

SOLID INSIDE WASTE

LOS ANGELES COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE



Winter 2004

Volume 37

THE RECYCLING TIP SHEET

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION OFFERS CONSUMERS TEN 'GREEN RESOLUTIONS' FOR 2004

As old New Year's resolutions are being recycled from last year, begin a new one you won't mind recycling every year. While working towards reducing your waistline in 2004, resolve to reduce your waste size by committing to recycle at least one out of every three water bottles you use. Such a simple step can go a long way in helping slim down the 3 million water bottles going to California's landfills every day.

This is just one of the many easy commitments Californians can make to help reduce unnecessary waste and "be green" in 2004. The new online "Green Gift Guide" (www.greengiftguide.com) includes several useful tips on how to "be green" in 2004. By committing to even a few of these resolutions, Californians can help the environment have a happy new year.

1. Look for Recycling Opportunities: Look for the nearest recycling bin, or hold onto your beverage containers until you find a recycling center or get home to your curbside bin. Simply remembering to recycle at least one out of every three water bottles will help reduce the amount of water bottles that end up in California's landfills by almost one million a day – every container you recycle makes a difference. Call your city or county recycling program or visit www.bottlesandcans.com to learn more.

2. Ask for Recycling: Does it ever seem like there aren't enough recycling bins in California? You're right...and you can help change that. If your gas station or convenience store doesn't have a recycling bin, ask for one. If you ask for recycling opportunities, you'll get them (it's easier than you think). At the office? Start an office-wide recycling campaign, or put a bin next to your trashcan for beverage containers and paper. The CRV money collect-

ed from most beverage containers can help your company reduce costs. Call 1-800-RECYCLE or visit www.bottlesandcans.com to learn more.

3. Remember the Other Important "R's" – Reduce and Reuse: Help to lessen the amount of waste by buying items that use little or no packaging, or "buying in bulk" which reduces unnecessary and excessive packaging. Also, find ways to use items over and over again, such as refilling a water bottle.

4. Buy Products Made From Recycled Materials: Resolve to "buy green" by purchasing at least one recycled-content product on a regular basis, such as paper towels or computer paper. Look for the recycling symbol (or "made from post-consumer material") on a wide range of products. There is a growing array of new products made from recycled beverage containers including backyard planter boxes and fleece clothing.

5. Make Your Home a Toxic-Free Environment: Keep your home healthy by reducing unnecessary toxic chemicals. Paints, solvents and other chemicals should be disposed of safely, not flushed down the toilet or poured down the drain. Did you know baking soda and vinegar substitute as great all-purpose cleaners? Other non-toxic household cleaners can be found at many stores. Cut down on pesticides and fertilizers in your garden and you'll limit what gets washed into rivers, bays and the ocean.

6. Get Out of the Car One Day a Week: Resolve to spare the air. Carpool, use public transportation or bicycle. Using alternative transportation a day or two a week is manageable, and getting out from behind the wheel can be relaxing. Plus, riding a bike fulfills the annual resolution to exercise more.

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JOIN THE TEAM: If you are interested in participating on the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Public Education Subcommittee or if you would like to submit an article for *Inside Solid Waste* please contact **Emily Montanez** at (626) 458-3579, or emontanez@ladpw.org. Quarterly meetings are held at the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Headquarters to discuss and review upcoming newsletters. If you feel you have something to contribute why not become a member of the Subcommittee?

The Recycling Tip Sheet continued from page 1

7. Start a Compost Pile to Feed Your Garden: Convert those yard clippings and vegetable peelings and even coffee grounds into nature's fertilizer for your garden. Home composters can be found at most home and garden centers. Many counties now offer discounted rates for home composters and many more counties take yard clipping "donations" for municipal compost piles that provide soil for local parks. Call your city or county for more information or visit <http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Organics/Home-Compost/> to learn about composting at home.

8. Enjoy the Great Outdoors: Visit a local, state or national park. Take some time to appreciate California's world-class natural areas. Get to know some of the parks in your area and beyond. Ask about volunteer opportunities or special nature programs geared toward kids.

9. Go Local – Volunteer in Your Community: Resolve to improve your hometown environment. Sign up for the local clean-up day, tree-planting effort or community garden. Take your kids to a neighborhood creek restoration effort to show them what an ecosystem is all about. Volunteer at a local park. Adopt your own space and turn it green.

