

SOLID INSIDE WASTE

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



Summer 2004

Volume 39

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

From Malibu to Long Beach, Los Angeles County beaches are popular places to live for Southern California residents. The weather is great for almost any outdoor activity throughout the year and our coastline offers plenty of scenery to enjoy any time of the day. The last several years have been critical in keeping our beaches clean and safe to take pleasure in. Beach cities have worked hard to organize clean up days, get residents involved in environmental issues and develop long-range, sustainable programs that will keep these areas of Los Angeles County clean for the future.

El Segundo truly is one of these cities in the County that takes great pride in helping the more than 16,000 residents that care about their community. Not only do the residents care passionately about recycling, but the City is lucky to have Kristi von der Linden on their team to help with the many services available to its residents.

Most of us don't think twice about curbside recycling. Our recycle bins are provided to us and we place them out on the curb on our regular trash day and go about our business. Rather than having to drive to a recycle center to dispose of our beverage containers or paper goods, we have the luxury of placing them in a bin available from our city. While much of this is taken for granted, the City of El Segundo went one step further to make sure all of their residents have the ability to recycle.

Multi-family buildings are typically the exception to curbside recycling. Building owners complain about the extra expense and some cities may not even have the

option for multi-family recycling due to the type of contract with their respective trash hauler. El Segundo has made recycling for these residents just as easy.

Single family homes and multi-family buildings with four or fewer units have free curbside recycling available. If dwellers of larger complexes wish to enroll in curbside recycling services, residents can sign up with the Tree Musketeers, a volunteer youth organization based in El Segundo. For six dollars per month, multi-family homes can enjoy the same type of recycling services as single family homes. This program was California's first subscription based curbside recycling program. Kristi says, "Small businesses and residents in multi-unit dwellings truly appreciate this service."



Kristi shows her son Noah, that you're never too young to learn composting.

With the help of Kristi, the City also thought of an ingenious way to spend their DOC grant funds. Instead of purchasing the typical promotional items to pass out to residents at local events such as pencils, water bottles or shoelaces, funds were utilized to purchase picnic tables and recycling receptacles made from recycled plastic lumber. The picnic tables are the equivalent of 12,600 milk jugs and the City made sure one of the tables was even ADA compliant.

"Getting your message out there is very important, but sometimes passing out things people might eventually throw away doesn't make sense. With these tables and receptacles, people get to see recycling at work," says Kristi.

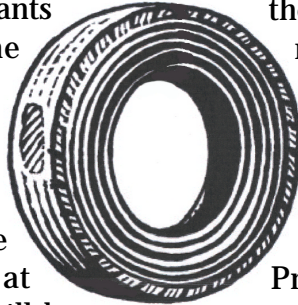
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JOIN THE TEAM: If you are interested in participating on the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Public Education Subcommittee or if you would like to submit an article for *Inside Solid Waste* please contact **Emily Montanez** at (626) 458-3579, 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?

FREE WASTE TIRE RECYCLING EVENT IN BOYLE HEIGHTS AUGUST 21

Los Angeles County residents who are eager to legally dispose of scrap tires cluttering up their garage or backyard can do so for free at the Waste Tire Recycling Event sponsored by the County of Los Angeles. The event will take place Saturday, August 21, at the Recycling Center at 2649 Washington Blvd, south of downtown. Tires from cars, light-trucks, vans and SUVs will be accepted free of charge from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The Waste Tire Recycling Event is organized by the County's Department of Public Works. Bridgestone Tires will provide participants with coupons for 15 percent off the purchase of Firestone or Bridgestone tires. Krispy Kreme Doughnuts will provide participants with a coupon good for the purchase of one dozen glazed doughnuts for only \$0.99 with the purchase of any dozen doughnuts at regular price. In addition, participants will be entered in a drawing to win four free tickets to an



upcoming auto race at the Irwindale Speedway.

In Los Angeles County, there are approximately 10 million tires to be disposed of every year. Waste Tires that are illegally dumped or improperly stored can pose a serious threat to public health and safety, as well as to the environment. Illegally dumped tires can hold stagnant water, a perfect breeding ground for mosquitoes that could harbor West Nile virus or other diseases. The County's Waste Tire Recycling Events are designed not only to give residents a safe and legal way to get rid of their tires, but to recycle the rubber into materials that can be used in construction, manufacturing and other useful activities.

For more information about the events or the County's Waste Tire Recycling Program, call 1(888)CLEAN LA or log onto www.888CleanLA.com.

SB 20 E-Waste Update

The California Integrated Waste Management Board recently adopted emergency regulations to implement SB 20, the State law passed last year to address the growing problem of electronic waste disposal. This Waste Board action followed a six month process to obtain stakeholder input on implementation for these regulations. After two years, State law requires that the Waste Board adopt permanent regulations.

SB 20 requires consumers to pay an upfront fee - anywhere from \$6.00 to \$10.00 - to offset the cost of collecting and recycling electronic devices in the future. These fees will be placed in a special fund that will be used to reimburse both collectors and recyclers of electronic waste. The Waste Board

will review and adjust this fee at least every two years in a public hearing. The ultimate goal is for authorized collectors and recyclers to provide consumers with free and convenient recycling locations. Local governments are also eligible to become authorized collectors under these regulations.

