



Executive Summary

Prepared by
Sustainable Tucson Core Team

January 15, 2008
Tucson, Arizona



The Place We Call Home



Sustainable Tucson

P.O.Box 41298

Tucson, AZ 85717

info@sustainabletucson.org

520-325-8752

Operations Contacts:

Fred Greek

fred.greek@yahoo.com

Bob Cook

unispan@dakotacom.net

Keely Sinclair

thegreendiva@aol.com

Carla Clark

cclark@aol.com

Ron Proctor

ronproctor@aol.com

James MacAdams

globemallow@mindspring.com

Web Listserv Functions

Web Content & Team

Membership

Affinity Groups/Web Site

General Meetings

E-Newsletter



IDENTITY AND MISSION OF SUSTAINABLE TUCSON

Identity Statement

Sustainable Tucson is an emerging coalition to facilitate and accelerate Tucson's transition to sustainability through community-wide education and collaboration.

Mission Statement

The mission of Sustainable Tucson is to facilitate links between groups and individuals working to achieve sustainability objectives so that their impact is amplified, resources are shared and our combined efforts result in a more sustainable region.



At Tucson's Inaugural Green Festival 2007

A coalition for the transition of Tucson to a sustainable city and region



Hope is not what we seek in evidence, it's what we become in action...."

~Frances Moore Lappé

THE ROAD TO SUSTAINABILITY

Peak Oil, Potlucks and a Crossroads....

Prominent Guest Opinions in the Arizona Daily Star and the Tucson Weekly during 2005 and 2006 stimulated many Tucsonans to further examine Tucson's vulnerability to increasing environmental changes.

During Summer 2006, many potluck dinner discussions and presentations, and Tucson Peak Oil Project's three community conversation events at the Main Library, led to the formation of Sustainable Tucson—an all citizens' network.

In September, Sustainable Tucson became an official project of NEST Inc.—a community-based non-profit since 1989. NEST provides fiscal sponsorship as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

While Sustainable Tucson's potlucks flourished in Tucson, the Arizona Association for Environmental Education, the statewide network of environmental educators, held the Arizona Crossroads Summit in Phoenix. Supported by a grant from the Nina Mason Pulliam Foundation, leaders at the Summit published recommendations to move Arizona forward toward sustainability in business, education, environment, and community.

During Fall 2006, Arizona Crossroads organizations merged with Sustainable Tucson to form a community-wide coalition of over 200 individuals and organizations committed to facilitating sustainable options for the region.

The UA College of Science's seven-part Global Climate Change public lecture series during October and November provided additional confirmation that we are facing significant challenges at every level of governance.

For us in Tucson, it became increasingly clear that we all share a common interest in answering the question of what kind of community we want to live in as the future unfolds.

After viewing the situation comprehensively, more people saw that sustainability may be the only desirable future. And because complex change requires that people work together to accomplish significant results, the turning toward one another began.

Now, Sustainable Tucson is an inclusive coalition of diverse individuals and organizations, bound by a sense of urgency, mutual support, and cooperative actions energizing Tucson's transition to a more sustainable bioregion.

A coalition for the transition of Tucson to a sustainable city and region



CORE TEAM BIOS

Robert Cook

Robert Cook is an economist and planner with a special background in regenerative systems and appropriate technology. As a Research Associate in the 1970s, he co-authored two books on renewable energy systems and environmental planning. In 1980 he conducted economic research at the Wharton School of Business. Between 1981 and 1993, he developed several structural systems, received two US Patents, and constructed buildings using natural building materials. During the 1990s, he was the strategic planner for Pima Community College. Since 1990, he has continued to serve the community as Chair of the Metropolitan Energy Commission; President of a local non-profit, NEST, Inc; Treasurer of the Citizens' Comprehensive Transit Initiative; and a member of the Pima County Planning and Zoning Commission.

