

The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes, primarily triangles and polygons, in various shades of green, creating a modern and dynamic visual effect.

Addressing Climate Change through Implementation of Local Programs, Policies, and Incentives

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What can local governments do to address climate change?

- ▶ Depends on the state, and on the local government!
 - ▶ Answer varies based on:
 - ▶ Grant of home rule authority
 - ▶ Existence of preemptive measures
 - ▶ Financial resources
 - ▶ Structural capacity
- ▶ Traditional areas of local governance: zoning, building codes, land use

Examples of local action aimed at water conservation

- ▶ **Mandating or incentivizing water conservation practices in and around buildings**
- ▶ **Restricting and/or regulating certain uses of water**
- ▶ **Eliminating barriers to water conservation**

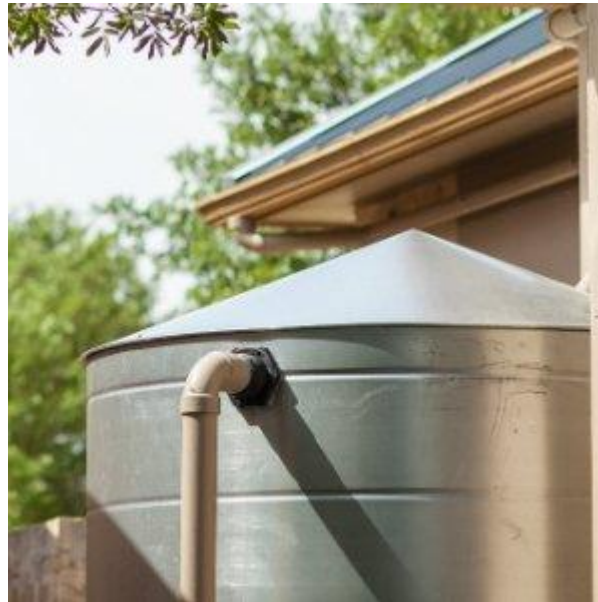
Mandating or incentivizing water conservation practices in and around buildings

- ▶ Bioretention system construction incentives
- ▶ Require large water users to submit a long-range water conservation plan
- ▶ Offer development credits or rebates for the installation of water collection systems
- ▶ Require sub-metering in multifamily residential building
- ▶ Institute penalties for failures to fix water leaks

Example:

Offer development credits or rebates for the installation of water collection systems

- ▶ Rainwater collecting, or harvesting: retention of rainwater for onsite use
- ▶ Municipal incentive programs may take the form of credits toward utility bills, or rebates toward the cost of the collection system



San Antonio, Texas

Cistern Rebate Program

- ▶ Rebates available to San Antonio Water System residential customers
- ▶ Customers must install at least 500 gallons of storage on their property
- ▶ Rebate is one dollar per gallon of storage
 - ▶ minimum rebate is \$500
 - ▶ maximum rebate is \$2000 for 2,000 gallons of storage or more

Process:

Step One: attend a cistern workshop

Step Two: submit a packet and obtain approval from San Antonio Water System

Step Three: install cistern according to approved plan

Step Four: customer service inspection (at homeowner expense) to check all plumbing on the property

