducing emissions from the otherwise landfilled waste, it allows the city to reduce the VMT of its fleet by not having to transport the sludge to Marina (a 96-mile roundtrip).

Platinum

Efficient Transportation Activities

Silver
1. City of Scotts Valley prepared a Bicycle Transportation Plan in March 2012.

Gold
2. City of Scotts Valley is part of AMBAG. Additionally, the City of Scotts Valley uses the transportation model provided by AMBAG, which includes different modes of transportation (bicycling, private vehicles, public transit, etc.).

Platinum

Land Use and Community Design Activities

Silver
1. The City of Scotts Valley is partnering with AMBAG to work on a Sustainable Communities Strategy, as part of SB 375.

Gold
2. The City of Scotts Valley is currently updating its General Plan, going through a public engagement process, to ensure best outcomes for the community.

Platinum

Open Space and Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities

Silver
1. City of Scotts Valley is increasing opportunities for recreational open space with the Glenwood Open Space Management Plan, which created a 160-acre preserve the Ohlone Tiger Beetle and the Scotts Valley Spineflower, both endangered species occur.

Gold
2. A Tree Protection Regulation is part of the city's municipal code, to protect the existing diverse ecosystem and prevent erosion.

Platinum

Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities

Silver
1. The City of Scotts Valley has partnered with the AMBAG Energy Watch to provide the community with webinars, seminars, and trainings on a wide variety of sustainability topics. The latest is a webinar on the Passive House Design and Certification.

Gold
2. The City of Scotts Valley has partnered with the AMBAG Energy Watch to provide the community with information and project assistance, in order to pursue energy efficiency opportunities.

Platinum

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