Tres English - Tucson resident since 1961

Property manager and business consultant, focusing on project management, research, grant and report writing, newsletters and publication. Active in Tucson in a wide variety of community issues, including transportation, water, land-use, neighborhoods, and energy. Primary current activities focus on the establishment of a redevelopment industry that will transform Tucson's construction industry into a tool for re-developing Tucson as a sustainable community. Recently completed a study for Pima County on the conditions of our aging housing stock (structurally sound, but in need of lots of repair and major energy efficiency improvement). Currently I am director of the Teaching & Helping project, a turnkey program for high school construction students. The program will teach students how to fix old houses by pairing students with experienced professionals to repair homes of low-income families. I recently completed an experimental water harvesting system to divert street runoff to landscaping...just awaiting some rain!



Thomas H. Greco, Jr.

Thomas H. Greco, Jr. is a community and monetary economist, educator, writer, and consultant. He is a former tenured college teacher who has spent more than 30 years studying and writing about ways to achieve greater harmony, equity, and sustainability through business and economics. His special expertise in monetary and financial structures has led to innovative designs for private community currencies and payment systems. Among other books and articles, he is the author of, *Money: Understanding and Creating Alternatives to Legal Tender* (Chelsea Green Publishing Company, 2001). He can be reached via his website www.reinventingmoney.com, a unique resource containing educational programs and texts related to cooperative exchange and innovations in money and banking.

Madeline Kiser

Madeline Kiser is a poet, mother, and water advocate. In Costa Rica and in Arizona, where she has roots, she's developed programs for young people and adults living on the margins of society, and who are incarcerated, that teach them to look at and understand their lives and experience in the context of the wider environmental destruction taking place around them. These programs also give them a voice at this critical moment about how society can become healthier, kinder, more tolerant and more sustainable. Madeline has worked as an editor and reporter at two alternative news services.

Gary Kuitert.

Born in Grand Rapids, Michigan, I joined the Army after high school to go "Airborne", turned down a chance to be in the band at Fort Knox because I wanted to see what Viet-Nam was all about. Earned my jump wings at Fort Benning in 1966 and shipped over to Viet-Nam. I spent one year with the Reconnaissance Platoon of the 2nd Battalion, 503rd Parachute Infantry Regiment of the 173rd Airborne Brigade. Upon separation from the military I began school at Grand Valley State Colleges in the middle of a cornfield. I became a founding member of the Michigan Collegiate Veterans Association formed to help veterans navigate their way through college. I received my degree in Sociology. Upon leaving school I formed a band that lasted about eight years. During this period I lived in a farmhouse in Western Michigan and spent my spare time tending our large garden. I moved to Tucson in 1980 and became a founding member of the Titan Valley Warheads bluegrass band and still perform with them. I am a member of the American Legion and the 82nd Airborne Division Association, Southern Arizona Chapter where I serve as Treasurer. I have made a career in Facilities Management.



Vera Lander

Vera Lander is a member of the Pima Friends Meeting, where she serves on the Ministry and Oversight, Finance and Library committees. She is currently serving as Vice President of the national Board of Directors of Church Women United, USA after having served as Tucson (1997), and then Arizona (2000) state President. She currently serves on the board of the Microbusiness Advancement Center, and on the Core Team of Sustainable Tucson. Born in Tucson the eldest of seven children, she earned her B.S. (1972), M.Ed.(1974) and Ed.D.(1984) degrees at the University of Arizona, the last in Higher Education Administration, with emphasis on Leadership Development and Organization Design. She served as Assistant Dean of Students at the University of Arizona. After moving to San Diego in 1981, Vera spent eleven years in California during which she learned that her early life had been sheltered and privileged. Life in the "real world" quickened her spiritual sensibilities.

