



MODESTO  
CALIFORNIA

www.modestogov.com

(209) 577-5200 • TDD (209) 526-9211



# City Beat

CITY OF MODESTO

JULY 2014

## RECYCLE

### What should you put In Your Green Can?

- Grass
- Leaves
- Plants
- Weeds
- Clippings
- Brush
- Tree Limbs
- Food Scraps
- Fruits & Vegetables
- Paper Napkins
- Paper Towels
- Newspaper
- Junk Mail
- Magazines
- Phone Books
- Cardboard

### What should you NOT put In Your Green Can?

- Garbage
- Plastic Bags
- Diapers
- Glass or Metal
- Plastics
- Styrofoam
- Dirt & Rocks
- Concrete or Asphalt
- Wood Scraps
- Wood Products
- Toxic Materials
- TVs or Computers
- Animal Waste
- Dead Animals

## MID Surface Water Delivery Decrease

The City of Modesto's surface water allocation deliveries from MID will be decreased from an average of 30 million gallons per day to 17 million gallons per day due to the drought. This 13 million gallon per day reduction went into effect on May 1, 2014 and will continue through April 30, 2015. Because more well water will be used to supplement our water supply, customers may notice that the water at their taps contains more minerals than usual. While you may notice some aesthetic differences, your water will continue to meet all State Health Department standards.

The decrease in surface water allocation should not affect the amount of water available for Modesto's customer needs. Twenty years ago, the City of Modesto invested in a surface water treatment plant and that, along with increased water conservation efforts, has resulted in less groundwater being withdrawn each year from the aquifer. As a result, the Modesto sub basin has not suffered overdraft and this water bank is available for use now when we need it the most.

Due to the current drought conditions statewide, the Governor has asked all Californians to voluntarily cut back on water use by an average of 20%. We ask for your continued help in conserving this most precious resource.

SEWER PROBLEMS?  
CALL US FIRST  
577-6200

## ARE YOU A DOG OWNER?



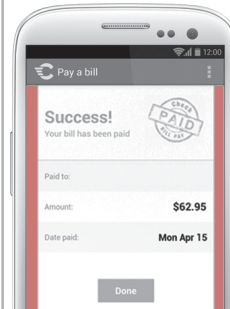
The Modesto Police Department and Modesto Dog Park Members would like to partner with our dog walking community to "Take a bite out of crime". Dog Walker Watch trains you how to effectively observe and report crime. Please join us for this informative evening, bring your pet, enjoy free hot-dogs (while they last) and good company!

When: Tuesday, July 22nd 2014 Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Enslin and Morris at Modesto Dog Park

For more information call Modesto Police Department Crime Prevention Unit Rosie Garcia 572-9636 and Christy Beffa 572-9639

# Check



Pay your City of Modesto  
Utility bill using  
your smartphone.

Reminder Notifications, Billing Alerts & More

Download the Check app TODAY!



Go to [check.me/modesto](http://check.me/modesto) on your phone

### WIPES CLOG PIPES!

Many personal hygiene wipes, baby wipes, and cleaning products are marketed as being "flushable." Despite the confusing and misleading labels, you should never flush "flushable" or "disposable" products. These products do not break down as they move through the sewer system and may cause blockages in your home sewer lines, resulting in sewer backup in your home. They can also cause blockages in the City's sewer pipes and pumps, causing sewer overflows, costly cleanup and repairs, and extensive environmental damage.

Remember, the only things that should be flushed are human waste and toilet paper. Do not flush items such as disinfecting wipes, paper towels, baby wipes, towelettes, or mop refills. These items should be placed in the trash.

Questions? Contact the City of Modesto Environmental Compliance Section at 577-6200



### Schedule Your Bulky Item Collection

City of Modesto Residents with 2-can garbage service are allowed 2 bulky item appointments per calendar year to dispose of items such as large appliances, furniture, bicycles, and mattresses.

Please call your garbage company to schedule your appointment.

