



Main Menu Recording  
 (209) 577-5200  
 TTD  
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 Web site  
[www.modestogov.com](http://www.modestogov.com)

FEBRUARY 2009

## BACKYARD COMPOSTING

### CLASSES AVAILABLE

The City of Modesto in partnership with Modesto Junior College Community Education will offer FREE backyard composting classes to Modesto residents.

**\*\*Non-Modesto residents will be charged a \$30 fee.**

This class will teach you how to put your garden refuse to good use. Classes will be held as follows:

- **Tuesday, March 31** from 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
East Campus, Agriculture Building, room #124
- **Saturday, May 2** from 10 a.m.-noon  
East Campus, Agriculture Building, room #133

To register, contact the Modesto Junior College Community Education Office at (209) 575-6063. **Hurry, space is limited!**

### COMPOSTING COUPON

The City of Modesto has a composting program that collects and processes residential yard waste from the green cans and large yard waste collection program. The material is combined to make Modesto's Mo-Gro-Pro, a clean green compost which is then sold back to the community in bulk quantities.

The coupon below entitles you to a free yard of compost when you purchase a yard. Please note, an open bed pickup or trailer is needed to purchase compost.

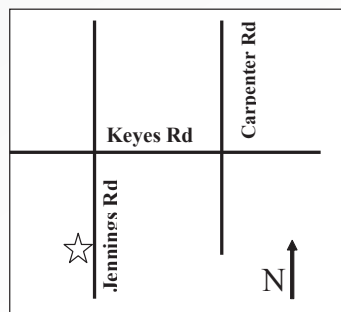
**BUY ONE YARD OF COMPOST  
 AT \$15.75... GET THE SECOND  
 YARD FREE!**

To receive this offer, bring this coupon with you to:

7007 Jennings Road.  
 Phone: (209) 538-2557  
 Hours: M-F 11a.m.-3:30 p.m.  
**Closed from noon-1 p.m.**

**BULK SALES ONLY**  
 1 free yard per paying customer

**Coupon expires 12/31/2010**



## TOP GARBAGE VIOLATIONS

The City of Modesto's Solid Waste Division requests that citizens please refrain from the following, for the health and safety of all:

1. Placing garbage in the green yard waste can, especially plastic bags.
2. Not making an appointment for a bulky item pick-up and placing items in the street.
3. Placing bulky items in the street more than 24 hours before a scheduled bulky item pick-up appointment.
4. Placing unacceptable items out for bulky item collection, including tires, TVs, glass, wood, construction debris, garbage, clothing, bags, boxes of trash, etc.
5. Placing hazardous waste in the garbage instead of taking it to the Household Hazardous Waste Facility. Hazardous waste includes motor oil, paint, batteries, fluorescent lights, electronics, etc.
6. Rinsing dirty garbage cans and excess concrete residue into the street instead of on the lawn or in the yard.
7. Draining pool or spa water into the street instead of into a bathtub or sink which takes the water to the sewer system.
8. Placing garbage cans on the sidewalk for collection.
9. Leaving garbage cans in the street on days other than scheduled pick-up day.
10. Overfilling garbage or yard waste cans.
11. Placing or storing anything in an alley such as: unwanted items, furniture, appliances, etc.

**Questions? Call (209) 577-5493.**

\* Due to the cyclic nature of mailing the City Beat with the water/sewer/garbage bills, some of the events/programs may have already occurred.

## THE CITY NEEDS YOUR HELP... IT TAKES A COMMUNITY

Think of all the places you use water every day - running your dishwasher, taking a shower, brushing your teeth, washing your hands, doing your laundry, flushing the toilet, etc. Each time you do one of these activities the water and anything in it travels through a massive system of pipes throughout the City and ends up at the City of Modesto's Wastewater Treatment Plant. The water collected at this treatment plant is considered wastewater as it contains waste from a variety of sources as mentioned above in the daily activities listing... any time water has something added to it, it becomes waste water. The treatment plant collects wastewater from homes, businesses, restaurants and industrial plants as well.

There are approximately 642 miles of pipes that travel under the City of Modesto for the purpose of collecting and transferring wastewater to the treatment plant. City crews with specialized equipment clean these lines on an on-going basis. Occasionally, the pipes become blocked and cause the wastewater to overflow and bubble out of the sewer manholes you see in streets. While the City works hard to prevent these situations, they do occur and we look to our citizens to help locate the overflows as quickly as possible.

Another way the City looks to citizens to help is to be careful of what they send down their drains at home. The two most common causes for these blockages are grease and rags. While restaurants are required to have grease traps on their wastewater lines to keep grease from entering the pipe system, homes are not equipped with these traps. Even grease poured down the sink followed by warm water can cause a blockage. As the water cools, the grease coats the pipes and causes a blockage.

The City urges residents to call the Wastewater Treatment Plant if they see water bubbling, flowing or standing on the street from a manhole. Call (209) 577-6200 to report these and a crew will be sent to investigate the cause.



## Waste Tire Recycling Program

Tires that are kept in backyards and garages pose a hazard in many ways. Don't let waste tires pile up, dispose of them properly.

City of Modesto residents can recycle their waste tires for **FREE** at any of the scheduled Waste Tire Recycling events. The tires are recycled locally and made into many useful products.

Recycling your tires with the City's **Waste Tire Recycling Program** is simple! To take advantage of this great program there are two things you must do:

1. Call your garbage company and request a Tire Recycling Coupon. It will be mailed to you:
  - Gilton Solid Waste: (209) 527-3781
  - Bertolotti Disposal: (209) 537-8000
2. Take the coupon and your waste tires to your garbage company for free disposal on the following dates:
  - February 1-7, 2009
  - March 1-7, 2009
  - April 5-11, 2009
  - May 3-9, 2009
  - June 7-13, 2009

You must bring your Tire Recycling Coupon with you when you drop-off your tires.

Each *household* is limited to nine (9) tires. Tires can be any size; tires with or without rims are accepted.

**WARNING:** Per state law, you may not transport more than nine (9) waste tires without a Waste Tire Hauler Permit or written permission by the California Integrated Waste Management Board.

*Questions?*

*Call the Solid Waste Division at (209) 577-5494.*

*This program was made possible by a grant from the California Integrated Waste Management Board.*