



City of Modesto services available to city residents only.
 VISIT THE CITY OF MODESTO WEBSITE AT:
www.modestogov.com

Modesto Citizens Become Wiser Water Misers!



Congratulations, Modesto! Even with the record-setting temperatures of July, Modesto area residents have proven they can do what it takes to conserve our precious water supply.

Faced with critical water supply challenges, the Modesto City Council adopted a Water Conservation Program on May 1, 2003, that for the first time in a number of years required city residents to modify their outdoor water use patterns. Residents were asked to water only on specific days, depending on their address, and only during certain hours.

We are happy to report that you responded in a big way! Despite making nearly 5,400 contacts about the Water Conservation Program, city staff has only issued two citations for repeat violations. That's a wonderful testament to your willingness to conserve when the need is there!

We found that everyone really wanted to get involved in the conservation effort.

Whether it was a neighbor sharing conservation tips with a neighborhood or our conservation staff reprogramming a sprinkler timer, everyone has done their part. Some even went above and beyond. For example:

- Police Explorer Scouts have walked entire neighborhoods to deliver water conservation devices like shut-off nozzles for the garden hose and low-flow shower heads.
- Schoolteachers have called the Water Conservation Office asking that presentations be made in their classroom. In response, city staff has made 34 school presentations reaching nearly 1,600 school-age children.

City Water Operations staff have also observed some very important trends as the summer has progressed. For example, each Monday throughout this summer when no outdoor water use is permitted, water

usage dropped by about 10 million gallons compared to the rest of the days in that same week!

Overall, the demand for water decreased from 2002 despite increased population and a seemingly never-ending July heat wave we all suffered through. Between May 1 and July 31, 2002, over 5.5 billion gallons of water was pumped from the city's groundwater wells to support the needs of our community. In 2003, we only needed to pump 4.7 billion gallons of groundwater during the same time period. That's a decrease of 14% from 2002!

Are we over the hurdle? Unfortunately, the answer is "no." Water conservation has to become a way of life for everyone. There truly isn't a drop to waste. As water quality regulations continue to get more stringent, it will become more and more difficult to find groundwater supplies that can meet drinking water standards.

While we did a wonderful job of conserving water this summer, some of the reduction in groundwater pumping was offset by increased flows from the Regional Surface Water Treatment Plant.

All in all, we're on the right road, but the journey continues. Thanks for your help!

Did You Know...?

- Recycling one aluminum can could save enough energy to keep your television running for three hours.
- Americans throw away enough aluminum to rebuild all our commercial airplanes every three months.
- Glass and tires can be recycled into asphalt to make new roads.
- The Statue of Liberty was restored with recycled scrap metal.
- The city has fence standards. Before you build your fence, make sure that it adheres to Municipal Code. For information, contact the Neighborhood Preservation Unit at 577-5250 or visit: www.modestogov.com/rnd/npu.
- City staff is now available to make stormwater presentations for schools or community organizations. To schedule a presentation, call 577-5493.
- The city has a sign ordinance that prohibits attaching a sign to any public entity or public right-of-way, including garage sale signs! For information, call 577-5250.

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City Pride is brought to you by the Modesto City Council: Mayor Carmen Sabatino, Vice Mayor Bruce Frohman, Councilmember Bill Conrad, Councilmember Tim Fisher, Councilmember Denny Jackman, Councilmember Janice Keating and Councilmember Will O'Bryant.

Garden Refuse Schedule Key to Keeping Streets Clean

By now, the residents of Modesto have become accustomed to their black and green toters. We've become used to throwing our garbage and "Blue Bags" in the black toter and our grass and garden weeds in the



David Paladini

green. But what happens if you fill up your green yard waste toter with grass trimmings and then

realize that you haven't even started trimming your trees? Where are you supposed to put all that pruned refuse?

Many people deal with the problem of over-stuffed toters by making piles in the gutter. However, this can lead to neighborhoods that look trashy and unorganized.

So where do you put the pruned refuse? I looked for the answer at the City of Modesto Operations and Maintenance Department, where I talked to the three

supervisors of the Pruned Refused Collection Program.

The supervisors explained that one goal of the Pruned Refuse Collection Program is to maintain the natural beauty of our neighborhoods. Superintendent Bill Dufresne further explained: "The purpose of the Pruned Refuse Collection Program is to make sure we have an attractive community and that all the things, including household waste, recyclables and yard waste, go to their proper place."

City residents who have an alley behind their house can place pruned refuse in the alley for pickup. It must be put a foot away from any fence and be placed out only on the days specified in the Garden Refuse Schedule.

If you do not have an alley behind your home, you can make a pile in the street in front of your own house. It must be placed one foot from the curb to allow for gutter drainage, must not protrude into the street and must be placed in the street only on

the days specified in the Garden Refuse Schedule. Also, your refuse pile should not be placed on, directly around or near storm drains, sewer cleanouts, manholes, utility fixtures and especially fire hydrants.

In my conversation with Supervisor Ernie Marino, he explained that it is very important that people do not just put out their refuse whenever they want without regard to the Garden Refuse Schedule. Mr. Marino felt it is important that the residents of Modesto stay informed about the Garden Refuse Schedule, so they do not risk getting a citation for noncompliance.

This is how the collection schedule works. If you want to have your yard waste picked up, it needs to be on the street no more than 72 hours before the first Monday of the month or in the alley no more than 72 hours before the third Monday of the month. If you put out pruned refuse after your area has been collected, it will

cause problems for the street sweepers.

Offenders are given a courtesy notice to remove their pile from the street. If they don't comply, they will be fined. Fines run from \$100 for the first citation up to \$500 for chronic offenders in a twelve-month period.

