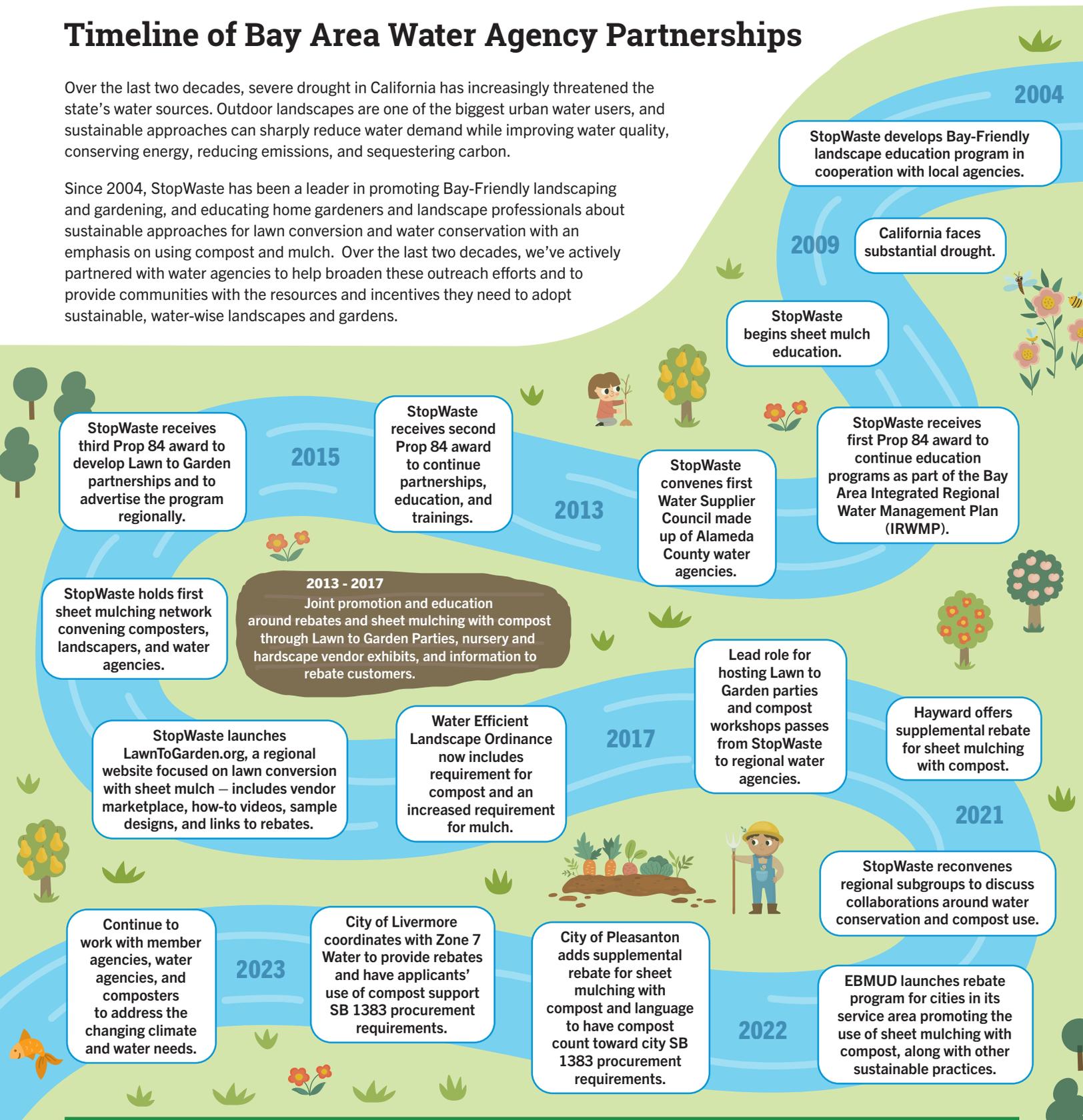


Timeline of Bay Area Water Agency Partnerships

Over the last two decades, severe drought in California has increasingly threatened the state's water sources. Outdoor landscapes are one of the biggest urban water users, and sustainable approaches can sharply reduce water demand while improving water quality, conserving energy, reducing emissions, and sequestering carbon.

Since 2004, StopWaste has been a leader in promoting Bay-Friendly landscaping and gardening, and educating home gardeners and landscape professionals about sustainable approaches for lawn conversion and water conservation with an emphasis on using compost and mulch. Over the last two decades, we've actively partnered with water agencies to help broaden these outreach efforts and to provide communities with the resources and incentives they need to adopt sustainable, water-wise landscapes and gardens.



2004

StopWaste develops Bay-Friendly landscape education program in cooperation with local agencies.

2009

California faces substantial drought.

StopWaste begins sheet mulch education.

StopWaste receives first Prop 84 award to continue education programs as part of the Bay Area Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP).

StopWaste convenes first Water Supplier Council made up of Alameda County water agencies.

2013

StopWaste receives second Prop 84 award to continue partnerships, education, and trainings.

StopWaste receives third Prop 84 award to develop Lawn to Garden partnerships and to advertise the program regionally.

2015

2013 - 2017
Joint promotion and education around rebates and sheet mulching with compost through Lawn to Garden Parties, nursery and hardscape vendor exhibits, and information to rebate customers.

StopWaste holds first sheet mulching network convening composters, landscapers, and water agencies.

Lead role for hosting Lawn to Garden parties and compost workshops passes from StopWaste to regional water agencies.

Hayward offers supplemental rebate for sheet mulching with compost.

2017

Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance now includes requirement for compost and an increased requirement for mulch.

StopWaste launches LawnToGarden.org, a regional website focused on lawn conversion with sheet mulch – includes vendor marketplace, how-to videos, sample designs, and links to rebates.

2021

StopWaste reconvenes regional subgroups to discuss collaborations around water conservation and compost use.

City of Pleasanton adds supplemental rebate for sheet mulching with compost and language to have compost count toward city SB 1383 procurement requirements.

2022

EBMUD launches rebate program for cities in its service area promoting the use of sheet mulching with compost, along with other sustainable practices.

City of Livermore coordinates with Zone 7 Water to provide rebates and have applicants' use of compost support SB 1383 procurement requirements.

Continue to work with member agencies, water agencies, and composters to address the changing climate and water needs.

2023