



September 2017

Back-to-school season is here! As a father of school-aged children and a champion for Great Safe Neighborhoods, please join me in reviewing these great back to school safety reminders:

Share the road safely.

Drivers, it's time to slow down! Keep an eye out for school buses, school crossing signs and zones. Sadly, we have seen an increase in school aged children being seriously injured during the hour before and after school. Please take extra care to look out for children in school zones, near playgrounds and parks, and in all residential areas.

Remind kids about bus safety.

When waiting for the bus, kids should stay away from traffic and avoid roughhousing. Make sure they line up away from the street and wait until the bus stops and the door opens before approaching the bus. If they have to cross in front of a bus, they should walk far enough out in front so that the driver can see them. They should also stay away from the rear wheels of buses at all times.

Remind kids to keep their heads up and their phones down!

There has also been an increase in teenagers being hit by cars, and you may be able to guess why. They are walking distracted because of their phones. The average teenager sends over 3,000 texts a month, so let's remind them of a few safety tips before they head out for school. Kids should never cross the street while using an electronic device and should not walk with headphones on. It is important for them to be aware of their surroundings at all times.

Drive safely and not distracted.

The most common form of travel to and from school for children 5 to 14 is the family car. You probably have a lot going on in your car. Your child is talking to you, you are listening to the radio and you might be receiving text messages, emails or phone calls. Removing distractions is the key to keeping children safe.

Thank you for joining me in keeping our kids safe and our community a better place to learn, work, live and enjoy.

Joe Lopez

Interim City Manager

Local Upcoming Events



Family Night Films at Graceada Park Friday, September 1, 8, 15, 22 | **Music in the Plaza** Friday, September 1, 8, 15, 22
Motown Boogie Hip Hop Festival Saturday, September 30 | **Downtown Modesto Harvest Festival** Saturday, October 14
Trunk or Treat Friday, October 27 | For a full list of community events www.visitmodesto.com

Back to School Backpack Event

On July 28th, the City of Modesto partnered with Modesto City Schools to host the “4th Annual Welcome Back to School” backpack event at James Marshall Park. Over 50 agencies took part in the event that provided over 800 backpacks to local children.

This year’s event surpassed previous years in size, with an estimate of 2,400 in attendance. The event featured information booths, cultural entertainment, youth activities, bounce houses and a children’s raffle for prizes and refreshments. Enochs High School’s Forensic Biotech students were on hand to engage children by sharing core science concepts with their young peers.

Bruce Lockard, Recreation Supervisor for the City of Modesto and one of the many event organizers, had this to say about the annual event: “The 4th Annual Welcome Back to School community event continues to grow and provide families a memorable and enriching experience each year. The unity in the community and valuable connections between organizations are a beneficial resource to families.”

The City of Modesto is grateful for the many partnerships it takes to make this event successful. For more information on how to become involved in next year’s Welcome Back to School backpack event, please contact the City of Modesto Parks, Recreation and Neighborhoods Department at 577-5344.



One easy call gets your utility lines marked and helps protect you from injury and expense.

Safe Digging Is No Accident: Always Call 811 Before You Dig

Visit call811.com for more information.



September 2017

Green Waste – Leaf & Limb Collection (Residential):



City of Modesto Residential Customers* are eligible for large green waste collection monthly (January through November) from their street or alley. December is leaf season only; green waste will not be collected. Leaves are collected from the street only. Piles of leaves with green waste mixed in will not be collected.**

Please follow these guidelines for collection:

- Green Waste can only be placed out 72 hours prior to the Monday of your collection week.
- The City is divided into four service areas; set out and pick up times depend on your location.
- Items placed out must be less than six feet in length and six inches in diameter.
- No single piece can weigh over 50 pounds.
- Place materials 18 inches from the curb or fence.
- Small Green Waste (grass clippings, vines, twigs and other similar soft vegetative materials) shall be placed in the organic recycling container for collection.
- Leaves may only be placed in the street for collection during the months of November and December.
- All materials must be adjacent to the property where they were created.
- No dirt, sod, grass clippings, roots, stumps, rocks or concrete will be picked up.

Most of the materials are sent to the Compost Facility for processing.

For more information, visit our website at: www.modestogov.com/360/Green-Waste-Collection or call the Green Waste Division at (209) 577-5463.

*Does not include residents living on privately owned streets.

**This does not apply to your organic recycling container.

Piles placed out too early for collection are subject to code enforcement actions and possible citations.

Don't Leave Leaves and Grass Clippings in our Gutters

Join the City of Modesto Environmental Services and Stormwater Collections Sections in keeping grass clippings off the streets and out of the gutters.

