



# City Beat

www.modestogov.com  
(209) 577-5200 • TDD (209) 526-9211

AUGUST 2015



## Pollution Prevention Begins with You...

National Pollution Prevention Week will be celebrated  
September 21 through September 27.

The City of Modesto has these pollution prevention tips for you:

### Keep Our Storm Drains Clean & Our Water Flowing

- When changing your car oil, place cardboard or newspaper under the oil pan to catch spills. Use absorbent material such as kitty litter to clean up spills. Inspect your car regularly for leakage.
- Drain chlorinated pool or spa water using a house sewer drain (bathtub or sink) or sewer outlet near your house.
- Rinse paint brushes in the sink when using water-based latex paint.
- Use non-toxic alternatives to pesticides and organic gardening materials when possible. Use herbicides, pesticides and fertilizers sparingly. Do not apply these products when rain is in the forecast.
- Sweep driveways, patios and sidewalks. Place debris in the garbage rather than using a hose to rinse it into gutters and storm drains.
- Pick up animal waste regularly, dispose of it in a plastic bag and place the bag in the black garbage can.
- Do not throw cooking oil/grease down the drain. Instead freeze it and place it in your black garbage can for disposal.

### Used Motor Oil and Filter Recycling

Curbside motor oil recycling is as easy as 1-2-3-4:

1. Contact your garbage company [Bertolotti Disposal (209) 537-8000 or Gilton Solid Waste (209) 527-3781] to schedule a collection appointment.
2. Pour the used motor oil into 1-gallon plastic containers with a screw-top lid.
3. Drain the Filter into the oil containers, then place in a zippered bag.
4. Place the used motor oil and filter in front of your garage the evening before your collection appointment.

Do not place the used motor oil or filters in the street for collection. Limit 4 gallons and 3 filters per week. Do not mix used motor oil with any other substances such as antifreeze or water.

Certified Collection Centers will pay you for used motor oil and most will take your used filter for recycling at no charge. Up to 5 gallons of used motor oil can be taken to any free collection center. For more information, contact the City of Modesto at (209) 577-5493.

### Household Hazardous Waste

All residents of Stanislaus County can recycle household hazardous waste products free of charge at the Stanislaus County Household Hazardous Waste Facility. Acceptable items include:

- |                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Antifreeze                 | Monitors                 |
| Batteries                  | Motor Oil & Oil Filters  |
| Brake Fluid                | Paints                   |
| Computers                  | Pharmaceutical Items     |
| Drain Cleaners             | Prescription Medications |
| Electronic Equipment       | Pool & Spa Chemicals     |
| Fertilizers and Pesticides | Solvents                 |
| Gasoline                   | Televisions              |

The facility is located at 1710 Morgan Road and is open Fridays and Saturdays (excluding major holidays) from 8am-12pm. For more information, call (209) 525-6789.

\* The City of Modesto offers mobile Household Hazardous Waste collection events. Call (209) 577-5493 for more details.

Remember: Storm drains flow directly into our waterways and oceans. For more information or to report dumping in storm drains, call (209) 577-6200.

Visit the City of Modesto's pollution prevention display at City Hall, 1010 Tenth Street, 2nd floor lobby, September 21 through September 25. Brochures and pollution prevention ideas will be available at both locations.

The City of Modesto has a limited supply of grease cans for cooking grease, used motor oil drain containers, and zippered bags for filter recycling available for City of Modesto residents that have a black and a green garbage can. For more information, please call (209) 577-5493.

# City of Modesto UTILITY BILLING

**GO GREEN** with paperless billing

Receive your monthly statements via email



Enroll in  
**e-Billing**  
TODAY!

Call (209) 577-5395





The City of Modesto is offering rebates to our residential water customers who replace their grass with drip-irrigated low-water-use plants, permeable hardscape, or polyethylene/nylon artificial turf products. Funding is limited and applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. The City reserves the right to terminate this program at any time, for any reason.