**Bertolotti Disposal 537-8000**

**Gilton Solid Waste 527-3781**

Items may only be placed out the night before the scheduled collection date. For a list of acceptable items, please visit our website at [www.modestogov.com/prnd/recycling/bulkitems.asp](http://www.modestogov.com/prnd/recycling/bulkitems.asp)

For more information on the program, or if you see items in the street for more than 2 days, please call the Solid Waste Office at 577-5494

### Expanded Used Motor Oil Home Collection

Modesto Residential Garbage Customers\*, if you are a do-it-yourself kind of person and you change your car's motor oil, you can have the motor oil and filter collected at your home. It's Free and Easy! The oil and filter will be collected on your garbage service day when you follow these simple steps:

1. Call your garbage company and schedule a collection appointment  
**Gilton Solid Waste 527-3781**  
**Bertolotti Disposal 537-8000**
2. Pour the oil into a plastic container with a screw-top lid. Do not mix oil with other materials such as antifreeze, brake fluid, or gasoline
3. Drain the oil filter into the plastic container and place the filter in a plastic zipper bag \*\*
4. On your appointment day, place oil and filters out no later than 6 am. SET THEM ON THE DRIVEWAY, NEAR THE HOUSE, AND NOT AT THE CURB. Limit 4 gallons and 3 oil filters per week.

Do NOT mix your oil with any other substance such as antifreeze. Oil cannot be recycled if it is mixed with other substances. Contaminated oil must be taken to the Stanislaus County Household Hazardous Waste Facility at 1710 Morgan Rd. Friday and Saturdays 9am-1pm.

\*This program is only available to residential customers with a black and a green garbage container.

\*\*The City of Modesto has used oil containers and filter bags available to Modesto Residents.

For more information, call the Recycle Used Oil Hotline at (209)577-5493



### Please Continue to Conserve Water!

Stage One Water Restrictions Include:

- No outdoor watering on Mondays
- Outdoor water use only before noon and after 7 p.m.
- Addresses ending in odd-numbers only water on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday
- Addresses ending in even-numbers only water on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
- Car washing is subject to the above-cited limitations with the use of a positive shut-off nozzle
- Hosing of concrete areas, building exteriors, etc. may only be done with a City-issued permit and a positive shut-off nozzle
- Water leaks, once identified, must be repaired within 24 hours
- Restaurants are encouraged to serve water only upon request
- All landscaping (residential and commercial) must comply with existing and future landscaping ordinances.

### Water Conservation Tips

1. As a rule, water in 5-minute cycles.
2. Turn off automatic sprinklers when it rains; most automatic sprinkler systems have a rain delay mode or can be put in the "OFF" position without affecting the programming.
3. Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants; this slows evaporation of moisture and, as a bonus, discourages weed growth and soil erosion.
4. Check for leaking pipes and faucets; small leaks that are not repaired immediately can waste more than 5 gallons of water a day, or 2,500 gallons per year.
5. Check for toilet tank leaks; place a few drops of food coloring in your toilet tank, if you see the food coloring seep into the bowl, you have a leak.
6. Install low-flow shower heads; they can save up to eight gallons of water each minute the shower is used, or 4,800 gallons per person each year.
7. Turn off the water while brushing your teeth.
8. Wash only full loads in your washing machine.

For more information, please visit our website at [www.ci.modesto.ca.us/pwd/water/conservation](http://www.ci.modesto.ca.us/pwd/water/conservation)

### Proper Cleaning of Garbage Cans...

When you clean your garbage cans in your driveway or gutter the water eventually ends up in our City storm drains!

*So, what IS the proper way to clean and rinse your garbage cans?*

**Residential:** Find an unused space in your yard where you can rinse your garbage cans and empty the wash water onto a grassy area. The water will not harm the grass. Any solid material that may be washed out of the cans may be collected with a rake. Properly dispose of the waste in a paper or plastic bag and place it back into your garbage can.

**Businesses:** Contact your garbage hauler to exchange your dumpster for a clean one (NOTE: there will be a fee for this service). Restaurants should always double bag their garbage and clean spills with absorbent materials such as kitty litter or sand instead of hosing it into a storm drain. For more information, contact the City of Modesto at (209) 577-5493.