Ronald Proctor

Ron Proctor is a sustainable residential designer and community activist living in Tucson since 1994. His work focuses on creating a more sustainable built environment within a 3 mile radius of his home in central Tucson and contributing to larger scale progressive policy efforts. His day job involves the design and project management of sustainable residential solutions ranging from renovation to new infill. Materials are generally chosen for their natural beauty and integrity, have low embodied energy, are non-toxic and/or recycled. The building's structural envelope is heavily insulated and energy systems are minimized. Renewable energy systems can include photovoltaics, solar water heating, water harvesting, and grey-water use. The site and its landscape opportunities are integral components of a project design. His volunteer service is applied at different scales. He is currently Co-chair of the Mountain/1st Neighborhood Association; Co-chair of Lend A Hand Senior Outreach, Inc.; an independent voice in the Greater Tucson Strategic Energy Plan working group; and a core member of SustainableTucson.org.

Lindianne Sarno

Sustainable Tucson began as a series of potlucks in the home of Lindianne Sarno and her hospitable husband Gary Kuitert. Educated at Princeton University and the Cardozo School of Law, Lindianne has been working in the sustainability movement since 1980 as an organic farmer and marketer, networker, community events producer, music educator, fiber artist, whole grain baker, songwriter, author and communicator. Her book Greensleeves, An Historical Novel of the First Irish Diaspora walks the reader into the green global economy of the 1500's. Founder and spark plug of Sustainable Tucson, she brings to the coalition her diplomatic nature, unquenchable optimism, and grounded vision of stable bioregional economies based in natural systems. Comfortable in groups ranging from peasants to Ivy League scholars, from grade school students to elders, from fundamentalist Christians to earth-centered pagans, Lindianne harmonizes disparate networks.



Joanie Sawyer

A passion for all things sustainable led Joanie to seek a masters degree in Education for Sustainability from Northern Arizona in 2001. Since then she has been the director of two small environmental education centers in Navajo and Apache Counties and has provided in-class conservation programs to students in Tucson. Addition teaching experience includes adult education and substitute teaching, giving her a total of over ten years teaching experience. Joanie's volunteer experience includes three years on the board of Kerr-Cole Sustainable Living Center, where she assisted their acquisition of 501(c)(3) non-profit status, and two years as facilitator of the Cedar Hills Community and Land Use Plan Committee, which recently completed a formal land use plan. Currently Joanie is a Program Associate at PRO Neighborhoods, an organization which supports community building within neighborhoods. She also serves on Sustainable Tucson's core team. Additional assets include skills in grant writing and management, graphic design and desktop publishing, project coordination and a passion for our potential to live sustainably.

Susan L. Williams

Susan Williams is a free-lance writer and education consultant. Her experience encompasses K-12 special education, high school and community college science instruction as well as serving as administrator of environmental education programs. Most recently Susan served as Director of Education at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum. In 2003 Susan established a consulting business - *Write for Change* - which serves organizations working toward a more sustainable society. Her clients include food banks, public policy institutions, private and public schools, natural history centers, environmental education organizations, tribal communities and individual artists. Susan writes and publishes essays and articles about social, political and ecological issues of the 21st Century. www.writeforchange.com



UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENT INTERNS AND FELLOWS

Anne Chanecka

Ann Chanecka is the Campus-Community Sustainability Intern at the University of Arizona working to increase exposure and coordinate existing sustainability initiatives. She is pursuing a Masters in Public Administration concentrating on Non-profit Management and Local Government. She has undergraduate degrees in Natural Resource Management and Sociology. Recently, Ann has shifted her personal and professional focus to sustainability planning and policy making. Having worked with low-income populations in the U.S. and served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Madagascar her main interest is in social development. She welcomes any advice, mentoring, or information that may be useful to her!

Ann Chanecka is supported by an Internship from the Arizona Water Institute

Jessi Williams

Jessi Williams is a Prescott College student who is working as an intern for Ironwood Tree Experience, a project of Prescott College offering eco-programs to teens. She is pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Studies with an emphasis in Outdoor Education and is passionate about teaching young people about sustainability and conservation. Jessi is currently working on promoting sustainable food production through her involvement in the coordination of the weekly farmers' market on the University of Arizona Campus and was recently awarded a fellowship from the National Wildlife Federation to continue her work with sustainable food production and Sustainable Tucson.

