

# SOLID INSIDE WASTE

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



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## ASCE RELEASES ITS 2006 STATEWIDE INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT CARD: SOLID WASTE RANKS HIGH

In September 2006, the California Chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) released the 2006 ASCE California Infrastructure Report Card. The Report Card evaluated the condition of nine infrastructure areas (and the level of investment needed to fix and maintain that infrastructure) essential to protecting public health and safety, improving quality of life, as well as protecting the environment.

Ranking highest among these categories is solid waste, which received a score of “**B**” for, among other things, its modern recycling infrastructure (including waste-to-energy facilities) that has reduced disposal by 50 percent (compared to 1990 levels). The lowest ranking category was Levees/Flood Control receiving an “**F**”. Overall, California’s infrastructure scored a “**C-**”, and it was estimated that the State’s infrastructure needed an annual investment of \$37 billion dollars.

Aviation	(C)
Levees/Flood Control	(F)
Parks/Open Space	(D+)
Ports	(C+)
Solid Waste	(B)
Transportation	(D+)
Urban Runoff	(D+)
Water	(C+)
Wastewater	(C+)

Because of the Report Card implications on the statewide public policy, the Task Force carefully reviewed the portion of the Report Card pertaining to solid waste management. The Task Force concluded that the Report Card (solid waste portion) had failed to consider several major solid waste management challenges facing California and local governments. The Task Force forwarded its comments to the ASCE in their December 6, 2006, letter. Among the key issues identified by the Task Force was the Report Card’s failure to review and consider:

- Transformation (or waste-to-energy) facilities, a key component of the State’s solid waste infrastructure.
- The emergence of conversion technologies (processes capable of converting post-recycled residual solid waste into useful products, green fuels, and clean, renewable energy) and the need to integrate them into the existing infrastructure.
- The State Legislative Analyst Office’s recent report, which indicated that California could face a \$1.8 billion liability for the ongoing maintenance of closed solid waste landfills by mid-century because many facility owners/operators lack the necessary financial resources to maintain their site after closure.

For more information, please contact Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at 909-592-1147. For a copy of the Task Force letter of 12/6/06, please visit <http://ladpw.org/epd/tf/Corresp.cfm> then click, correspondence.

For a copy of the 2006 ASCE California Infrastructure Report Card or the 2005 ASCE Los Angeles County Infrastructure Report Card, please visit [www.ascecareportcard.org](http://www.ascecareportcard.org).

**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 **Vanessa Olivas** at (626) 458-6563, or [volivas@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:volivas@dpw.lacounty.gov). 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?

## FIRST FRANCHISE WASTE COLLECTION SYSTEM IS IMPLEMENTED IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY UNINCORPORATED AREA OF LA CRESCENTA/MONTROSE

On January 2, 2007, residents in the unincorporated County area of La Crescenta were the first of many County areas to begin enjoying the benefits of the County's new residential franchise solid waste collection system (Franchise System), which gives exclusive hauling agreements to certain waste management companies.

Previously, residential solid waste collection services in the unincorporated County areas were provided through an open-market system where each resident directly negotiated with waste haulers. However, this system has been unable to meet the growing demands created by changes in Federal and State laws, consumers' desires for better services, and protection against excessive rate increases. As part of the County's ongoing efforts to comply with the State's waste reduction mandate, the County has been working with the waste hauling industry for over seven years to develop the Franchise System.

According to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, La Crescenta/Montrose residents are now receiving quality waste collection services, consistent rates, improved customer service, automated collection of refuse, recyclables, and green waste, along with annual cleanup events and free bulky items pickup. When the Franchise System is fully implemented throughout the County, over two-thirds (approximately 750,000 County residents) of the unincorporated County areas will be enjoying similar service.

Through survey forms, phone calls and community meetings, La Crescenta/Montrose residents have actively participated in the design process of the Franchise System for their community by providing feedback on how they would like the franchise system set up. Based on this input, La Crescenta/Montrose residents have chosen to be served by one exclusive waste hauler.