10. Conserve Energy: Cut your monthly energy bills 30 percent by replacing old equipment in your home with state-of-the-art Energy Star products. Get going on those energy-efficient home improvements you've been putting off all year. Turn off lights when you leave a room and keep the thermostat at 70 degrees. For more tips on conserving energy, visit www.flexyourpower.ca.gov.

LANDFILL LORE: Alternative Daily Cover

Every day significant amounts of solid waste are hauled out of each city and deposited at the landfills, and at the end of each day this waste must be protected with a daily cover. This daily cover is used to prevent infiltration and control odors, blowing litter, and scavenging, as well as keep out insects, rodents, or other animals capable of spreading diseases harmful to human well-being. Historically, daily cover used soil which takes landfill air space and might otherwise be utilized for agriculture, grading, and other valuable projects. Instead, certain processed waste materials can often meet the performance standards for landfill cover. These innovative cover materials are referred to as Alternative Daily Cover.

Landfills typically require six to twelve inches of soil cover material to secure disposed solid waste. As long as ADC meets the performance standards for soil in protecting public health and safety and preventing pollution, it's a great alternative. Since most of the ADC materials are waste-derived, which means that they can be reported as diversion, use of alternative materials greatly helps cities to meet their diversion goals. ADC materials can include:

- ❖ ash and cement kiln dust
- ❖ treated auto shredder waste
- ❖ construction and demolition waste
- ❖ compost
- ❖ green material
- ❖ contaminated sediment
- ❖ sludge
- ❖ shredded tires

ADC materials that are non-waste-derived and cannot be reported as diversion include foam products, tarps, and geosynthetic fabric or panel products (blankets).

It is important to keep track of the quantity of ADC derived from waste. Proposed State regulations call for reporting the types of ADC used. According to the California Integrated Waste Management Board, the total tonnage of ADC use is up 80 percent from 1999-2001. More than 60 percent of the landfills in California use ADC of some kind — the most popular and least expensive are tarps. In 1999, 2000, and 2001, the Statewide numbers were 2.1, 2.2, and 3.4 million tons of ADC, respectively.

So, why use alternative covers? First, it reduces the need for on-site soil or soil importation for cover material. Second, it uses materials not recycled elsewhere, and/or for which no other markets may exist such as greenwaste, sludge, shredded tires, and used construction and demolition material.

The Waste Board is proposing to adopt new regulations which define how materials other than soil can be used as landfill cover. The Waste Board adopted the regulations at its October 15, 2003, meeting and sent them to the Office of Administrative Law for final adoption. The Task Force is concerned with some of the provisions of the regulations. For example, they believe that it is inappropriate to penalize local governments for the failure of a few operators to abide by existing regulations. Also, greenwaste separated from commingled sources at a materials recovery facility should not be excluded for use as ADC material because these materials could function as effectively as greenwaste materials that are source separated at curbside.

The Task Force has requested that the proposed regulations not be adopted at this time until their concerns are addressed.

The Los Angeles Area Regional Agency - LARA

Fourteen cities in Los Angeles County have formed the first large regional agency in Southern California for AB939 reporting. The CIWMB approved LARA at their January 2004, Board meeting in Sacramento. Getting to this point has been an arduous two-year process. Although there are currently 22 approved regional agencies in Northern California, there have been none in the Southern California area, a point emphasized by Chris Westhoff, Los Angeles Assistant City Attorney, at the November 2003 CIWMB meeting.