### Rebate Offer

The City is offering \$0.50 per square foot of turf removed, per site with a maximum of \$500 per single-family residence (equivalent to 1,000 square feet converted area). Offer is limited to one rebate per City of Modesto water account.

*Customers may remove more turf area than is covered by the rebate program, but the per site maximum rebate amount will still apply.*

**Important: Do not remove your lawn until you receive a Notice to Proceed.** Lawns already removed at the time of pre-inspection are not eligible for rebate.

For complete details please visit our website at:  
[www.modestogov.com/savewater](http://www.modestogov.com/savewater)

*Thank you for doing your part to conserve water.*

### 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)

CITY OF MODESTO



We want to honor your Green business in Modesto!

Available now: City of Modesto  
Business Recycling Awards applications

Categories:

- ♻️ Small Business - under 20 employees
- ♻️ Medium Business - 21-100 employees
- ♻️ Large Business - over 100 employees

If selected, what do you win?  
Recognition at a Modesto City Council meeting  
A reception in your honor

For more information contact, Vicki Rice at

**209.577.5495 or [vrice@modestogov.com](mailto:vrice@modestogov.com)**

SEWER PROBLEMS?  
CALL US FIRST  
577-6200

# Water Conservation

Save Our  
WATER



- Outdoor watering prohibited daily from 9:00 am – 7:00 pm
- Odd-numbered addresses watering days are Wednesday and Sunday
- Even-numbered addresses watering days are Tuesday and Saturday
- No outdoor water use on Monday, Thursday and Friday
- Hosing any outside areas is prohibited except for health/safety reasons



## Drought Stage II

### PENALTIES FOR WATER WASTE

- First Violation: Courtesy Notice
- Second Violation: \$150.00
- Third Violation: \$250.00
- Subsequent Violations: \$500.00

(209) 342-2246 • <http://www.modestogov.com/pwd/water/conservation> • <http://saveourwater.com>

# Got Waste Tires?

Call the  
City of Modesto  
for a FREE  
Recycling Coupon

209  
577-5494

## The City of Great Neighbors...and Great Celebrations!

*"While the spirit of neighborliness was important on the frontier because neighbors were so few, it is even more important now because our neighbors are so many." - Lady Bird Johnson*

This month we are showing off the best summer celebration photos we could find from our city's recent Graffiti Car Show, 4th of July Parade and National Night Out. Modesto is a City of Great Neighbors, with an outdoor "activities climate" that lasts all year long. Here's how some of you took advantage of it!

The legendary American Graffiti Parade brings thousands to downtown Modesto for a nostalgic night of fun during the month-long "Graffiti Summer" events. The classic car celebration pays homage to the film, American Graffiti, created by Modesto Native, George Lucas.



Photo Credit Modesto Bee

Since 1874, Modesto citizens have proudly waved flags in honor of Independence Day. We continue to celebrate in grand fashion with one of the Nation's oldest and largest 4th of July parades.

## Great neighborhoods create great communities



In August we celebrate National Night Out. Throughout the nation, there are thousands of block parties, cookouts, parades, ice cream socials, neighborhood visits by law enforcement agencies, safety fairs, poster and essay contests, neighborhood meetings and many other events and activities.

Nationally, 38.1 million people participated in 2014, representing a total of 16,540 communities. The 32nd Annual National Night Out took place on August 4, 2015.



Modesto placed 5<sup>th</sup> out of 31 cities in its size category last year for highest National Night Out participation in the nation!

At the heart of Modesto is many diverse neighborhoods brimming with character, a spirit of collaboration, and civic pride. **That is something to celebrate!**

*The City of Modesto will soon be revamping its website and would like to invite you to share your celebration photos with us! A few will be selected for our new site. If you have high resolution photographs from your neighborhood events to share, please email them to [photos@modestogov.com](mailto:photos@modestogov.com)*

