

City Beat

www.modestogov.com

(209) 577-5200

TDD (209) 526-9211

CUSTOMER SERVICE HOLIDAY CLOSURES

The City of Modesto City Hall, located at 1010 Tenth Street, will be closed due to the holidays and work furloughs:

December 24, 2010 through January 2, 2011

For assistance with your utility services, Customer Service Representatives will be available by phone Monday, December 27, 2010 through Thursday, December 30, 2010 from 8:30AM - 4:30PM

Utility payments can be made by phone or online 24 hours a day - 7 days a week



Customer Service
(209) 577-5395



Pay by Phone
(209) 577-5395
Option 4



Pay Online at
www.modestogov.com

For information on all City Hall holiday closures visit us online at:
www.modestogov.com

Reduce Holiday Waste

Holidays are a time for giving and sharing, and that creates a lot of extra waste!

A typical household generates approximately 45 pounds of trash per week. During the weeks between Thanksgiving and New Year's, each household produces about 15 additional pounds of trash. Almost all of this extra trash is not recyclable, or simply does not get recycled. Here are some ideas to help reduce waste, and have fun while doing it:

- Go on an outing to gather and collect leaves, berries, pinecones, fruits and nuts from trees in your yard or neighborhood to decorate your home.
- Buy a live tree that can be planted after the holiday, or use a smaller potted tree to re-use year after year.
- Decorate your tree with special chocolates and candies, home made gingerbread cookies, strings of popcorn, and ornaments made from flour or sugar dough.
- Cut up last year's Christmas cards and glue onto brown lunch sacks for decoration or as a name tag. Use craft scissors to make zig zags and fancy edges and fabric scraps to make a bow or ribbon.
- Wrap gifts in something that can be worn by the recipient- a bandana, scarf, towel or blanket.
- Place small items such as candies and small toys in paper towel or toilet tissue tubes and wrap like a Tootsie Roll.
- Reload your empty gift cards and give them as gifts rather than tossing them out.

These are some small and simple things that anyone can do to help reduce waste, while reusing and recycling everyday items.

Winter/Spring 2011 Activity Guide Available Monday, December 6!

To download the Winter/Spring 2011 Activity Guide, visit www.modestogov.com/prnd/activityguide.

Call the Parks, Recreation and Neighborhoods Department at (209) 577-5344 to find out where you can pick up a **FREE** copy.

For more information, call (209) 577-5344.

Holiday Garbage Routes

Garbage service will not be affected for the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

City Beat is printed on 30% recycled paper.



Christmas Trees to be Collected and Recycled

City of Modesto crews will begin collecting green, untreated Christmas trees in January as part of the normal green waste collection program. Collected trees are recycled at the City's compost facility.

Please follow these simple steps to ensure proper disposal of Christmas trees:

Disposal of Untreated Green Christmas Trees:

- Remove all tree stands, rods, tinsel and plastic bags. Trees cannot be picked up by City crews if these items have not been removed.
- Cut trees in half if they are more than six (6) feet tall.
- Place trees curbside or in the alley to be collected with your regular yard trimmings or in your green waste can.
- **OR** cut up the tree and place it in the green waste can.

Disposal of Trees Treated With Flocking, Painting or Fireproofing:

Trees with flocking, painting or fireproofing cannot be composted and will not be collected by City crews. Flocked, painted or fireproofed trees may be cut up and placed in your black garbage can or taken to the nearest garbage company transfer station. Transfer stations are at the following locations:

Gilton Solid Waste

800 S. McClure Road, Modesto
(209) 527-3781

Bertolotti Disposal

231 Flamingo Drive, Modesto
(209) 537-8000

For a green waste collection map and schedule, visit www.modestogov.com/prnd/trees/green_waste.asp. For more information on Christmas tree collection or the City's green waste program visit www.modestogov.com/prnd/trees, or contact the Forestry Division at (209) 342-2249.

December is Leaf Collection Month

Only leaves will be collected in the month of December. Prunings will NOT be collected. All leaves are picked up from the street. There is no alley pick-up for leaves.

The collection schedule will vary due to weather conditions and workload.

PLEASE NOTE: Crews WILL NOT collect: tree stumps, household items, tires, plastic, bags, boxes, cardboard, trash, junk, dirt, rocks, concrete, sod, ground cover, building materials or scrap lumber.

For more information, please visit www.modestogov.com/prnd/trees/default.asp or call the Forestry Division at (209) 342-2249.

For information on disposal of these items, call the Solid Waste Division at (209) 577-5494.

TOP Six Garbage Violations

1. Placing or storing anything in an alley - unwanted items, furniture, appliances, etc.
2. Placing non-organic garbage in the green waste can.
3. Placing bulky items in the street without an appointment or more than 24 hours before the appointment.
4. Depositing trash into neighbors can without permission.
5. Placing unacceptable items out for bulky item collection.
6. Placing hazardous waste in the garbage or green waste cans.

To report violations, call the Solid Waste Division at (209) 577-5493.

CITY OF MODESTO WASTE TIRE RECYCLING EVENTS

Program guidelines:

City of Modesto residents only
No businesses
Tires with rims—OK
Tires all sizes—OK
Questions? Call (209) 577-5495

What to do:

- Call your garbage company and request a coupon
Gilton Solid Waste (209) 527-3781
Bertolotti Disposal (209) 537-8000
- Take tires to garbage company
- Do not mix tires with other waste

FREE DISPOSAL ON DATES LISTED BELOW

December 5-11, 2010

January 2-8, 2011

February 6-12, 2011

Funded by a grant from the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle).



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