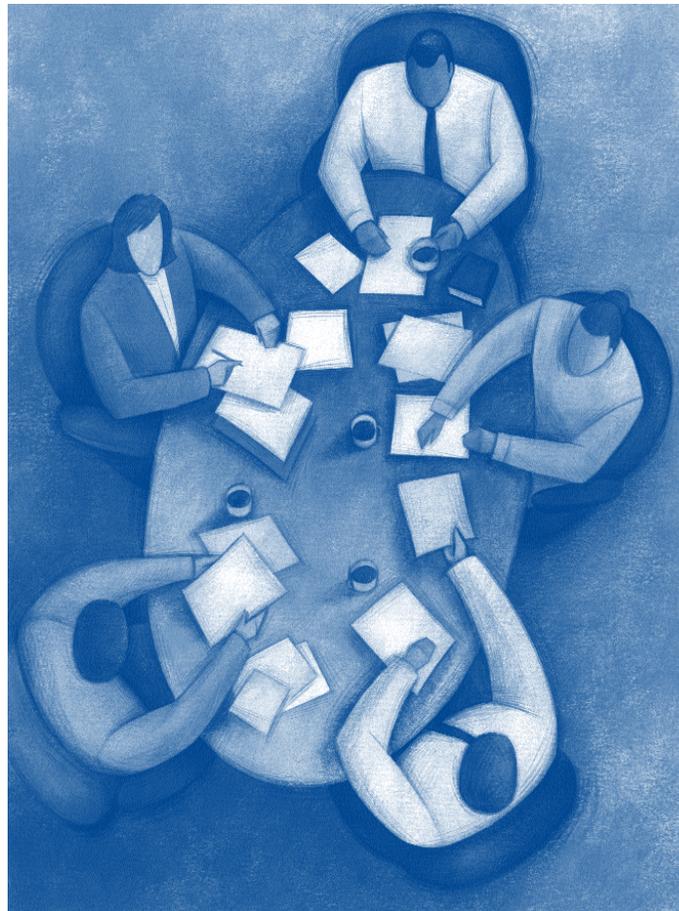
Some cities have met their AB 939 recycling goals as mandated by state laws, or exhibited good faith in implementing waste diversion programs, while many cities have not been able to meet these mandates. Many cities do not have adequate financial resources or experience to meet AB 939 program and reporting requirements. State law allows cities to form a regional agency to save money by combining reporting to the CIWMB. Formation of a regional agency has economic benefits not only to a large city such as Los Angeles, but to smaller cities as well, particularly in a lagging economy. The City of Los Angeles has estimated it can save half a million dollars over the next five years in reporting costs. The member cities could also save a half million dollars over five years by joining a regional agency. Jon Emerson, Recycling Coordinator for the City of Redondo Beach, testified at the November CIWMB meeting about the need for approving a regional agency for local cities as it would assist in implementing more effective recycling programs at the local level.

The cities that form the LARA include Artesia, Beverly Hills, Duarte, Hidden Hills, Los Angeles, Lynwood, Manhattan Beach, Pomona, Rancho Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach, Rosemead, Sierra Madre, South Gate,

and Torrance. Now that the LARA has been approved it is anticipated other cities will also join the agency as they progress in meeting their AB939 program requirements. LARA has received letters of support from a dozen waste associations and haulers, including the L.A. County Disposal Association and L.A. County Waste Management Association.

When the item was first heard in July at the CIWMB meeting, the staff report recommended approval. Based on compliance issues that led to a fine of \$70,000 to one of the proposed member communities, the cities submitted a revised formation agreement with a membership of 14 rather than 15. This, and several issues related to it seem to have caused a complete reversal of the CIWMB staff position as the recommendation in November was not to approve LARA. Thus the need for Chris Westhoff to attend the November CIWMB meeting. After a lively discussion the Chair, Linda Moulton-Patterson, assigned Mark Leary, the CIWMB Executive Director, to work out the last remaining details between the proposed regional agency and CIWMB staff, and return in January with these issues resolved.

In the interim, City of Los Angeles representatives flew to Sacramento on December 12 and had a productive meeting with CIWMB staff led by Mark Leary, in which tentative agreements were struck to resolve the legal issues. A larger meeting was held on December 18 in Long Beach, and included most of the member cities, CIWMB staff, and CIWMB board members Steve Jones and Carl Washington. The LARA is now looking to the future, to serve member jurisdictions in reporting and to seek additional grant funding for new waste diversion programs.



Now there's no excuse to throw away your unwanted household hazardous waste! Recycling of these materials has never been so easy. Aside from the County of Los Angeles and City of Los Angeles events that are held on weekends, there are now four permanent centers that are open every weekend. The centers are operated by the City and open to all County residents.

Materials such as paint, motor oil, anti-freeze, cleaning products, and pesticides can be taken to any of the four locations. Electronic waste will also be accepted including computers, monitors, printers, televisions, and cell phones.

Please read each permanent center description below for details or call 1-800-98-TOXIC or 1(888)CLEAN-LA for more information.

Gaffey Street collection center
1400 N. Gaffey St.
San Pedro, CA 90021
Open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Hyperion Treatment Plant
7660 W. Imperial Highway, Gate B
Playa Del Rey, CA 90293
Open Saturdays and Sundays 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Washington Boulevard collection center
2649 E. Washington Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90021
Open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Randall Street S.A.F.E. center
11025 Randall St.
Sun Valley, CA 91352
Open Saturday, Sunday, and Monday
9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.