For more information on the Franchise System, please contact Bryce Tyler at 626-458-3590 of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works or visit [www.ladpw.org/epd/franchise](http://www.ladpw.org/epd/franchise).

## STATE ADOPTS NEW REGULATIONS IMPACTING SOLID WASTE FACILITY PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

In response to Assembly Bill 1497 (Montanez, 2004), on October 17, 2006, the Waste Board adopted sweeping regulations to clarify and expand the various requirements associated with a new and/or revised State Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP). Adoption of the regulations was the culmination of a 2-year deliberative process between facility operators, local governments, Local Enforcement Agencies (LEA), and the Waste Board.

Under the new regulations, minor and major design/operational changes are now defined, and depending on the type of change, public noticing and hearing requirements have been expanded. Furthermore, the new regulations further clarify the relationship between a SWFP and the local land use permit/entitlement.

Although the Task Force supports the general intent of AB 1497 to enhance the protection of communities adjacent to landfills, and increase public participation and involvement in the SWFP process, the Task Force remains concerned that the regulations will in effect weaken State and local oversight contrary to the Bill's intent. For example, a SWFP can now be issued to a solid waste disposal facility even though the design/operational parameters (e.g., hours of operation, daily capacity, waste restrictions, etc.) contradict similar (and often more restrictive) parameters established by the local jurisdiction through the land use permit/entitlement process. Furthermore, the new regulations will now allow a SWFP to be issued even though a local land use permit/entitlement has not been issued.

Due to the importance and potential adverse impact of this issue, the Task Force extensively participated in the rulemaking process. While the Waste Board addressed many of the Task Force's concerns, the issues mentioned above were not addressed. The Task Force therefore will continue to monitor the progress of implementation regulations and keep our readers apprised of any new developments.

For more information on these regulations, please visit the Waste Board's website (<http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Rulemaking/PermitImplement/>) or contact Linda Lee of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works at (626) 458-6973.

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).

- Jan. 27 **Hermosa Beach** - Clark Stadium  
Valley Dr. between 6th & 11th Streets
- Feb. 3 **Santa Fe Springs** - Rio Hondo College  
Fire Training Academy  
11400 Greenstone Ave.
- Feb. 10 **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.
- Mar. 3 **Marina Del Rey** - Doc 52 Parking Lot, Fiji Way
- Mar. 10 **Glendale** - Glendale City Streets  
780 Flower St.
- Mar. 17 **Rosemead** - Southern California Edison Company  
12131 Walnut Grove Ave.
- Mar. 24 **Manattan Beach** - Northrop-Gumman Space  
Technology, Aviation Blvd. and Marine Ave.  
(Northwest Corner)
- Mar. 31 **Long Beach** - Long Beach Veteran's Stadium  
Clark Ave. and Conant St.

## TASK FORCE MEETINGS

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

February 22

March 15

April 19

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.

## L.A. County Department of Public Works Environmental Defenders – Rock the Planet Tour

The Environmental Defenders Rock the Planet Tour is a free 30-minute, high-energy school assembly program. This exciting music driven show features the time travelers Al Luminum and Polly Ethylene and their friends the Environmental Defenders (Leia, Ricardo, Buzz, and June) on a musical and interactive quest to teach elementary school kids in Los Angeles County how to protect the environment.

Performed by two professional children's theatre actors, the assembly consists of using music; audience participation and repetition to effectively communicate the environmental concepts: reduce, reuse, and recycle (the Three R's); stormwater pollution prevention; and proper disposal of household hazardous waste and e-waste.



The program is free to all public/private elementary schools in Los Angeles County. The program also provides one on one technical assistance. Technical assistance is available to help schools implement sustainable environmental programs on their campuses.

