

# SOLID INSIDE WASTE

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



Fall 2006

Volume 48

## GOVERNOR ADOPTS FAR REACHING ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

*Under the leadership of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, 2006 has been a watershed year for environmental stewardship in California. Below is a summary of key initiatives that will shape solid waste management in the future:*

### Executive Order

#### S-06-06

On April 25, 2006, the Governor issued an executive order supporting the creation of energy and fuel from biomass resources such as agriculture, forestry, and urban wastes (e.g., municipal solid waste). Key provisions include:



- Establishing targets to increase in-state production and use of bioenergy, including ethanol and biodiesel fuels.
- Directing the Energy Commission to take an active role in promoting the generation of energy from biomass.
- Directing the Air Resources Board to increase flexibility in permitting the blending and use of biofuels.
- Directing the Public Utilities Commission to encourage sustainable use of biomass and other renewable resources.

*The photograph shows Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger designating more than 37,000 acres of Irvine Ranch Land as a National Natural Landmark.*

### Bioenergy Action Plan

Building on Executive Order S-06-06, the Governor released the Bioenergy Action Plan on July 13, 2006. The Plan, which was developed through an extensive multi-disciplinary process by various State agencies, provides the foundation for establishing biomass programs within the State and commits State

agencies to take detailed actions within a specific time-frame. The plan is designed to improve State agency coordination and accelerate research and development on bioenergy, including partnerships with the federal government and the private sector.

### The Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32, Nunez and Pavley)

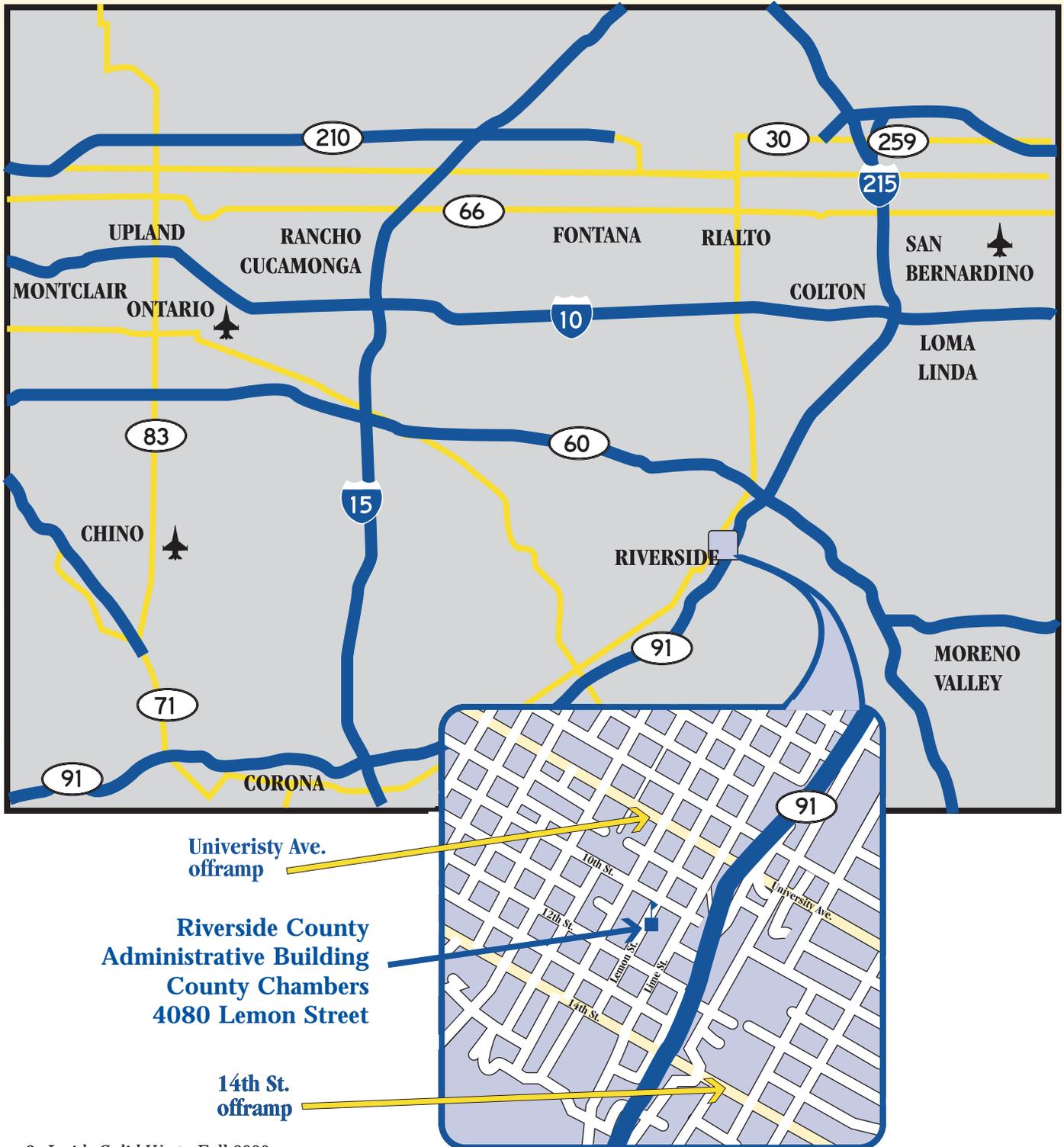
AB 32, signed by the Governor on September 27, 2006, is by all accounts the most ambitious global warming legislation in the country – it calls for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2020. The Bill puts California on the leading edge of climate change action, which will have a significant impact on the solid waste management industry due to mandatory tracking and reporting emissions.