Sudden Oak Death Prompts Greenwaste Restrictions

Since 1995, tens of thousands of oak trees have died because of a disease called "Sudden Oak Death." The disease is caused by a funguslike pathogen recently identified by scientists at the University of California. In an effort to contain the disease the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) has established restrictions for the transport of greenwaste. So far the spread of Sudden Oak Death has been limited. Although the disease has spread, it is currently only found in 10 Northern California Counties.

In order to keep the disease contained, effective November 15, 2003, the CDFA's new regulations will restrict acceptance and use of greenwaste from any of these 10 Counties unless the facility obtains a special permit from CDFA. Permits will be limited to "authorized uses" of potentially contaminated greenwaste, such as alternative daily cover at landfills, fuel for biomass/cogeneration, and feedstock for compost. Anyone who may be affected by this regulation or has questions is encouraged to contact Mr. Nick Condos, Senior Agricultural Biologist at CDFA, at (916) 654-0466 or ncondos@cdfa.ca.gov.



Congratulations Mike!

We welcome Mike Miller, from the City of West Covina, as the new Task Force Vice Chair. With more than 30 years of city service experience, Mr. Miller is the perfect candidate to keep the Task Force running smoothly.

Chinese Used Oil Program!

Recently, the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works launched a Mandarin Used Oil Collection Program. The Program was designed to reach Chinese speaking residents in their own language with messages about recycling used motor oil.

Three half-day collection events were held and a total of 2,725 gallons of oil and 615 oil filters were collected. If improperly disposed of, the motor oil collected at the events could pollute 2.7 billion gallons of drinking water or a year's supply for a city of about 130,000 people.

The results far exceeded any expectations held prior to launching these events. Initially, market research in Chinese was conducted to determine how to reach and motivate Mandarin-speaking residents about recycling used oil. With the participation of local merchants, government leaders and the Chinese media, County sponsors observed an impressive response from the community.

A number of gifts and prizes, including 400 used motor oil containers, new motor oil, funnels, shop towels, and automobile sunscreens were donated by local merchants and distributed to participants who brought in their used oil for recycling. Mayor David Lau of Monterey Park presented the grand prize, a roundtrip plane ticket to Guangzhou via China Southern Air. The grand prize was drawn from all the raffle tickets collected from the three events and was awarded to Joel Yeh of Diamond Bar.

For more information on the County of Los Angeles Used Motor Oil program please call Edna Gandarilla at (626) 458-6538.

TASK FORCE MEETINGS

Meetings will be held at the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Headquarters, 900 South Fremont Avenue, Alhambra.

February 19
March 18
April 15

All meetings are scheduled for 1:00 p.m. in conference room B.

For information call Stacey Haro at (626) 458-3547. M-Th, 7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

What's Up?

HHW ROUNDUPS are open from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. unless otherwise indicated. For more information, call the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, at 1(888)CLEAN-LA (253-2652). For information about City of Los Angeles events call 1(800)98-TOXIC (988-6942).

- January 24 Hermosa Beach - Clark Stadium
Valley Drive Between 8th and 11th Street
- January 31 Cudahy - Clara Street Park
4835 Clara St.
- February 7 Claremont - Claremont City Yard
215 Cornell Ave.
- February 7 & February 8 Hollywood - Hollywood Bowl parking lot
Highland Ave. & Odin St.
(Conducted by the City of Los Angeles)
- February 14 Santa Fe Springs - Rio Hondo Fire Training
Academy, 11400 Greenstone Ave.
- February 21 Bell - Bell City Yard
5320 Gage Ave.
- February 28 Diamond Bar - Gateway Corporate Center
1300 Block of Bridge
- March 6 Marina del Rey - Dock 52 Parking Lot
Fiji Way
- March 13 Glendale - Glendale Water and Power
800 Air Way
- March 13 Watts - Watts Labor Community Action
Committee parking lot, Central Ave. & 109th St.
(Conducted by the City of Los Angeles)
- March 20 Lake Los Angeles -
Vista San Gabriel Elementary School
18050 East Avenue O (9:00 am to 2:00 pm)
- March 20 Lancaster - Vacant Commercial Property
42422 10th Street West, South of Avenue K
- March 27 Long Beach - Veteran's Stadium
5000 Lew Davis St.
- April 3 Athens - Department of Public Social Services
1326 West Imperial Highway
- April 17 Azusa - Northrup Grumman Corp.
West 3rd. and Zachary Pedilla Ave.

