



GO GREEN INITIATIVE  
SUMMER INTERNSHIP

06/18/19 - 08/08/19

# 2019 Summer Internship





**39** *Facilities Benchmarked*

**3573** *Intern Work Hours*

**360** *Report Pages Written*

**16** *Presentations*



Check out our interns presenting to their school board at <https://tinyurl.com/ggipresentation>

# 2019 Internship Profile

**Go Green Initiative takes on its third summer internship with a focus on energy efficiency.**

Since its inception in 2017, the Go Green Initiative's Summer Internship program continues to train high school and college level students in marketable career skills while learning the importance of sustainability.

During the summer of 2019, the Go Green Initiative hired 33 high school and college level interns - our biggest class yet- to benchmark the energy use of all 15 Pleasanton Unified School District (PUSD) campuses and 24 City-owned facilities. The interns worked extensively to analyze electric and natural gas bills through the EPA's Energy Star Portfolio Manager.

By analyzing data, the interns developed findings and made recommendations to PUSD and the Pleasanton city council in the form of reports and live presentations.

Interns used public transportation to take field trips to Oracle's Pleasanton campus and the Dublin San Ramon Water Services District water treatment facility. At Oracle, the interns saw solar panels and fuel cells in use, and got inside information on how Oracle uses technology to manage all the functions of the buildings, including energy. At the water treatment facility, interns learned how wastewater byproducts can be directed to an anaerobic digester to create electricity.



**June 25, 2019** - PUSD school board trustees recognized the Go Green Initiative interns for their outstanding work in making Pleasanton a more sustainable community.

## Focus Group Project

In addition to the energy benchmarking project, the interns were asked by the City of Pleasanton to interview community members to further understand residents' knowledge and opinions on recycling, composting and waste management in Pleasanton. Information was collected through focus group discussions amongst various stakeholders found within the community. By doing this, interns had the chance to facilitate a discussion and perform the various roles needed to hold a focus group discussion.

**1,638,739 sq.ft.**

*Building space benchmarked*

**\$1,642,709.84**

*Potential taxpayer dollars saved on energy bills*



**3055** *Potential annual metric tons of CO2 prevented*

**80** *Community Members Interviewed*

**9** *Townhalls With Subject Matter Experts*

# So, Who Are These "Interns"? **F**



This summer Go Green Initiative had the opportunity to work with 33 brilliant interns.

Through our program, the interns worked a total of 9 weeks. Each intern was exposed to energy policy and climate change research, the challenges of enacting change at a local level, advocacy on behalf of their community, and the experience of completing a university-level project.

- 17** *High School interns*
- 16** *College interns*
- .....
- 22** *Current Amador High School student or graduates*
- 9** *Current Foothill High School student or graduates*
- 1** *Middle College*
- 1** *Athenian School*

# Our 17 College Interns Represent a Wide Range of Universities and Fields of Study:

**What our interns choose to study demonstrates that it takes all types of academic backgrounds to strive for sustainability.**

**3 students from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo study:**

- Biology
- Environmental Management and Protection with a concentration in Wildlife Biology
- Nutrition Science

**3 students from UC Berkeley study:**

- Data Science and Society & the Environment
- Computer Science and Political Science
- Society and Environment

**2 students from UC Davis study:**

- English
- Epigenetics

**1 student from Boise State studies:**

- Communications

**1 student from Gonzaga University studies:**

- Political Science and Sociology

**1 student from Oregon State studies:**

- Computer Science

**1 student from Pomona College studies:**

- Environmental Analysis

**1 student from San Diego State University studies:**

- Economics with emphasis in Public Policy

**1 student from UC Irvine studies:**

- Electrical Engineering

**1 student from UCLA studies**

- Computer Science with a minor in Environmental Engineering

**1 student from Washington State studies**

- Biology, minor in Psychology. Pursuing Masters in Public Health



# More From Our Interns

On the last day of the internship, we asked our interns, "What are some of the most valuable lessons you learned this summer?"