**JOIN THE TEAM:** If you are interested in participating on the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Public Education Subcommittee or would like to submit an article for *Inside Solid Waste*, please contact the Public Relations Group at (626) 458-4042. 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?

# California Integrated Waste Management Board Meeting

November 15, 2006, at 9:30 a.m.  
Riverside County Administrative Building  
County Chambers  
4080 Lemon Street, Riverside, CA 92501

For more information, visit <http://ciwmb.ca.gov>



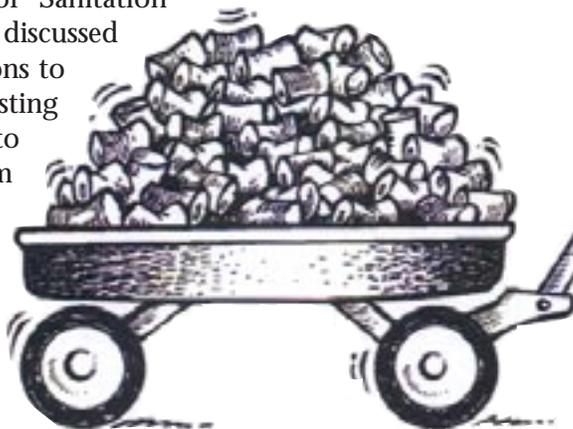
# The City of Los Angeles and L.A. Unified School District Recycling Partnership

The City of Los Angeles has partnered with Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Office of Environmental Health and Safety (OEHS) to provide a free curbside Blue-bin Recycling Program to all LAUSD elementary schools - including charter & magnet schools - located within the City limits. If fully implemented by elementary schools, this program will divert thousands of additional tons of paper, plastic, and other recyclables and may potentially save LAUSD an estimated \$2 million or more in collection costs each year.

This program is an extension of the citywide residential curbside Blue-bin Recycling Program operated by the City's Bureau of Sanitation. Each participating school receives a total of seven 60-gallon or 90-gallon blue recycling bins, which are serviced weekly. The school also receives, as needed, smaller 12-gallon recycling containers for classrooms and offices from OEHS. There is no cost to the schools.

Students, teachers, and staff are asked to collect various recyclables in the smaller 12-gallon containers and empty the contents into one of seven blue recycling bins. The blue recycling bins are strategically placed in different locations of the school for easy access. Once a week, either the night before or early in the morning on trash collection day, a designated person at the location rolls the blue recycling bins to the curbside to be serviced.

The original pilot for this program began in 2001 with a total of ten elementary schools located in various parts of the City, but was not implemented citywide due to a number of challenges. In fall 2005, staff from the Bureau of Sanitation and LAUSD discussed various solutions to overcome existing impediments to this program and agreed to restart the



joint recycling program with the goal of making recycling readily available to all LAUSD elementary schools located within the City.

By the end of 2005, this program restarted with a total of 11 LAUSD elementary schools. Currently, as of August 2006, this program promises to be a great success with a total number of participating schools expanding to 65 with the addition of 137 schools in the pipeline. Once fully implemented, the estimated total number of participating elementary schools will be over 400.

As an educational supplement to the Joint City-LAUSD Blue-bin Recycling Program, staff regularly schedules and provides recycling presentations to 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade classes in both public and private elementary schools, with priority given to participating schools. On a voluntary basis, teachers and/or principals may request classroom presentations for their students. The presentation is about 30 minutes long and provides important information on general concepts of recycling and waste management, including the three R's: Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle. Many promotional items are distributed as prizes during the presentations. As of August 2006, a total of 185 recycling presentations were provided to nearly 6,000 students.