Step Five: rebate inspection

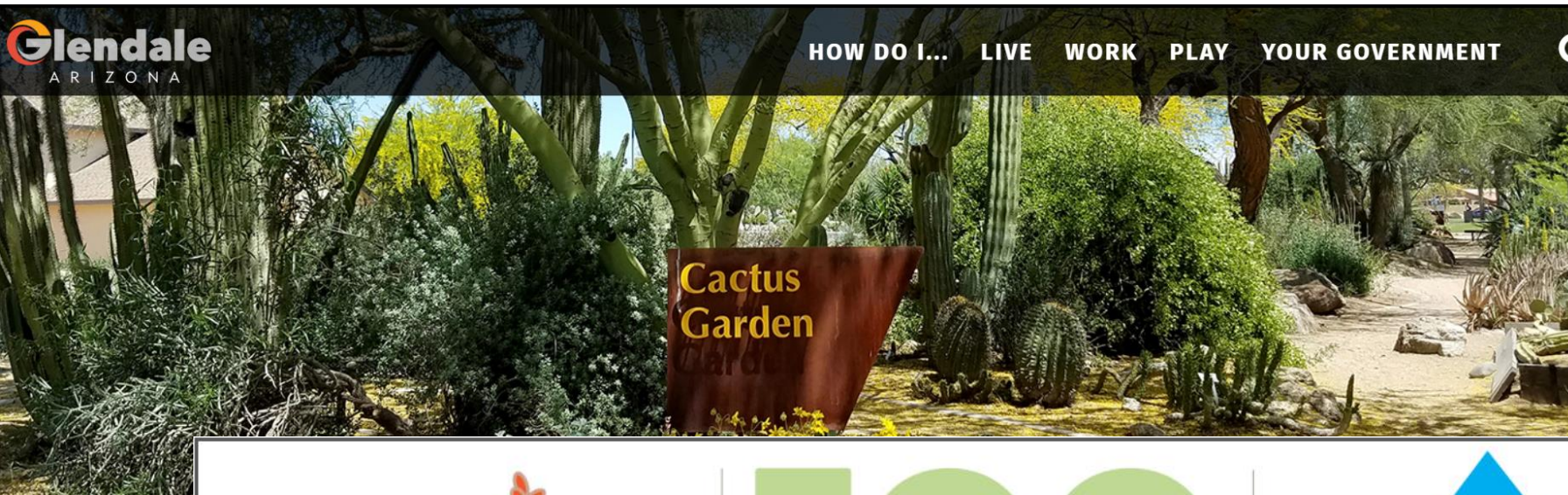
Step Six: rebates over \$600 require IRS Form W-9

EXAMPLE:

Offer a Landscape Incentive Program

- ▶ Landscape incentive programs encourage the use of climate-appropriate vegetation
 - ▶ Targeted at reducing water needs or controlling flow of water
 - ▶ Can be used for drought or flood-prone areas
- ▶ Often targeted to xeriscaping, or landscaping that requires little to no irrigation or maintenance
- ▶ May take the form of financial or design incentives

Glendale, Arizona



A graphic divided into three vertical panels. The left panel shows an illustration of desert plants (cacti and succulents) on rocks with the text 'LANDSCAPE rebate program' below. The middle panel shows the number '100' filled with a grass texture, with the text 'ACRES OF GRASS CONVERTED' below. The right panel shows a blue water drop shape containing the text '= 100+ million gallons of water saved annually'.

EXAMPLE:

Require sub-metering in multifamily residential building

- ▶ submeter is type of meter that is specifically used for buildings with more than one occupier paying for a utility resource
- ▶ meter is placed behind the main water meter; landlord controls the submetered system
 - ▶ Distinct from individual meters for each unit
 - ▶ Saves space and cost versus individual meters
- ▶ tenant is billed for individual water use
 - ▶ subdivided water bill is issued by the building manager, not the city water provider
 - ▶ building manager still pays the city for the amount of water usage recorded on the main meter

Denver, Colorado

BY AUTHORITY

ORDINANCE NO. 576

SERIES OF 2004

COUNCIL BILL NO. 563

COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE:

PUBLIC WORKS

A BILL

For an ordinance amending the Denver Building and Fire Code by modifying Section 401.3.2 (Metering) of the Denver modifications to the International Plumbing Code.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That Ordinance No. 363, Series of 2004 is hereby amended by amending Section 401.3.2 (Metering) of the Denver modifications to the International Plumbing Code by deleting the stricken language and adding the underlined language to read and be read as follows:

Sec. 401.3.2 Metering. In all new construction of buildings containing multiple unit dwellings, Each individual dwelling unit which has a single source of water shall be metered in such a way that all water used by said dwelling unit can be recorded and billed. The maintenance, and repair and reading of said meters shall be the responsibility of the owner of the metered property. Each building that houses multiple dwelling units shall have one meter that will record all water usage for the entire building. Only that building meter will be read and billed by Denver Water.

Restricting and/or regulating certain uses of water

- ▶ Implement seasonal watering schedule
- ▶ Incentivize or mandate use of pool covers
- ▶ Limit the size of pools or man-made lakes
- ▶ Enact specific design requirements for small-scale water collection and reuse systems

Example:

Incentivize or mandate the use of pool covers

- ▶ Environmental benefits of pool covers:
 - ▶ reduce the amount of water and chemical use needed to keep up with the daily maintenance of a pool
 - ▶ save energy by retaining heat
 - ▶ reduce evaporation of chlorine, a greenhouse gas



