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 VISIT THE CITY OF MODESTO WEBSITE AT:
www.modestogov.com

Help Us Keep Our Storm Drain System Healthy

2004 PRUNED REFUSE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

The calendar below provides you with specific information about when you should place your Pruned Refuse out for collection. Refuse is only collected once a month. Remember, it takes approximately two weeks for crews to pick up your collection area.

Key for Street Collection  Only days you may place your refuse out on the STREET for collection.  Day crews start to pick up STREET collection (First Monday of Month)	Key for Alley Collection  Only days you may place your refuse out on the ALLEY for collection.  Day crews start to pick up ALLEY collection (Third Monday of Month)

November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

*LEAVES ONLY
No Pruned Refuse
are leaves in street*

January 05

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February 05

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

March 05

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

April 05

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

December 2004. Leaves picked up only. No pruned refuse. Leaves will be collected from STREETS only. No plastic bags, boxes, etc.

For further information or questions regarding this schedule, please call the Community Forestry Division at 342-2249.

Once the container is full, place leaves in piles on the street near the curb, but clear of the gutter to allow storm water to flow freely. Keep leaves away from storm drains or other inlets in the street. Do not put leaves in bags or containers other than the green yard waste container.

Crews from the city's Community Forestry Division will collect piles of leaves from the street only. Leaves left in alleys will not be collected. Once collected, leaves are taken to an undeveloped park site and recycled to improve soil conditions.

Clip the attached 2004-05 Pruned Refuse Collection Schedule and post it in a convenient place. Note: throughout the month of December city crews pick up leaves only. Pruned refuse will not be collected during the month of December. Pruned clippings and tree trimmings can be placed in the green yard waste container.

Now that fall is here and the rainy season is approaching, it is important to understand the effect fallen leaves and other debris have on the storm drain system. Leaves and debris that blow or are washed into gutters and streets can block storm drains. In order to make the City's storm drain system perform more effectively, City crews have employed a preventative maintenance program, which provides for annual cleaning of most of the City's rockwells. Members of the community can also help to keep storm drains free of leaves and other debris.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

1. Keep the sidewalk and gutter clear of leaves and other debris by sweeping these items up and disposing of them properly.
2. Place grass, shrub clippings, brush, and tree clippings in the green yard waste container.

3. Never wash dirt and leaves into the storm drain or other inlets.
4. Never dump anything down the storm drain.
5. Consult the City's Leaf Removal Program schedule for proper and timely disposal of leaves.

WHEN DOES THE CITY COLLECT LEAVES?

The City of Modesto Leaf Removal Program operates during the months of November and December only. During the rest of the year, January 1 through October 31, leaves should be placed in your green yard waste container.

WHERE SHOULD I PLACE MY LEAVES FOR COLLECTION?

During the Leaf Removal Program months, city residents should place leaves in the green yard waste container.

HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

For questions regarding Leaf and Pruned Refuse Collection, call the Community Forestry Division at 342-2249. For more information on storm drains, contact the City's Collection Division at 577-6200 or visit the Public Works department on the City's website at www.modestogov.com.

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City Pride is brought to you by the Modesto City Council: Mayor Jim Ridenour, Vice Mayor Janice Keating, Councilmember Bob Dunbar, Councilmember Brad Hawn, Councilmember Denny Jackman, Councilmember Garrad Marsh and Councilmember Will O'Bryant.

Urban Forestry Team Keeps Modesto Lookin' Good! BY DAVID PALADINI



The grind and buzz of a chain saw can be heard throughout the neighborhood prompting curious children and busy parents to pop their heads out the door to catch a glimpse of the action. Sometimes kids will actually sit down and watch the City crews hard at work. The thrill of watching the crash of branches and the whirl of falling leaves is a compelling attraction to adults and kids alike.

Bright and early in the morning before kids run off to school and parents off to work, tree crews are knocking on doors all over the neighborhood. People open their doors to the flashing lights and sounds of busy workmen getting ready to start their work. An Urban Forestry crew member asks families to make sure cars are pulled safely in garages or parked a safe distance away from falling debris.

With the quick snap of a pull start, the chainsaws roar to life. While workmen prepare the area below, a tree trimmer is secured inside his lift platform and up he goes, lofted high into the air and pushed into the wild overgrown branches. I remember sitting on my porch thinking about how unnerving it must be up that high. Now, I know they were safely connected to the lift truck below, but I still admire their bravery as they push even higher, trimming and cutting as they go.