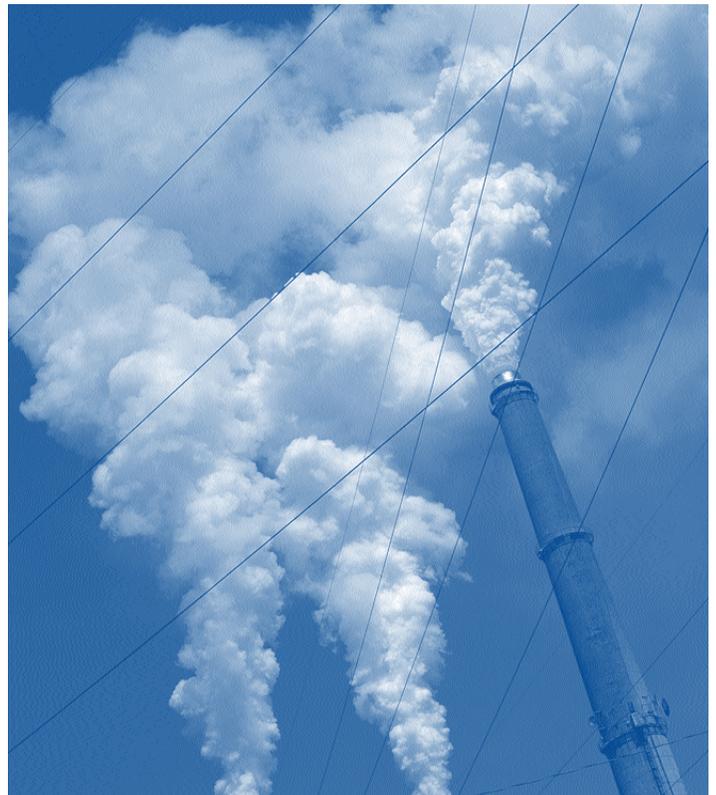
CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY UPDATE



Since 1999, the Task Force has actively promoted the development of conversion technologies, including sponsoring the first-of-its-kind State legislative bills (Assembly Bills 2067 and 1939 in 2000) designed to jumpstart the industry by providing diversion credit for such technologies. The Task Force is enthusiastic about these technologies because they promise to convert residual solid waste into renewable and environmentally benign fuel, chemicals, and sources of clean energy (including electricity) to reduce our dependence on landfills and incinerators, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, replace fuel additives that have been found to negatively impact water quality, and reduce our dependence on imported fossil fuels. While these bills stalled in the Legislature, several bills were subsequently introduced and one bill did become law — Assembly Bill 2770, which requires the California Integrated Waste Management Board to study the issue and submit a report to the Legislature on its findings. The Task Force remains hopeful that once the Legislature receives the Waste Board's report, they will be convinced about the promising applications and then enact a law to, among other things, provide diversion credit for such technologies.

Additionally, during the Summer of 2003, the Waste Board set out to adopt regulations for conversion technology facilities. The Task Force has expressed its concern that these proposed regulations create a process more bureaucratic and expensive than those for solid waste disposal facilities and that some provisions contradict State law (e.g., the proposed regulations remove the diversion credit allowed for gasification technologies even though it is explicitly provided for under AB 2270). However, it is hoped that these regulations will be modified to comply with Governor Schwarzenegger's recent Executive Order suspending all proposed state regulations for six months to ensure that they are not "unnecessarily burdensome." The Task Force will continue to monitor development of these regulations and provide input as necessary.

On a parallel front, the Task Force recently formed a new subcommittee whose members include experts in the field to investigate conversion technologies and determine which technologies would be suitable for Southern California from an environmental and economic perspective. Members include representatives from the Waste Board, the Counties of Los Angeles and Ventura, the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, the City of Los Angeles, the public, and private industry. After its investigation, a report will be prepared and forwarded to all cities and stakeholders.



CIWMB C&D and Inert Debris Regulations

The California Integrated Waste Management Board has developed regulations for construction and demolition (C&D) and inert debris for transfer and process operations and for disposal facilities. Their intent is to encourage the recycling of C&D and inert debris and to protect health, safety, and the environment. The regulations will place operations and facilities into regulatory tiers to provide the oversight needed for these facilities.