Grass clippings placed in the road:

- Are unsightly
- Endanger aquatic life
- Clog storm drains
- Cause flooding
- Can lead to fines
- Increase maintenance costs for taxpayers

The City of Modesto Municipal Code section 4-7.1103 (a) 2 and 4-7.1103 (e) state: With the exception of leaf season, all small green waste such as grass clippings shall be placed into the Organic Recycling Container. Leaves may only be placed in the street for collection from November 1 through December 31.

When it rains, grass clippings and other vegetative debris are washed down our storm drains and into our stormwater collection system. If this material does not clog up the system, it often ends up in stormwater basins, creeks, or rivers where they start to decay. This process consumes oxygen in the water while releasing nutrients and it can lead to algae blooms and kill fish.

If you have any questions, please contact the City of Modesto Environmental Services Section 24/7 at 577-6200.

The
MODESTO
HOME
Improvement
SHOW

SEPTEMBER 29
through
OCTOBER 1

Please join the City of Modesto - Water Conservation Team at the Home Improvement show Friday, September 29 thru Sunday, October 1, 2017. Show times are Friday: 12PM – 5PM, Saturday & Sunday: 10AM - 5PM at the Modesto Centre Plaza 1000 L Street, Modesto, CA.

Ask our staff about the current water restrictions, rebate incentives and landscape water audits.



Water Use Restrictions Effective June 1, 2017

Did You Know...

- You can have a water audit
- Have your timers reset
- Get help with meter reading
- Learn how to check for leaks in your home

CALL 209-342-2246 to schedule your Audit Appointment

Current Water Use Restrictions - Effective June 1, 2017

Approved by City Council on 5/23/17, effective 6/1/17 through 10/31/17

Odd - numbered addresses water on Wednesday, Friday & Sunday

Even - numbered addresses water on Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday

- No outdoor water use on Monday or daily between 12:00pm and 7:00pm
- Use of drip irrigation and hand watering of trees and shrubs with use of positive shutoff nozzle is permitted at any time
- Car washing is permitted with use of a positive shutoff nozzle
- Hosing concrete areas, building exteriors, etc. is prohibited except for health/safety concerns or for maintenance/construction purposes, with use of a positive shutoff nozzle
- Water leaks must be repaired within 24 hours
- Restaurants and food service establishments are prohibited from serving water except upon request
- Outdoor fountains are permitted if operated with recirculating water
- No irrigating turf or ornamental landscapes during or 48 hours following measurable rain
- Operators of hotels and motels must provide guests with the option of choosing not to have towels and linens laundered daily and prominently display notice of this option
- Outdoor watering must be kept on your property...avoid water runoff

ATTENTION: TURLOCK, GRAYSON, AND CERES WALNUT MANOR

Important Note: Outlying water systems owned by the city will remain under Stage 2 restrictions through October 2017 because they are supplied solely by groundwater from outside the Modesto sub-basin. These include the Turlock, Grayson, and Ceres Walnut Manor water systems.

Penalties for Violations of Water Usage Restrictions



Violation

- First Notice of Violation
- Second Notice of Violation
- Third Notice of Violation
- Subsequent Violations

Fine

- Educational pamphlet provided, no fine issued
- \$150
- \$250
- \$500



City of Modesto: www.modestogov.com/savewater

State of California: www.saveourwater.com

209-342-2246

MOVE THOSE CANS...

Per City of Modesto Municipal Code, where service occurs in the street in front of your home, garbage and organic recycling containers may be placed out only 24 hours prior to and after the service day. The containers must be placed in the street on the asphalt next to the curb or on the edge of the driveway apron. Do not block sidewalks. Pedestrians, handicapped residents and people with strollers have the right-of-way on sidewalks, so it is important to keep sidewalks clear. Help make our community a safer place for everyone by placing your garbage cans in the street.

This does not apply to those residents with alley service. If you have questions about can placement, please call the City of Modesto, Solid Waste office at 577-5493.

SEWER PROBLEMS?
CALL US FIRST
577-6200

JOIN THE ECO-FRIENDLY REVOLUTION

Recycle your plastics, cans & glass bottles



Let us bring a recycling trailer to YOUR next event in Modesto

It's free!
and everyone can do it



For more information on event recycling call
Vicki Rice | City of Modesto | Recycling Program Coordinator
(209) 577-5495

Tell Us How We're Doing

Your feedback is very important to us.
Please take a moment to complete our
online survey.

**PERFORMANCE
MATTERS**

Customer Services Division
Online Survey

modestogov.com/customer-survey