To enroll in the Joint City-LAUSD Blue-bin Recycling Program or to schedule a classroom recycling presentation, please contact the program manager, Mark Shin, at (213) 485-3903.

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The Task Force continuously monitors and analyzes pending legislative bills and takes action on those proposals that may have an impact on the solid waste management community. The following table provides a list of some of the legislative proposals that the Task Force took a position on during the second half of the 2005-06 legislative session:

| Bill Number         | Task Force Position    | Status    | Task Force Summary  |
|---------------------|------------------------|-----------|---|
| AB 32               | Oppose, unless amended | Chaptered | Reduces statewide greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. The Task Force opposed this bill because there were no provisions to reimburse local governments.  |
| AB 1688 and AB 1980 | Support both           | Chaptered | Authorizes illegal dumping officers to enforce illegal dumping laws and the power to arrest.  |
| AB 1992             | Support                | Chaptered | Provides additional tools to local governments to address illegal dumping and replaces the term "garbage" with the broader term "solid waste."  |
| AB 2253             | Support                | Chaptered | Authorizes a court to impound a vehicle used to illegally dump waste for a period up to six months.   |
| AB 2296             | Support, if amended    | Chaptered | Requires the Waste Board to study financial assurance mechanisms for post-closure maintenance of landfills.   |
| AB 2449             | Oppose                 | Chaptered | Requires in-store collection of plastic bags for recycling. The Task Force opposed this bill because it usurps local control.   |
| SB 369              | Support                | Chaptered | Extends the existing law to authorize the Waste Board to award grants to local governments utilizing rubberized asphalt concrete through 6/30/2010.   |
| SB 1305             | Support                | Chaptered | Prohibits disposal of home-generated sharps in waste collection containers.   |
| SB 1368             | Oppose, unless amended | Chaptered | Prohibits electric utilities from entering into long-term contracts for electricity purchases unless the source meets greenhouse gas emission standards. The Task Force opposed this bill because it created a double standard for facilities that generate electricity from biomass, biogas, or landfill gas energy. |
| SB 1778             | Oppose                 | Dead      | Proposed to disallow diversion credit for green waste used as a landfill alternative daily cover.   |
| SB 1835             | Support                | Vetoed    | Proposed to prohibit an enforcement agency from issuing a Solid Waste Facility Permit (and the Waste Board from concurrence) to a solid waste facility approved by a local initiative measure, unless certain conditions are met.   |

For more information on these bills or copies of related Task Force letters, please visit our website, [www.lacountyiswmtf.org](http://www.lacountyiswmtf.org), or contact Coby Skye of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works at (626) 458-5163, M-Th , 7 a.m. – 5:30 p.m., or Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at 909-592-1147.

## DISTINGUISHED GENTLEMEN TALKED TRASH

At its July 20, 2006, meeting, the Task Force recognized the distinguished former Mayor of West Covina Mr. Joe Massey and former West Covina Councilmember Mr. Ben Wong for their outstanding contributions to the Task Force. The discussions and decisions they participated in helped shape public policy regarding solid waste issues in Los Angeles County.

Mr. Massey represented the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc. (ISRI), California Chapter, for more than 17 years and has dedicated more than 46 years to recycling and diverting waste from landfills. He served as the Executive Director of ISRI, created Massey Recycling



Consultants, and worked for Alpert and Alpert Iron and Metal. Mr. Massey stated: "I joined the Task Force during a time when local governments began to recognize the benefits and possibilities of recycling. I recognized recycling was a method of environmental protection sooner than many solid waste handlers." He hopes that he leaves the Task Force and the public with a greater

understanding of the recycling industry. Mr. Massey retired in August 2006, and his plans include light traveling and spending time with his family.

Mr. Wong was appointed by the League of California Cities, Los Angeles Division, in June 1997, while serving as a Councilmember for the City of West Covina. His service to the City spanned from April 1992 to December 2005. Mr. Wong stated: "My involvement with solid waste issues of BKK Landfill and the collective work of the Task Force is gratifying as it touches the lives of the people in my community." He is currently working in Orange County for the League of California Cities.



The Task Force thanks these distinguished gentlemen for their dedication and service. Their contributions to the work accomplished by the Task Force have been of value in addressing the solid waste management needs of residents and businesses in the County.