The Phase I regulations for transfer or processing of these materials were approved by the Office of Administrative Law and became effective on August 9, 2003. The Phase II regulations for C&D waste and inert debris disposal facilities were approved by the Waste Board in September 2003, and have now been released from legal review.

The C&D and inert debris processing regulations place operations and facilities into three main regulatory tiers, (a) the Enforcement Agency Notification, (b) Registration, and (c) Full Solid Waste Facility Permit. To qualify under the State's Enforcement Agency Notification tier, the operations must fall under:

- Small Volume C&D and Inert Debris Processing Operations (less than 25 tons per day)
- Small Volume C&D Wood Debris Chipping and Grinding Operations (less than 200 tons per day)
- Emergency C&D and Inert Debris Processing Operations
- Inert Debris Type A Only Processing Operations (less than 1500 tons per day)

Facilities with larger operations fall under the State's Registration and or Full Solid Waste Facility Permit tiers. The classification of the facilities, their requirements, and excluded operations are in the California Code of Regulations Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 5.9, Construction

and Demolition and Inert Debris Transfer/Processing Regulatory Requirements. These are on the Waste Board's website: www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Regulations/Title14/.

The C&D waste and inert debris disposal regulations also place facilities into the three tiers above. In order to qualify for the Enforcement Agency Notification tier a facility must be an Inert Debris Engineered Fill Operation. Among the requirements to qualify for this type of operation: the facility accepts only specified inert debris and that the fill material is compacted for structural loading or other type of loading. The material deposited will not count as either diversion or disposal for a given jurisdiction.

Facilities accepting Type A inert debris (additional inert materials than those allowed for engineered fill operations) and facilities accepting C&D waste and inert materials would fall under the Registration and Full Solid Waste Facility Permit, respectively. These proposed regulations are at www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Rulemaking/CDMater.

As a consequence of obtaining a permit for C&D transfer and processing operations, jurisdictions will need to amend their Non-disposal Facility Element (NDFE) if they are using the facilities. This will likely result in numerous jurisdictions amending their NDFE's. In the County of Los Angeles, jurisdictions will need to submit their amendment to the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force for review.

It is hoped that the new permitting requirements resulting from the adopted regulations do not deter facilities from continuing their operations. Many jurisdictions count on these facilities for the recycling and reuse of C&D debris and inert materials. The intent of the regulations is not to deter but encourage the recycling of these materials.



Communities Unite to Fight Pollution

The communities of East Los Angeles and Inglewood proved last month that we can accomplish great things by working together. Joining forces with the County and local government leaders, approximately 500 residents helped beautify their communities by collecting more than nine tons of trash and recyclables.

The County of Los Angeles has developed community coalitions in East Los Angeles and the City of Inglewood on a pilot program basis to assess the effectiveness of stormwater outreach strategies that lead to behavior change. Program activities included inviting community leaders and local government representatives to join the Pollution Prevention Neighborhood Task Force, scheduling a community clean-up day, traditional and grassroots advertising, and trash measurement evaluation.

The County will assess behavior change by using street sweeping and trash collection data from before, during and after campaign activities. The program also includes a pre and post-program survey of County residents to gauge their participation in pollution prevention behaviors.

The highlight of these community projects was the clean-up events that enabled residents to experience firsthand the impact of pollution on their surroundings. The East Los Angeles project included a facelift to Eastman

Avenue Elementary School accomplished by volunteers planting more than 100 plants and flowers and painting 10 storage units on the school campus. In Inglewood, volunteers helped the aesthetics of Edward Vincent, Jr. Park by collecting trash and cleaning the park's storage facility area. The clean-up events were supported by corporate partners including Costco, Waste Management, Domino's Pizza, AAA, Ralphs Grocery Company, Hollywood Park, and the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Mandated by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit, the County is not only charged with reducing the amount of pollution that enters the storm drain system, but also educating and encouraging local residents to take an active role in pollution prevention. The County created a new ad campaign that features bilingual television, radio, newspaper and billboard ads with the "Can It!" tagline. "Can It!" reminds people that litter is a problem and that they can be a part of the solution. The campaign is part of the County's 2003 Stormwater/Urban Runoff Public Education Program comprised of a variety of strategies and methods to reach all County residents.

For information about these programs and the clean-up days, please contact Melinda Barrett, Public Relations Group, at (626) 458-5975 or mbarrett@ladpw.org.

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