SB 20 had established July 1, 2004, as the date when the consumer fees would be imposed and the collection and recycling program would begin. AB 901 was recently signed into law by the Governor and the implementation date of the fees will now go into effect November 1, 2004. A copy of the adopted regulations is available on the Waste Board's website at www.ciwmb.ca.gov.

There are now five permanent collection centers where L.A. County residents can dispose of their Household hazardous waste.

Materials such as paint, motor oil, anti-freeze, cleaning products, and pesticides can be taken to any of the five 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.

UCLA LOCATION
 550 Charles E. Young Dr. West
 Los Angeles, CA 90095 Open Thursday, Friday
 and Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
 Electronic waste accepted on Saturdays only.

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).

- July 31 Altadena - LA County Dept. of Public Works Fleet Maintenance Yard
252 W. Mountain View Ave.
- July 31 Norwalk - Cerritos College, Stadium Parking lot 11110 Alondra Blvd.
- August 7 Whittier - Rio Hondo College
3600 Workman Mill Rd., Parking lot A
- August 14 Arcadia - Santa Anita Race Track
285 W. Huntington Dr., Enter through Colorado Place, Gate 6
- August 14 Sierra Madre -
Corner of Mariposa Ave. & Baldwin Ave.
- August 21 Glendora - Citrus College, Stadium Parking lot Barranca Ave., North of Alostia Ave.
- August 28 Carson - Joint Water Pollution Control Plant West Maintenance Building Parking Lot 24501 S. Figueroa St.
- September 11 Burbank - Burbank Fire Dept. Training Center 1845 Ontario St.
- September 18 Alhambra - LA County Dept. of Public Works Headquarters, 900 S. Fremont Ave.
- September 18 South Pasadena - South Pasadena Unified School District Headquarters
Parking lot on Diamond Ave. & Mission St.
- September 25 Covina - Walmart Overflow Parking Lot 1275 Azusa Ave., North of Arrow Hwy.
- October 2 Beverly Hills/West Hollywood -
Foothill Rd. Between Alden Dr. & West 3rd St.
- October 2-3 Granada Hills - John F. Kennedy High School 11254 Gothic Ave., Parking lot
(Conducted by the City of Los Angeles)
- October 9 Montebello - Montebello Town Center Mall Plaza Dr. & Montebello Blvd.

TASK FORCE MEETINGS

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

August 19 - 1 p.m.
 September 16 - 1 p.m.
 October 21 - 1 p.m.

All meetings are in conference room B.

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

Monterey Park's New MRF Program a Huge Success

This fall will mark the second anniversary of Monterey Park's new citywide mixed waste Material Recovery Facility (MRF) processing program. This program has been tremendously successful, increasing the number of hauler tons recycled in the City from 8,313 tons in 2001 to 20,262 tons in 2003. According to Ron Merry the City's Director of Public Works/City Engineer, "The success of the program will allow Monterey Park to not just meet the requirements but also exceed the expectations of our time extension diversion goals we filed with the Waste Management Board."

Facing the grim reality of only a 31 percent diversion rate for 2000, in the summer of 2002, Monterey Park entered into a citywide franchise agreement with Athens Services. This agreement requires Athens to collect and process all of the City's residential and commercial/ industrial waste as well as non self-hauled construction and demolition debris through its mixed-waste MRF located in unincorporated Los Angeles County near the City of Industry. As part of its contract, Athens Services guarantees the City compliance with the State's 50 percent diversion mandate.

The program included converting the City's residential curbside collection program from a manual to a two-can, variable can rate automated system. Residents are provided with a black container for mixed waste and recyclables and a green container for yard waste and can select between either 64-gallon or 96-gallon

container sizes. All multi-family bin service accounts are also provided with full MRF processing service.

Currently close to 95 percent of the City's commercial accounts are under the new franchise and are receiving MRF service. The other five percent of the City's commercial accounts are split among four other haulers that are in the midst of a five-year permit phase-out as required by state law. Through their permits, these haulers are also required to be diverting 50 percent of the waste they collect from landfill disposal.

A City Task Force, made up of residential and commercial representatives, was formed in the late 1990's to develop program recommendations to the City Council in order to meet the State's 50 percent diversion mandate. The Task Force met for over three years, held numerous public workshops and published two plans and ultimately recommended mixed-waste MRF processing as an ideal solution for many of Monterey Park's unique challenges - including language and cultural barriers and a large rental population. The MRF processing program eliminates the difficulty in getting and maintaining participation in the old source separated recycling program and solves space constraints faced by Monterey Park multi-family and commercial properties.

We anticipate that our 2003 numbers will show that the community is now diverting nearly 60 percent, a far cry from the 31 percent just three years ago.

For more information please contact Tina Clark at (626) 307-1383.



The City of Santa Clarita's New Residential and Commercial Franchise Agreements

Beginning August 1, 2004, the City of Santa Clarita's commercial sector will begin its new services with the City's new commercial franchised hauler. The new services are outlined in one of the franchise agreements that was adopted by the City Council in November 2003. Through negotiations, the City was able to successfully decrease its rates for both the residential and commercial sectors as well as significantly increasing its services and diversion programs.

