

Question Wheel Questions

Transportation

Transportation is a critical piece of the puzzle we need to solve to get to speed-and-scale climate solutions.

1. What is the fastest growing transportation solution?
 - a. Electric vehicles
2. How much CO2 per mile does the average internal combustion engine vehicle emit?
 - a. 0.9 lbs./mile
3. What percentage of Sonoma County's carbon footprint is from vehicles?
 - a. 65% and 2/3 of this is personal transport (you and me getting from here to there)
4. What percentage of the Bay Area's carbon footprint is from vehicles?
 - a. 40% (another 24% comes from industry, primarily refineries, also related to fossil fuels)
5. Norway leads the world in electric vehicle sales. What is the percentage of electric vehicle sales there?
 - a. over 50% (Norway hit the 50% mark on EV sales in 2019)
6. How many electric vehicles are there in California?
 - a. Half a million
7. What can you do to reduce your transportation carbon footprint?
 - a. 2/3s of the trips you take are within 2 miles of your home. Walking or biking those trips **one** day a week can save an average of 100 pounds of CO2 a year.

Energy

What is Sonoma Clean Power?

- a. It is a not-for-profit, public agency operated by local governments in Sonoma County, that generates electricity from clean renewable energy sources for Sonoma County customers at about the same price as PG&E.
2. What percentage of energy produced in California comes from renewable sources? What percentage of Sonoma County's energy comes from clean sources?
 - a. 29% = Renewable means they will not be depleted when used
 - b. 87% - Clean sources such as, large hydroelectric dams, do not produce CO2 but we do not have the ability to restore them easily
3. Approximately how many buildings in Santa Rosa have solar power?
 - a. 1,500

4. What town in Sonoma County ranked first in solar installations for cities with fewer than 10,000 residents in California?
 - a. Sebastopol
5. How much did Sonoma County lower its emissions from 2007 to 2016?
 - a. 20%. With the help of the Climate Center, Sonoma County set a precedent by getting all nine cities and the County to sign on to emissions reduction goals. We have been working to create the policy, capacity, and community to meet those goals.
6. What can you do to reduce your energy carbon footprint?
 - a. Switch to energy efficient appliances, install rooftop solar, or convert to Sonoma Clean Power's Evergreen program. *There are many correct answers to this question.*

Waste

1. What percentage of the things we put into the recycle bin actually get recycled?
 - a. According to the EPA only 30 percent of residential and commercial garbage collection is recycled. 15% is incinerated and 55% ends up in landfills.
2. How much of the 66 million tons of solid waste produced in California each year is from packaging?
 - a. 1/3, 22 million tons
3. Are businesses in California required to compost their organic waste?
 - a. Yes, if they produce more than 4 cubic yards of organic waste per week
4. Are pizza boxes compostable?
 - a. Yes, they are contaminated with food so you cannot recycle them, but you can throw away the plastic lining and compost the cardboard.
5. What can you do to reduce your waste carbon footprint?
 - a. Refuse, reduce, reuse. Americans make up less than 5% of the world population and use 25% of the world's resources. Cut back on your consumption, buy used goods, don't use single-serving or single-use (disposable) plastics, bring your own bag, reusable fork and straw. *There are many correct answers to this question.*

Food

1. What percentage of food in the United States is never eaten (i.e., wasted)?
 - a. 40%

2. How much money is lost from the amount of food that is never eaten every year in the United States?
 - a. \$165 billion
3. What can you do to reduce your food carbon footprint?
 - a. Eat a plant-based diet. Being vegetarian can reduce your food waste emissions by 63%, vegan by 70%. Not everyone is ready to give up animal products. However, the less meat you eat, the more you save. *There are many correct answers to this question.*

Water

1. How much water does the average American use in one day?
 - a. 80-100 gallons (In Cape Town, South Africa residents are fined for using more than 13 gallons of water in a day.)
2. Which city in Sonoma County had the lowest residential water use per person and third lowest in the State?
 - a. Rohnert Park at 45 gallons per person in 2017
3. What percentage of California's energy use comes from getting water from its source to the tap?
 - a. 20%. Water is heavy and moving it long distances takes a lot of energy. Sonoma County has the first carbon-neutral water agency in the state.

Other

1. How many endangered or threatened species live in the Bay Area?
 - a. 97 species. In Sonoma County, the Western Pond Turtle and Redwood trees are two threatened species. Loss of habitat due to development and poor farming practices, changing weather patterns due to climate change, and human overpopulation are the primary culprits.
2. What endangered species of fish live in the Russian River?
 - a. The Coho Salmon is endangered. Chinook Salmon and Steelhead Trout are threatened. Over-fishing, pesticide runoff, and damage to streambanks and watersheds are leading causes.
3. What is the average American's carbon footprint?
 - a. For a typical household of four, the carbon footprint is 48 tons of CO₂ per year.