

January 2010

CITY OF MODESTO

City Beat

www.modestogov.com

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Garbage & Recycling Opportunities Abound!

The City of Modesto offers residents a variety of ways to reduce, reuse and recycle waste items. The following is a summary of the garbage and recycling programs available to Modesto residents and businesses.

Organic Waste:

Residents should fill their green waste containers with small prunings, grass clippings, leaves, weeds, all forms of food waste, cardboard and paper waste. Paper waste includes newspapers, magazines, phone books, junk mail, paper towels and napkins, etc. All the material is recycled into compost at the City's Compost Facility. Please, do not put plastic bags, dirt, sod, rocks, concrete, animal feces, household garbage or wood in your green container.

Buy Back Centers:

Residents can recycle California Redemption Value (CRV) beverage containers and some scrap items at any buy back center. For a complete list of locations call (800) RECYCLE or visit www.modestogov.com/prnd/recycling/buyback.asp.

Bulky Item Collection:

Modesto residents can dispose of large household items at the curb two times per calendar year for free. Call your garbage company for an appointment and program restrictions. Items are placed at the curb the night before the scheduled appointment.

Pruned Refuse – Leaf Collection:

Large prunings are picked up monthly from your street or alley. Prunings should be less than six feet in length and no single piece should weigh over 50 pounds. Place materials one foot from the curb or fence. No dirt, sod, grass clippings or concrete will be picked up. The city is divided into four service areas; set out and pick up times depend on your location. Please contact the Forestry Office at (209) 342-2249 to determine the schedule for your area. December is leaf season only; no pruned refuse will be collected.

(continued on back)

Electronic Billing

CITY OF MODESTO UTILITY BILLING GOES PAPERLESS

The City of Modesto Customer Service Division is pleased to announce the implementation of Paperless Electronic Utility Billing.

This "e-billing" process allows customers to receive their City of Modesto water, sewer, and garbage utility bill through e-mail instead of a paper bill in the mail. Customers will have the ability to instantly view and pay their bill online, and store and print bills with expediting delivery time.

Once customers connect to our Interactive Web Pay System, they can pay their City of Modesto utility bill using a Visa, MasterCard, or a Debit Card with the Visa or MasterCard logo. The credit card payment is applied to the account immediately, with complete card verification.

To switch to paperless electronic utility billing, call Customer Services at (209) 577-5395 and ask one of our customer service representatives about switching to paperless "e-billing."

City Beat is printed on 30% recycled paper.



(continued from front)

Leaves are collected from the street only. Piles of leaves with pruned refuse mixed in will not be collected.

Used Oil Recycling:

Modesto residents can recycle up to four gallons of used oil each week, free. Collection is by appointment only. Call your garbage company and make an appointment. Pour the oil into a plastic container with a screw-top lid. Do not mix the oil with any other materials. Place the jugs on your driveway near your house or garage, NOT AT CURBSIDE, by 6 a.m. on the appointed day. Residents can also recycle used oil at any of Modesto's Certified Collection Centers. Call (209) 577-5493 for details.

Household Hazardous Waste:

All area residents and "registered small quantity generator businesses" can dispose of hazardous materials at the Stanislaus County HHW Facility. Materials such as paint, solvents, used oil, batteries, brake fluid, antifreeze, fluorescent lights, and electronic devices (computers, monitors, TV's, VCR's, etc) cannot be put in the garbage and must be handled properly. The Facility is located at 1716 Morgan Road and is open Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. for free residential disposal opportunities. Please call (209) 525-4123 for more information.

Waste Tires:

Free recycling events are offered to residents (no businesses) when grant funds are available. Contact your garbage company for program restrictions and to see when the next event is scheduled.

If you have questions about these or any other garbage or recycling program, please contact the Solid Waste Office at (209) 577-5494 or visit www.modestogov.com/prnd/recycling.

Modesto Businesses Go Green!

Thank you to the Modesto businesses who have partnered with the City and decided to go green by recycling their food waste. For more information, contact Karin Rodriguez in the City of Modesto Solid Waste Office at (209) 577-5453.



Memorial Medical Center
A Sutter Health Affiliate

Rose Garden Florist



tacos, burritos, & tapatias



DINE-IN OR CARRY-OUT



Establish a Baseline for Your Household Water Use

This is a great time of year to estimate your baseline for water usage. In the winter months, the majority of your water use is indoors (drinking, bathing, and washing). By establishing a baseline, it encourages you to stay closer to your winter water use during the summer months. This will help reduce peak demands on the water system, protect our water supply, and potentially save you money. To establish a baseline, select one of the three months (January, February, or March) and use it as a baseline for the remainder of the year. This will help you estimate your outside water use and help you set goals to decrease your usage throughout the year.

If you have any questions, please call the Water Conservation Section at (209) 342-2246 or visit our website at www.modestogov.com/water conservation.

Due to the nature of mailing the City Beat with the utility water bills, some of the events/programs may have already occurred.