Through the RFP process, the City selected Burrtec Waste Industries, Inc. for servicing its commercial sector and Waste Management, Inc., doing business as Blue Barrel Disposal, for servicing its residential sector. The following are some of the added benefits the City received through its RFP:

- ✓ The haulers agreed to divert 50 percent of their portion of the City's waste stream; failure to do so will result in financial penalties, exceeding the minimum threshold will result in contract extensions;
- ✓ The haulers agreed to fund a new City position to assist with diversion efforts, and to fund a portion of the City's education and outreach efforts;
- ✓ The haulers are required to identify and propose additional recycling technologies and alternatives to land-filling;
- ✓ For every ton of recyclables collected, the haulers will contribute \$5.50 to a City beautification grant program;
- ✓ The haulers will use City-exclusive collection routes;
- ✓ The residential hauler will give all single-family homes an immediate rate discount, although the new residential agreement will not be in effect until April 2006, and they are not currently servicing all single-family units;
- ✓ The residential hauler will provide four free bulky item collections per year, which will also include e-waste;
- ✓ The residential hauler agreed to implement a volume based rate pilot program to determine the feasibility of implementing the program citywide;
- ✓ The residential hauler will collect food waste, and will implement a pilot in-home food waste containers program;
- ✓ The commercial hauler will provide mixed waste processing for 50 to 65 percent of its commercial customers;
- ✓ The commercial hauler will provide free recycling services;
- ✓ The commercial hauler will provide an e-waste collection program for commercial businesses; and
- ✓ The commercial hauler will site and build a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in the City, and will give the City the option to purchase the MRF at the end of their contract term for the remaining debt services.
- ✓ The City no longer has an "evergreen" agreement; the commercial franchise is fixed at nine years and the residential franchise is fixed at seven years.

The City is looking forward to the opportunity to partner with Burrtec Waste Industries, Inc. and Waste Management, Inc., dba Blue Barrel Disposal, in its efforts to reach the State mandated 50 percent diversion rate, and perhaps exceed it and reach the City's goal of 75 percent diversion.

In The Spotlight (continued from first page)

This mentality is what has helped Kristi make the most out of her position with the City. She is actively involved in the South Bay Business Environmental Coalition (SBBEC) and has helped organize the annual SBBEC Waste Reduction Award Program recognition ceremony. This is a unique recognition event for South Bay WRAP recipients and provides opportunities for businesses, local municipalities, community leaders and refuse and recycling service providers to network and share ideas about finding workable, sustainable solutions to environmental problems.

Last spring Kristi was also working with the City's waste hauler to establish recycling in each classroom. By the

end of 2004, the City is hoping to have a recycling bin in every classroom.

Recycling in every school is something close to Kristi as her one-year-old son prepares to become an active environmentalist like his mom. In her spare time, Kristi enjoys teaching her son how to compost and also spends her time surfing.

Thanks to Kristi and the City of El Segundo for taking such active roles in helping clean up our beach cities in Los Angeles County. For more information about these programs or many others offered by the City, please call (310) 524-2897.

Antelope Valley Environmental Collection Center

A new Environmental Collection Center is coming to the Antelope Valley. In April, an agreement to design, construct and maintain the Antelope Valley Environmental Collection Center was signed by the Cities of Lancaster and Palmdale, the County of Los Angeles, and Waste Management, Inc. Funded by a Used Oil Opportunity Grant awarded by the California Integrated Waste Management Board, this Center will provide a permanent location for residents to drop off household hazardous waste, electronic waste, and waste tires.

The community is waiting with great anticipation for this facility which will be located next to the Antelope Valley Public Landfill. Once operational, residents will be able to drop off HHW and e-waste to the Center on a semi-monthly basis and waste tires on a quarterly basis.

The Center will help instill pride in the community while helping to prevent waste from reaching our landfills. JT Engineering/John Caltado Architects prepared a conceptual plan that was approved by the partners in May. Construction is expected to begin this summer with plans for a grand opening early next year.



2004 Antelope Valley Environmental Pride Week

The 2004 Antelope Valley Environmental Pride Week Event took place the week of April 3 – April 10, 2004. It was a collaborative effort between the Antelope Valley Illegal Dumping Task Force, Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, the Cities of Lancaster and Palmdale, Waste Management, Inc., private entities, volunteers, and the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works to raise environmental awareness. A variety of events took place including collection of waste tires, free trash collection events, and tree planting events in many locations around Antelope Valley. A free household hazardous waste and electronics roundup was also held on March 20, 2004.

There were approximately 10,000 passenger tires, over 17,000 gallons of household hazardous waste, and approximately 56,000 pounds of electronic waste collected during the various collection events. Many residents also attended the Smart Gardening Work shops.

Environmental Pride Week in the Antelope Valley continues to be a success year after year due to the overwhelming participation of area residents. Thanks to everyone who participated, Antelope Valley residents will enjoy a cleaner environment. For more information on future collection events please visit our website at www.888CleanLA.com.