During the 2005-06 school year, the program reached a total of 553 schools, reaching more than 242,000 students. To learn more about the

Environmental Defenders program or to schedule a school assembly online, log on to [www.888cleanla.com](http://www.888cleanla.com) or contact Edna Gandarilla, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works at (626) 458-6536, Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

## Spring Smart Gardening Workshops Offered by LA County Department of Public Works

Gardeners, winter getting you down? Looking forward to spring and doing some gardening? Well, the County's Smart Gardening Workshops start in March.

These Smart Gardening Workshops teach you how to make your garden the most desired in your neighborhood. Learn helpful tips to make your lawn greener and flowers more beautiful, all, while using less water.

The Smart Gardening Workshops teach backyard composting, worm composting, grass recycling, water-

wise gardening, and fire-wise gardening. These practices are easy to follow and require little time.

Visit our website for a listing of the upcoming Workshops at [www.SmartGardening.com](http://www.SmartGardening.com).



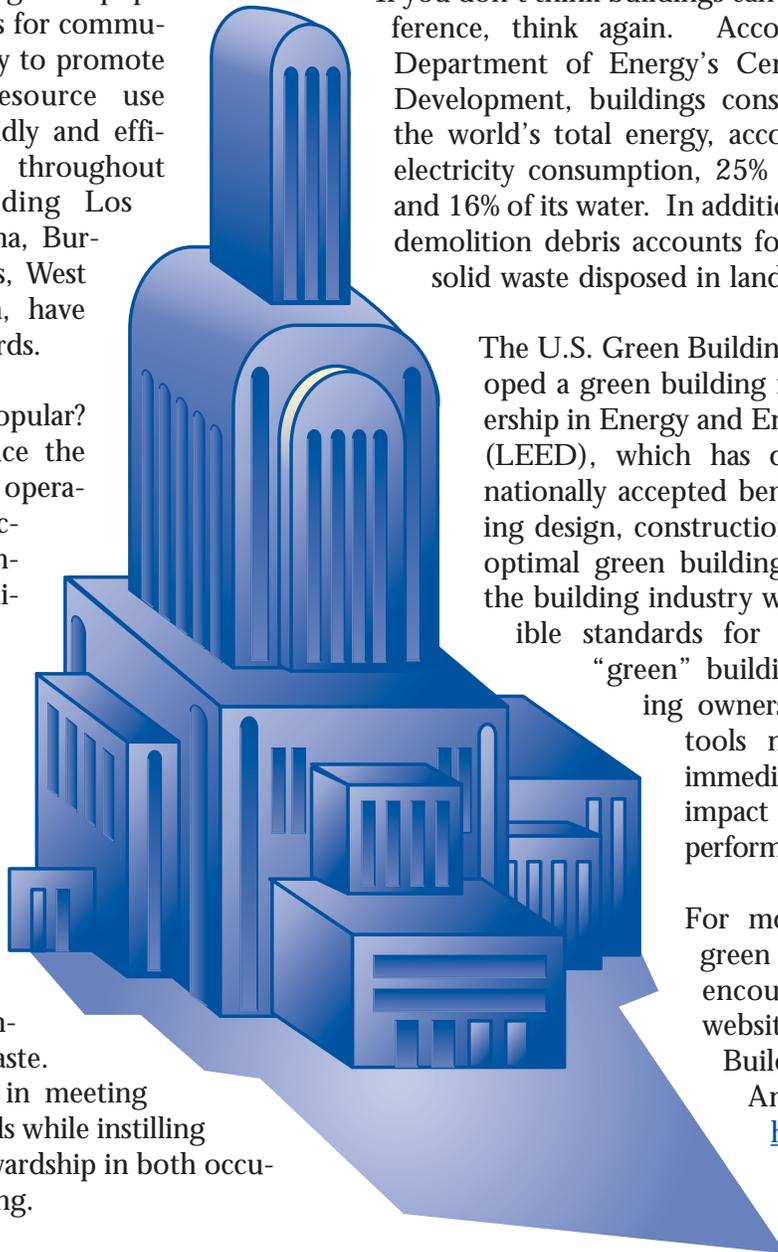
Can't wait till the Workshops to learn? Order a free Smart Gardening Video through our SmartGardening.com website. Once there, click on "Additional Information" to submit a request.