## SUSTAINABILITY ON A ROLL IN SANTA MONICA

The City of Santa Monica, named one of the five most sustainable cities in the country, is advancing its sustainable environmental policies with a ban on styrofoam and non-recyclable plastic containers. These products have existed in the environment for decades, this is an effort to reduce ocean and beach pollution and reduce unnecessary landfill use. It is also an invitation to other cities to follow suit to help protect the Santa Monica Bay.

The City recognized that this ban will have an impact upon local merchants. A survey of businesses indicated that the ban may cost nothing or may cost up to \$30,000 per business. A ban enacted in Malibu reportedly cost local merchants to switch to more recyclable packaging such as paper, plastic, and tinfoil. While the economic impact is unclear, Santa Monica is providing a hardship exemption for those most heavily impacted.

Because of the uncertainty of the impacts, the City Council requested a review of the ordinance in two years to evaluate the impacts and compliance with the ordinance.

It is also not clear if the ban will affect Santa Monica beaches, since most foam pollution is produced from runoff streaming into storm drains from around the county. To counter this impact, the City of Santa Monica's Environmental Programs Division headed up to lifeguard tower #22 for the all-volunteer 22nd Annual Coastal Cleanup Day on Saturday, September 16. For more information, contact Laura Cronin, City of Santa Monica, at [Laura.Cronin@smgov.net](mailto:Laura.Cronin@smgov.net).

## Geared Up for U-Waste

In February 2006, new State regulations were adopted prohibiting universal waste from being disposed in landfills. Universal waste includes household batteries, electronic devices, fluorescent light tubes, and mercury containing thermostats. In response, the County of Los Angeles expanded its efforts to inform and educate residents about this regulation and available avenues for properly disposing of these wastes, such as its weekly Household Hazardous Waste and Electronic Waste (HHW/E-Waste) Collection events.

To spread the word, letters were mailed to waste haulers and cities notifying them of the requirements and requesting they notify their customers. Announcements are placed in weekly newspaper advertisements for each collection event. Announcements and information on U-waste is also available on the County's 888CleanLA.com website, and information is added to all flyers and schedules. To help residents save their household batteries for recycling at the next roundup, small collection bags are also given to event participants.



Over 2 million pounds of U-waste was collected within the period of July 2005 through June 2006. The County's proactive efforts in collecting U-waste prior to the new ban made it a smooth transition as it geared up for the anticipated increase. Since the ban, the County experienced an increase of 7.5 percent of U-waste collected. As residents become even more aware of the ban, the County anticipates further increase in the amounts collected.

Besides the weekly collection events, Los Angeles County residents can also utilize the City of Los Angeles' permanent collection centers where U-waste is accepted. Many private E-waste collection companies have also held free collection events in various communities in Los Angeles County. To expand its services to the residents, the County also plans to build permanent collection centers and add other convenient methods for collection of U-waste and other HHW.

For more information regarding the County's HHW/E-Waste Collection Program, please visit [www.888CleanLA.com](http://www.888CleanLA.com) or call the County hotline at 1(888) CLEAN LA.

## FINANCIAL ASSURANCE FOR LANDFILLS: UPDATE

Currently, State regulations require three types of financial assurances for municipal solid waste landfills.

- **Closure Financial Assurance** — covers the costs associated with closing the landfill.
- **Post-closure Maintenance Financial Assurance** — covers the costs for maintaining the landfill 30 years beyond its closure date.
- **Corrective Action Financial Assurance** — covers the remediation costs that are associated with groundwater contamination while the landfill is operating, and during closure or post-closure.

On September 27, 2006, California State Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed Assembly Bill 2296 (Montanez) Chapter 504 of the California Statutes of 2006) into law. The new law requires the Waste Board to study and adopt regulations (by July 1, 2009) to strengthen the above financial assurance mechanisms in the event that a landfill owner or operator fails to meet its legal obligations to fund post-closure maintenance or

corrective action (including repair of the environmental control systems) during the post-closure period.

Similarly, on July 18, 2006, the Waste Board initiated the rulemaking process to clarify and update financial assurance requirements for closure and post-closure maintenance activities and to further study corrective action requirements at these landfills.

Taken together, the Task Force believes State regulations will strengthen public trust and confidence that funds and resources will be available until a landfill no longer poses a risk to public health and safety, and the environment even if a landfill owner/operator defaults on his/her obligations. Because this issue is a high priority, the Task Force will continue to monitor the progress of implementation and keep our readers apprised of any new developments.