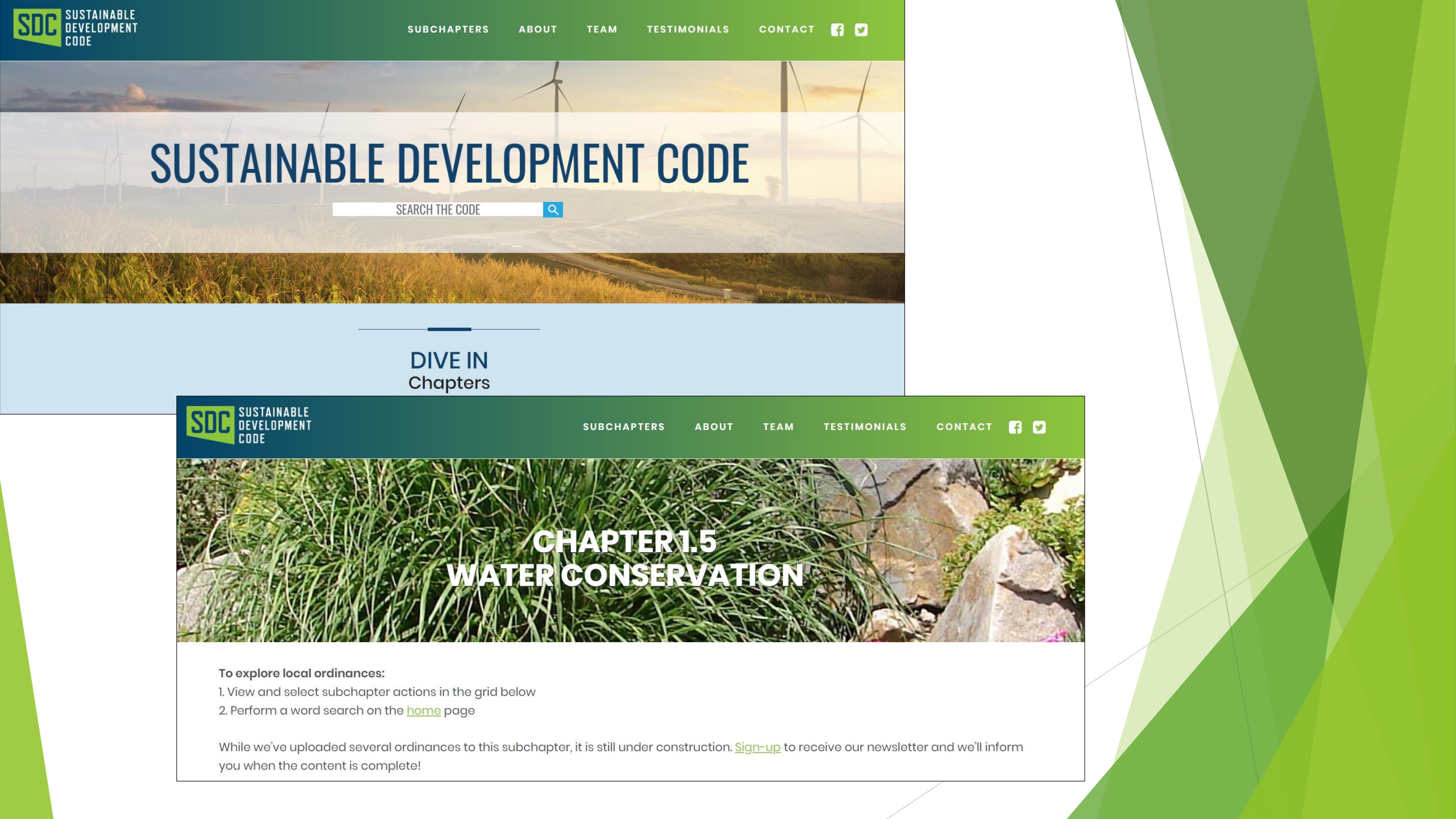
Morgan Hill, California

B. Prohibition Against Waste. The following water conservation requirements are effective at all times and are permanent. Violations of this section will be considered waste and an unreasonable use of water.

17. Pool Covers. Constructing a pool without the inclusion of a pool cover is prohibited. All contracts for the construction of a new pool entered into after September 2, 2015 shall include the provision of a pool cover.

Eliminating barriers to water conservation

- ▶ Limit irrigation requirements for native/drought-tolerant landscapes
- ▶ Limit HOA restrictions on rain barrels and rain harvesting systems



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WATER CONSERVATION

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2. Perform a word search on the [home](#) page

While we've uploaded several ordinances to this subchapter, it is still under construction. [Sign-up](#) to receive our newsletter and we'll inform you when the content is complete!