For more information, contact Jennifer Ang at 626-458-3580 or call (888) CLEAN LA.

# GREEN BUILDING INITIATIVES ARE GAINING GROUND

Green building standards have gained popularity in recent years as a means for communities and the building industry to promote responsible material and resource use through environmentally friendly and efficient design. Already cities throughout Los Angeles County, including Los Angeles, Long Beach, Pasadena, Burbank, Santa Monica, Calabasas, West Hollywood and Santa Clarita, have adopted green building standards.

Why is green building so popular? Because green buildings reduce the impact from the construction, operation and maintenance of structures on people and the environment. Green buildings minimize energy and water usage, improve indoor air quality and employee morale/productivity, and result in significant utility and maintenance cost savings over the life of a building. More importantly for the solid waste industry, green buildings also encourage utilization of recyclable and recycled content materials and the reduction of construction and demolition waste. This assists local jurisdictions in meeting the State's waste reduction goals while instilling a culture of environmental stewardship in both occupants and visitors of the building.



If you don't think buildings can make that much difference, think again. According to the U.S. Department of Energy's Center for Sustainable Development, buildings consume nearly 40% of the world's total energy, accounts for 65% of its electricity consumption, 25% of its wood harvest and 16% of its water. In addition, construction and demolition debris accounts for at least 12% of all solid waste disposed in landfills Statewide.

The U.S. Green Building Council has developed a green building rating system, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), which has quickly become the nationally accepted benchmark for evaluating design, construction, and operations of optimal green buildings. LEED provides the building industry with consistent, credible standards for what constitutes a "green" building and gives building owners and operators the tools needed to have an immediate and measurable impact of their building's performance and efficiency.

For more information on green building, readers are encouraged to visit the website of the U.S. Green Building Council's Los Angeles chapter, <http://www.usgbc-la.org/>.

## WASTE BOARD MEMBER PAT WIGGINS WAS ELECTED TO THE CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE

At the California Integrated Waste Management Board Meeting of November 15, 2006, Member Pat Wiggins, was honored for her service on the Board. She expressed her appreciation for all the acknowledgements and indicated that as a state Senator, she would support the advancement of conversion technologies.

~ Glenn Acosta, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County

# REGIONAL SOLID WASTE CONFERENCE DRAWS LARGE CROWD

On November 9, 2006, the Southern California Waste Management Forum held its 2006 Annual Conference at the Double Tree Hotel in the City of Ontario. The all day Conference attracted over 250 attendees from all over California as well as some neighboring states and three members of the California Integrated Waste Management Board. Speakers included representatives from the industry and environmental groups; local, state and federal governments as well as Waste Board members Ms. Margo Reid Brown, Chair (keynote speaker), Mr. Jeff Danzinger (luncheon speaker) and Ms. Rosalie Mule (a panelist).

The morning sessions included a diversity of topics, for example, providing an update on the Statewide electronic waste management program, demonstrating how to recognize explosive devices at landfill entrance gates, providing an update on the City and County of Los Angeles'

efforts to develop conversion technologies to manage post-recycled residual solid waste, and providing an overview of Seattle's newly adopted ordinance providing for mandatory residential and commercial recycling programs as well as banning certain recyclables from being mixed with trash. The afternoon session consisted of a roundtable discussion on how the solid waste community can maximize renewable energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

According to one attendee, "the conference highlighted the potential impact of solid waste management activities on global warming, and was timely in the wake of the State's recent initiative to combat global warming."

For more information, please visit the Forum's website ([www.scwmf.org](http://www.scwmf.org)) or contact Mr. Chuk Agu of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works at (626) 458-3556.