For more information, please contact Siya Araumi of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works at (626) 458-5163, M-Th, 7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Hazardous waste can be taken to any of these locations. Electronic waste will also be accepted. 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 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

**Hyperion Treatment Plant**

**7660 W. Imperial Highway, Gate B**

**Playa Del Rey, CA 90293**

**Open Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

**Washington Boulevard collection center**

**2649 E. Washington Blvd.**

**Los Angeles, CA 90021**

**Open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

**Randall Street S.A.F.E. Center**

**11025 Randall St.**

**Sun Valley, CA 91352**

**Open Saturday, Sunday, and Monday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

**UCLA location**

**550 Charles E. Young Dr. West**

**Los Angeles, CA 90095**

**Open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

**Los Angeles/Glendale Collection Center**

**4660 Colorado Blvd.**

**Los Angeles, CA 90039**

**Open Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

**Antelope Valley Environmental Collection Center**

**Antelope Valley Public Landfill**

**1200 West City Ranch Road**

**Palmdale CA, 93551**

**Open 1st and 3rd Saturday each month 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

# What's Up?

HHW ROUNDUPS are open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. unless otherwise indicated. For more information, call the County of Los Angeles 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).

- Nov. 11 **El Segundo** - Raytheon Corporation  
Parking Lot G  
Hughes Way of of Sepulveda Blvd.  
(enter from Hughes Way)
- Nov. 18 **Monterey Park** - East Los Angeles College  
Stadium Parking Lot  
Bleakwood Ave. and Floral Dr.  
(enter from Floral Dr.)
- Dec. 2 **Malibu** - Malibu Civic Center  
23519 West Civic Center Way (Rear Parking Lot)  
(enter from Cross Creek Rd.)
- Dec. 9 **Lomita** - Lomita City Hall Parking Lot  
24300 Narbonne Ave.
- Dec. 16 **La Verne** - Brackett Field  
Fairplex Dr. and West McKinley Ave.  
(Enter from Fairplex Dr.)
- Jan. 6 **Bell Gardens** - John Anson Ford Park  
Baseball Field Parking Lot  
Park Lane east of Garfield Ave.
- 
- Jan. 27 **Hermosa Beach** - Clark Stadium  
Valley Dr. between 6th & 11th Streets
- Feb. 3 **Claremont** - Claremont Corporate Yard  
1616 Monter Vista Ave.
- Feb. 17 **Gardena** - Hitco Carbon Composites  
1551 West 139th St.
- Feb 24 **Diamond Bar** - City Streets Gateway Corporate Dr.  
1300 Block of Bridge Gate Dr.

## TASK FORCE MEETINGS

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

November 16  
December 21 (tentative)  
January 18

All meetings are scheduled for 1 p.m. in Conference Room C.

For information call Christine Frias at (626) 458-3565, M - Th, 7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

Looking for up-to-date information about the Task Force?

*Visit [www.lacountyiswmtf.org](http://www.lacountyiswmtf.org) where you can find agendas, meeting minutes, and copies of the Inside Solid Waste newsletter.*

## They Dumped It (Legally)

In the back of Artesia resident Jerry Laloli's pickup truck was remains of an armless, shattered mannequin, a pile of wood, and some heavy, rusty, metal objects. Laloli dumped the mannequin, and everything else...and he returned at least three more times to dump some more.

On July 22, Artesia hosted its first Just Dump It (legally) Campaign, giving residents an opportunity to rid themselves of bulky items. The campaign was in conjunction with a County of Los Angeles Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Roundup, where various items and substances, including electronic waste, are collected. Both events were successful, and the HHW Roundup lasted for several hours longer than planned because of the high turnout and participation.

Out of four locations, the busiest locations for bulky items were Artesia Park and Burbank Elementary School. "We never got a break," said Valorie Sucatre, a volunteer at the Artesia site.



Even the volunteers who were designated for relatively light duty, such as flyer distribution, had to help out in carrying bulky items into the dumpsters. Okina Dor, Artesia's Associate Planner, was a volunteer for the event who did some of that hard physical work.

In contrast, the slowest site was at 184th Street. "Probably because it was so isolated," said Jose Hernandez, a volunteer at the site. "We were actually excited when someone came by to dump something."

Despite the relatively slow pace of 184th Street, the campaign was determined a success because of the overall turnout at the other sites. The City is planning on scheduling another Just Dump It Campaign as an annual event, preferably in the slightly cooler months of spring. "We plan on making this an annual event," said City Manager Maria Dadian. "Overall, I was very happy with the results of the Just Dump It Campaign."

For more information, contact Andrew Perry, Public Information Officer with the City of Artesia, at (562) 865-6262, ext. 223.