Meanwhile, on the ground below, workmen are dragging the fallen branches covered with mistletoe away to the grinder truck to be recycled and used as compost. Others take chainsaws and slice up the pieces that are too big to be safely ground up. Sometimes they allow local residents to take some of the larger logs for firewood. This was the highlight of my day when I was younger. I had the opportunity to talk with the tree trimmers and they even helped me carry some logs over to my house where I would eventually move them to the woodpile out back. This gave my family some firewood to burn the next year, on the days sanctioned as burn days by the Air Quality Control Board.

As a young boy, I was impressed with the City of Modesto crew members from the Urban Forestry Division of Public Works. One friendly crewmember passed on a lot of useful knowledge to me. For instance, he told me that there is a 7-year cycle for the crews to come trim the trees in each neighborhood. I was also told that mistletoe, though pretty and often used as holiday decor, is a cancer-like parasite that will kill trees if it isn't removed. I learned that there are actually more trees in Modesto than people, that



THE BUNYA BUNYA TREE IN GRACEADA PARK.

some of the oldest trees in Modesto are planted around the McHenry Mansion, and they were planted there before 1887. Did you know that the tallest tree in Modesto is in Graceada Park and stands over 119 feet tall? Imagine trimming that! This tree is called a Bunya Bunya and it is originally from Australia. I have learned that Modesto is famous for the "Modesto Ash" and "Pearl Street Pistache" and that the city has been recognized by the National Arbor Day Foundation as a "Tree City USA" for the past 24 years.

As Modesto continues to grow and thrive, our neighborhoods get larger, and more trees are planted and maintained. As you drive down Modesto's streets, enjoy the leaves changing color this autumn and remember that this beauty is due to the dedication of our Urban Forestry crews and their care for our city trees.



Modesto has been recognized as a Tree City USA for 20 years. Over the next few months we will be exploring facts about different Modesto trees. The first tree we are taking a look at is quite common around Modesto. You can find this tree in many city parks as well as many yards around Modesto.

This tree is the Magnolia Grandiflora. French Botanist Pierre Magnol discovered and established the genus Magnolia. The first species was named Magnolia Virginiana. His work led to the classification of the Magnolia Grandiflora which was transported to North America in the 1800s. The Grandiflora generally grows around 20-30 ft high, but at older ages can grow much higher. The Grandiflora produces large beautifully-shaped flowers.

RECYCLING WITH BLUE BAGS

City of Modesto residents are encouraged to recycle with the Blue Bag Program. Toss all your glass, paper, cardboard, plastic bottles (#'s 1-7), aluminum and metal containers in a blue bag and place the bags in your black garbage can. Lightly rinse out containers and remove bottle lids; labels may be left on. Blue bags are available for free at the following locations:

City Hall at the Mall – Vintage Faire Mall
Tenth Street Place – 1010 Tenth Street, 2nd and 4th Floors
Coldwell Office – 720 Coldwell Avenue
King-Kennedy Center – 601 N. Martin Luther King Drive
Senior Citizens Center – 211 Bodem Avenue
New Deal Market – 832 Oakdale Road
Police Area Command Centers – 3705 Oakdale Road and 409 Paradise Road

Residents can also use the blue, carry-out grocery bags provided by Richland Market, Save Mart, O'Brien's and Raley's. Please do not use blue bags for garbage or non-recyclable items.

For more details, call the Solid Waste Office at (209) 577-5494.

CELL PHONE RECYCLING!

City of Modesto residents can now put their old cell phones to good use! Donated phones are being distributed to our local senior citizens for calling 911 in police, fire and medical emergencies. Drop your phones, batteries and chargers, that are in working condition, in the designated box at all local Save Mart Supermarkets.

Contact The Area Agency on Aging at **(800) 510-2020** with questions regarding program eligibility.

HOLIDAY GARBAGE ROUTES

The Christmas and New Year's holidays will have no effect on the residential garbage routes. Please be sure to place your black and green containers out by 6:00 a.m. on your regular collection day throughout the holiday season.