Jessie Williams is supported by a Fellowship from the National Wildlife Foundation.

A network of networks for the transition of Tucson to sustainability....



ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

- General Meetings hosted monthly since October 2006 to the present.
- Five hundred Affiliates registered with Sustainable Tucson and indicated their willingness to participate and to publicly list their affiliation.
- Affinity Groups formed among affiliate members: Health, Water, Energy and Transportation, Green Building; Green Economy; Green Festival and Events, and Education.
- Public lecture with Peter Gleick facilitated by the Water Affinity Group with the Water Research Resource Council and the Southern Arizona Leadership Council (2007).
- Key alliances with the University of Arizona resulted in the Education for Sustainability Conference during Campus Sustainability Week (2007).
- Tucson's Inaugural Green Festival hosted at Mission Park in South Tucson with Sunnyside School District (2007).
- Core Team formed to guide Sustainable Tucson. Four retreats for capacity building and leadership development (2007-08).
- Successful support to organizations and students resulting in grant awards and internships to work on sustainability projects with the community.
- Pulliam Charitable Trust grant awarded to support Sustainable Tucson (2008).
- Membership process established and list serve-mailing organized.
- Web site launched and pages populated by a web team.
- E-Newsletter Published for membership (2008)
- Community presentations about Sustainable Tucson and what sustainability means by Core Team Members to key sectors.
- Participation of City of Tucson Office of Conservation and Sustainable Development; Pima County Department of Environmental Quality; Pima Association of Governments; Tucson Water; Institute for the Study of Planet Earth at University of Arizona; Pima Association of Governments at General Meetings.





PUBLIC WATER LECTURE WITH PETER GLEICK

Fresh water availability is a growing issue of concern across the world, but no where more than in arid lands. Tucson is no exception.

Will projections of our water supply in the distant future - even the next decade or two - be accurate? How will prolonged drought affect both water quantity and quality? What impacts will water supply have on the region's economic viability?

Sustainable Tucson co-hosted of a public lecture by international water expert, Peter Gleick, along with the Water Research and Resources Center (WRRC) and Institute for the Study of Planet Earth (ISPE) at University of Arizona, and the Southern Arizona Leadership Council (SALC),

Dr. Peter Gleick is one of the world's leading expert on the impacts of climate change on water supply. His work with communities and governments across the southwest and the world brings a broad perspective to the local discussion.

How can we define sustainable water policies, based on sound laws and science? To what extent will water transfers and markets - the economics of shifting water - help us reconcile growth and supplies which are limited, keeping in mind that global warming, as well as land-use changes, will likely affect both surface and groundwater systems?

Sustainable Tucson believes Dr. Gleick's vision helped inform local planning by bringing the experience of many communities to bear on Tucson's creative solutions to long-term water security.

Dr. Gleick addressed water experts and leaders from diverse sectors at the Arizona Hydrologic Society's regional conference, "Sustainable Water, Unlimited Growth and Quality of Life: Can We Have It All?" held in 2007 in Tucson.

The joint planning of this public lecture amongst university departments, civic, business, and community groups, points to exciting new dialogue over water and sustainability taking place in our community, and common ground being forged amongst diverse sectors.

The lecture took place on August 30, at Temple Emanu-El.

A network of networks for the transition of Tucson to sustainability....



AFFINITY GROUPS OF SUSTAINABLE TUCSON

Web-based Collaboration Tools.

This group is exploring how we can improve our networking and collaboration. We're using the *Living Directory*, *Skype*, *Group Commons*, *Base Camp*, *Plone*, *Drupal*, and other tools.

Business Financing

This group is exploring ways to finance local, human-scale, sustainable business ventures. Interesting models include the SHARE program operated by the E. F. Schumacher Society, and Prosper.com.

Education for Sustainability Conference.