*"Learning how to present accurate and well-researched information quickly and thoroughly was definitely one of the largest takeaways this internship has provided me. While I was familiar with finding reliable sources and creating basic slide presentations, I never had to put one together in the short time frames that we did during the presentations. The internship also exposed me to different resources I can use in the future in a professional, workplace environment."*

*- Meraf, UC Irvine*

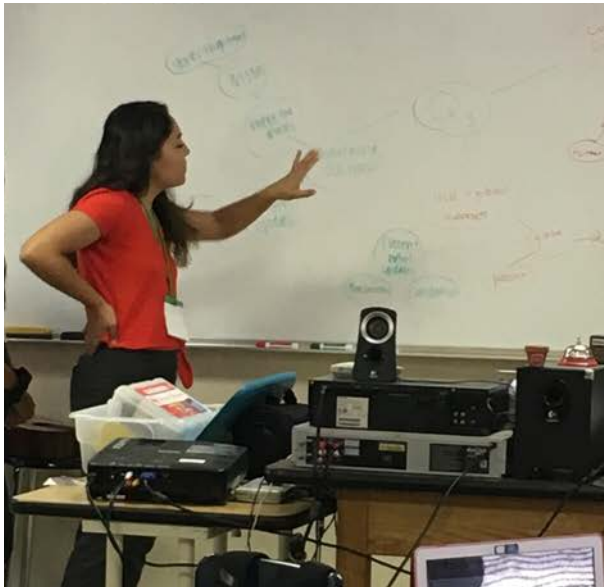
*"I've learned significantly more about environmental issues and the efforts to combat climate change. The news pelts us with all of these doomsday reports, so it often feels like there is nothing being done. However, California has incredibly thorough and reader-friendly Climate Change Assessments. Also, I was surprised to see how many projects the City of Pleasanton had dedicated to sustainability. Despite the Climate Action Plan, which was an impressive road map, the city had several water management plans. I didn't give enough credit to state and local government."*

*Another major thing I've learned is how local government works. I was aware that we had a mayor, city council, and staff, but never understood their perspective. Having Councilman Penton and the City Manager present was valuable because it gave me a greater appreciation for local government."*

*- Quincy, UC Davis*



# Our Internship Sponsors and Partners



The Go Green Initiative acknowledges the following businesses and public sector partners that have generously contributed to the GGI 2019 Summer Internship program. Without their donations, this internship would not have been possible.

## A word of thanks from our interns:

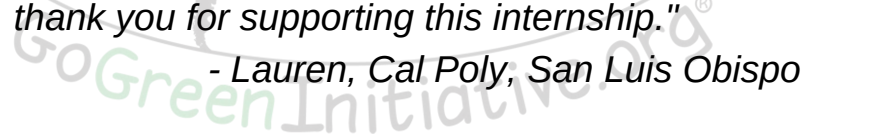
*"Thank you so much for supporting us, throughout the internship and helping us continue this work for the City of Pleasanton. We are grateful that there are sponsors like you who want to want to encourage us in this way and believe in today's youth to change our city and district for the better. It is organizations like yours that our keeping the internship going and believing in us to make change that will benefit us all."*

- Elyse, Foothill High School



*"Thank you for supporting this initiative and supporting students. Oftentimes, students want to follow their passion but may be unsure about how they could make a living as an adult or how it would actually look like in the "real world." But this internship breaks that mindset that many young students have. This internship puts environmental conservation and applies it directly to the real world, which is such a unique opportunity. It's also empowering to know that there's so many like-minded people who are just as dedicated to the combating climate change and making a difference in their community. So, thank you for supporting this internship."*

- Lauren, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo



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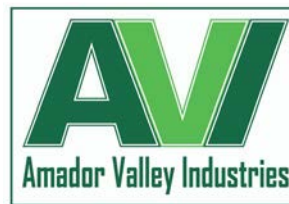
Amador Valley High School

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