BULKY ITEM PROGRAM DEADLINE

Due to the holiday season, the Bulky Item Program will be suspended from December 22, 2004, until January 2, 2005.

Please call your garbage company by December 14 to schedule your final appointment for the year and to learn about program guidelines and restrictions.

Garbage and Yard Waste Collection Just the Facts!



DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

- 1) Both the black garbage and green yard waste cans must not weigh more than 100 pounds each for collection.
- 2) Garbage can lids must be closed at all times to reduce odors and insect problems.
- 3) Garbage and yardwaste must not be piled above the can's rim or stored on the ground next to the cans. Residents can order a second black garbage can for \$13.75 per month.
- 4) Garbage cans must never be stored on the street or sidewalk. Cans should be placed out for collection the evening before, or by 6:00 a.m. the day of collection and returned to the yard the same day.
- 5) For customers without alley service, garbage cans must be placed in the street for collection and NOT on the sidewalk.

WINTERIZING YOUR WATERING HABITS

Adjust the clock on your automatic watering system to fit the needs of your lawn! Your lawn will need less water when it starts to cool off.

Do not water in the middle of the day, or during windy and rainy conditions. Remember, during the fall and winter your lawn is semi-dormant and needs very little added water. Learn to adjust your irrigation timers to save water during the rainy season.

Occasional watering through the winter is needed for evergreens during dry periods.

Consider aerating your lawn and yard to keep the soil porous. Top dressing with fine humus or mulch over the lawn will increase moisture holding ability in the soil. About 1/8 to 1/4 inch at a time will help.

Remember! Water restrictions are in effect year-round for City of Modesto customers.

Safe Pets, Safe Children



With school now in full swing, Modesto Police Department's Animal Control officers would like to take this opportunity to remind pet owners how important it is to keep their animals secured. Loose dogs create potential hazards for children as they head to and from school. If your dog is found running loose, it may be impounded. You will be required to pay fees to the shelter to reclaim your dog. In addition to these fees, you may be assessed additional fines by the City of Modesto for violations of City Municipal Codes.

If, for any reason, your dog does get out, it is important he/she have proper identification. Most importantly dogs should have a license. The Stanislaus County Department of Animal Services now issues dog licenses for City residents. To obtain a license, contact the Animal Shelter at 2846 Finch Rd, or call 558 - 7387. You must be able to provide a current rabies certificate. There is a discount for owners who are also able to provide a spay/neuter certificate for their dog.

If you wish to report a violation that needs a response by Animal Control, please contact Modesto Police Department Dispatch at 552-2470. If you have any other questions or comments, you may call 342-9186.

CLIP AND SAVE ••••• CLIP AND SAVE ••••• CLIP AND SAVE •••••

NUMBERS TO KNOW

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Emergency - Fire/Police/Medical	9-1-1
Graffiti (In Progress)	9-1-1
Flooding (24 Hours)	577-6200
Sandbags	342-2244

NON-EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Fire Department	572-9590
Police Department (24 Hour-Dispatch)	552-2470
Police Department (Phone Reports)	572-9500
Police Department NE Area Office	572-9657
Police Department NW Area Office	572-9635
Police Department SW Area Office	572-9676
Abandoned Autos	342-6142
Animal Control	572-9679
Graffiti Abatement (24 Hours)	342-2259
Neighborhood Blight, Illegal Dumping, etc	577-5250
Water Waste	571-5103

MAIN NUMBERS

City Hall Information	577-5490
City Hall at the Mall	571-5590
TDD Only	526-9211
Modesto City Council	571-5169
Modesto Centre Plaza	577-6444

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Dial-A-Ride	527-4900
MAX Buses	521-1274

CITY SERVICES

Account Billing- Water/Sewer/Garbage	577-5395
Animal Services	342-9186
Building Inspections	577-5232
Garbage/Recycling Information	577-5494
Garden Refuse/Sidewalk	342-2249
Golf Reservations & Information	491-4653
Park Repairs	342-2248
Recreation Programs/Park Reservations	577-5344
Sewer/Storm Drain (Illegal Dumping)	577-6200
Street Hazards	342-2244
Street Lights & Traffic Signal Problems	342-2297
Traffic Signs	342-2247
Used Oil Recycling	577-5493
Water Repairs/Temporary Turn-Offs	342-2246
Water Conservation	342-4580