The Arizona Association for Environmental Education and the Youth Education groups of Sustainable Tucson will host a Fall 2007 conference in Tucson.

Sustainability 101.

Tucson-Pima Public Library is working with Sustainable Tucson members to develop bibliographies of fiction, non-fiction, arts and humanities that educate the reader about sustainability concepts and issues.

Youth in Sustainable Tucson.

This group involves youth in sustainability initiatives, leadership, planning, and action.

Public Education.

Current projects include training Green Audit Teams and a Speaker's Bureau to present "Steps to Sustainability" for groups and the public at large as requested.

Water.

This group will be working to determine shared goals of coalition members with regard to water issues within Tucson and the Sonoran bioregion. The group facilitated a public forum in Tucson with Peter Gleick, world leader in the link between water supply and global climate change, to be held in August.

Regional Food and Agriculture.

The work of this group involves coordinating a network of farmers, markets, resources and people to create a vibrant local food system.

Community-Building and Social Cohesion

This group is working to acquire ownership of a property that can serve as a multi-purpose community center. It might possibly house any or all of the following: 1) A pub and café; 2) Meeting, performance, and events space; 3) Office space; 4) Retail shops and work space; 5) A gallery; 6) A library and information resource center 7) A bookstore; 8) A printer/copy shop.

A network of networks for the transition of Tucson to sustainability....



Affinity Groups continued....

Government Relations.

This group works with government at all levels to achieve common goals and is responsible for web links and other communication with coalition members and the public to foster active participation in the shaping of policies that affect the environment and sustainability objectives.

Built Environment.

This group focuses on green building for housing, public buildings and public spaces; retrofitting existing housing for energy efficiency and renewable energy; green building codes and policy.

University Relations.

Members are from university departments and community groups for the purpose of supporting each other's sustainability initiatives and exploring common goals.

Connecting the Dots.

This group explores root causes of environmental, social and economic problems that arise from philosophical, religious, political, social and/or economic ideas and policies. The group sponsors discussions, lectures and conversations in various settings.

Additional proposed Affinity Groups:

- Intermediate technology development
- Energy
- Public Education
- Sustainable economy
- University relations

A network of networks for the transition of Tucson to sustainability....

Livin'

"la Vida Verde"

A Festival to help make the world greener



MEDIA ALERT

CONTACT: Wendy Oden, PR Consultant

PHONE: 531-1075 or 850-5486 (cell)

DATE: October 25, 2007

“Livin’ La Vida Verde Festival” To Teach and Celebrate Sustainable Living

What: The Arizona Association for Environmental Education (AAEE) and Sustainable Tucson, a grassroots citizen network for sustainable living, will hold the inaugural **“Livin’ la Vida Verde” Festival on October 27, 2007 at Mission Manor Park from 12:30 – 5:00 p.m.** The festival will bring together local environmental experts, government officials, student groups, sustainable energy vendors, regional farmers and others associated with the green movement to both teach and celebrate sustainable living with the public. This event is being held in conjunction with Sunnyside Unified School District’s “Make a Difference Day.” More than 2,000 people are expected to attend this free community-wide event!

Highlights: **Powered by the Sun** thanks to the Solar Store!
70 Exhibitors- Non-profits, local governments and businesses going green.
PAG will have several Alternative Fuel Vehicles on display.
Trash teach-in: Youth leaders show how to capture green waste for composting.
Festival footprint: How many Earth’s does it take for your ecological footprint?
Fresh local food by area farmers, specialty food markets and others.
Local officials and others speak intermittently from 12:30 – 3:00 p.m.
World music, entertainment acts and more!

Where: Mission Manor Park, 6100 South 12th Avenue
Take I-10 to I-19 south. Take Exit 98 onto Irvington Road. Turn South on 12th Avenue, past Drexel. Right on Calle Ramona, Left on S. Santa Clara Avenue
Parking is located throughout the park.

Cost: FREE. A family oriented event open to all!

Public Info: (520) 664-3693
<http://arizonaee.org/aaee-events/fall-conference/viva-verde>

A network of networks for the transition of Tucson to sustainability....

Interviews: Susan Williams, AAEE & Festival Chairperson, (520) 400-4117
Keely Sinclair, Defenders of Wildlife & Sustainable Tucson (520) 223-1032

Representatives from a variety of organizations, businesses and government officials will be available on site for interviews.

Editors: Very visual event! Several opportunities for live shots and photography on-site.

Contact Wendy Oden at **850-5486** upon your arrival for **additional assistance**.

(Park set-up begins at 9:00 a.m.)

Tucson Green Festival Committee
presenta



Living'

"la Vida Verde"

Una Festival ayudando hacer un mundo mas verde

Sábado, el 27 de octubre, 2007
12:30 - 5:00 pm
Mission Manor Park - 6100 S. 12th Ave.

- * **Actividades para toda la familia**
- * **Musica y Comida**
- * **Ideas para Ahorrar Dinero...**
- * **...y Proteger la Tierra!**



¡El Viejo Pueblo se hará Verde!

safe for the future *renewable* *healthy*
hermosa *saludable* *seguro para el futuro* *beautiful*

SPONSORS: 92.9 The Mountain (KWMT-FM), Arizona Wildlife Foundation, National Wildlife Federation, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Pima County Office of Sustainability, City Ward V - Steve Leal, Tucson Electric Power, Native Seed Search, City Ward I - Jose Ibarra, Prescott College, Wild Oats Natural Marketplace, Water Sustainability, and Water Resources Research Center (WRRC)

In co-operation with the Sunnyside School District, Arizona Association for Environmental Education and Sustainable Tucson

A network of networks for the transition of Tucson to sustainability....

SUSTAINABILITY MATTERS

Sustainable Tucson Supported by a Pulliam Grant in 2008

Sustainable Tucson will benefit from the support of a professional grant writer to bring operational funding to its leadership and affinity groups for providing sustainability education to the public in Tucson and Pima County. [Read more](#)

The Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust (NMPCT) in Phoenix awarded \$45,000 to the Arizona Association for Environmental Education (AAEE) to support Sustainable Tucson's mission to educate and advocate for sustainability in Tucson and Pima County. Funds to build capacity of Sustainable Tucson and AAEE to achieve sustainability objectives will be sought during 2008 by a team comprised of a grant writer and two project assistants (one from Sustainable Tucson and the other from AAEE).

Another important goal of the project will link sustainability activities in Tucson with those developing in other parts of Arizona to facilitate learning and innovation and thereby advance the combined efforts of many communities and organizations toward sustainability.

In 2005 NMPCT awarded AAEE a grant to convene a state-wide summit of leaders from a diversity of sectors to make recommendations for communities across Arizona to work together to achieve a variety of sustainability goals. The Arizona Crossroads Summit was held at the Heard Museum in 2006.

After the recommendations and report from the Summit were published, AAEE called a meeting in the fall of 2007 in Tucson that was well attended. That meeting grew to a coalition of existing community groups working on sustainability – and hundreds of new citizens – to form Sustainable Tucson.

Based on Sustainable Tucson's outstanding record of community building and AAEE's goal to support efforts like it in Arizona, Pulliam Charitable Trust awarded a second grant to AAEE specifically to support the development of Sustainable Tucson and to increase AAEE's capacity to promote environmental literacy for the long term.

Read the latest activities of the Pulliam initiative as well as access news about groups across Arizona working on sustainability objectives:

www.azcrossroads.blogspot.com

For more information about the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust:

www.nmpct.org

A network of networks for the transition of Tucson to sustainability....



Appendices

- A. Arizona Crossroads Summit Executive Summary
- B. Tucson Inaugural Green Festival 2007
- C. AAEE Education for Sustainability Conference
- D. Pulliam Charitable Trust Project Summary for 2008



Widening the circle ...

A network of networks for the transition of Tucson to sustainability....