Remember, the Pruned Refuse Collection Program is not the same as the Bulky Item Pick-Up Program—it is strictly for garden waste. Please don't mix trash, junk or bulky items in with your pruned refuse pile.

Finally, in order for your pruned refuse to be picked up, branches need to be under 6' long, under 6" in diameter and under 50 lbs. each. Grass, leaves and hedge trimmings should be put in your green toter—not in the street or alley.

Also please remember—collection crews will not collect materials such as tires, concrete, stumps and grass clippings. For disposal options of these materials, call Solid Waste at 577-5494.

2003 Garden Refuse Schedule

The following calendar provides you with the specific dates when your pruned refuse may be placed out for collection. Remember, it takes approximately two weeks following these dates for crews to pick up in your collection area. Pruned refuse is only collected once a month.

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
S T R E E T S	Fri. 7/4	Fri. 8/1	Fri. 8/29	Fri. 10/3	Fri. 10/31	LEAVES ONLY! Garden refuse resumes January '04
	Sa. 7/5	Sa. 8/2	Sa. 8/30	Sa. 10/4	Sa. 11/1	
	Su. 7/6	Su. 8/3	Su. 8/31	Su. 10/5	Su. 11/2	
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
A L L E Y S	Fri. 7/18	Fri. 8/15	Fri. 9/12	Fri. 10/17	Fri. 11/14	LEAVES ONLY! Garden refuse resumes January '04
	Sa. 7/19	Sa. 8/16	Sa. 9/13	Sa. 10/18	Sa. 11/15	
	Su. 7/20	Su. 8/17	Su. 9/14	Su. 10/19	Su. 11/16	

GOT TIRES?
Free tire collection event
for City of Modesto residents ONLY
No businesses or dealers allowed.
Proof of residency is required.

Date: Saturday, October 11, 2003
Place: Davis High School
Tully Road Parking Lot
Time: 8-11AM OR until two collection trailers are filled.
NO EXCEPTIONS.

Limits: One (1) coupon per household.
Eight (8) tires per coupon—no size limit
Maximum eight (8) tires per vehicle.
Tires with or without rims—OK
Limits will be strictly enforced.

City of Modesto Solid Waste Office 577-5494
Funded by the California Integrated Waste Management Board

Trees for Tots 2003 Plants Pride in Community



The City of Modesto and Greater Modesto Tree Foundation invite the parents and families of children born in the greater Modesto area in the year 2003 to the 4th Annual Trees for Tots on Saturday, October 18, 9:30AM, at Dry Creek Regional Park, near the end of North McClure Road.

Oak trees will be planted to represent these new additions to our community. A memorial grove will also be planted in memory of children that died in the year 2003. Only native valley oaks and interior live oaks will be used in an effort to restore the area to its natural state.

"This event continues a four-year tradition that began with one of the largest tree planting days in our community. I would also like to encourage families who have planted trees in the past to come and check out their growing trees," said Mayor Carmen Sabatino.

Families who have adopted children in the year 2003, as well as interested members of the community, are also invited to participate in the planting and ceremony.

For more information, contact Susan Lighthall at (209) 342-2236, or email: slighthall@modestogov.com.

Modesto Celebrates Rideshare Week 2003



California Rideshare Week 2003 is coming up on October 5-11, 2003. Residents of Stanislaus County are being encouraged to try an alternative mode of transportation at least once during that week by carpooling, vanpooling, utilizing public transit, walking or bicycling.

Join thousands of California commuters during Rideshare Week as they try an alternative way of getting

to work other than driving alone. Many businesses and organizations are responding to the need to improve air quality by encouraging employees to rideshare. Rideshare benefits commuters by saving money, reducing stress, relieving traffic congestion and improving air quality.

To find a carpool, visit: commuteconnection.com. For City of Modesto Rideshare information, call 571-5193.

FREE Backyard Composting Class

The City of Modesto is offering free composting classes to Modesto City residents.



BACKYARD COMPOST BINS \$26.30^{EA}
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

To order, call Solid Waste at 577-5495.

Tuesday, October 21
6:30-8:30 PM
Modesto Junior College

Registration: 575-6063

Presented by the City of Modesto for City residents



Free! City of Modesto Cathode Ray Tube (CRT) Recycling Program

CRT's are found in TV's and computer monitors and contain large amounts of lead and other hazardous materials. They cannot be put in the garbage. Modesto residents may recycle up to two CRT's per calendar year for free. Help keep our community clean and safe—recycle properly!

For CRT Pick-Up:

- 1) Call your garbage company and request a CRT coupon.
- 2) Redeem the coupon with your CRT's at your garbage company.

- Modesto Disposal 538-2210
- Gilton Solid Waste 527-3781
- Bertolotti Disposal 537-8000



Fire Prevention Bureau Offers Fire Safety Tip

The City of Modesto Fire Prevention Bureau would like to remind local area businesses that trash bins are easy targets for fire setters. If your place of work or business has a trash bin that is placed up against a wall or under an eave or awning, it should be moved to at least five feet away for safety reasons.

In addition, all combus-

tible materials, such as wood, paper, trash and dry vegetation, should be kept away from buildings. Combustible materials can cause fires to quickly spread to nearby buildings and cause serious financial and material loss as well as threaten lives.

For more information, contact the Modesto Fire Prevention Bureau at 571-5553.

City Seeks Bidders for Housing Rehabilitation

The City of Modesto Parks, Recreation and Neighborhoods Department is extremely interested in expanding its bidder list for housing rehabilitation contractors and subcontractors. Small, minority and women-owned businesses are particularly encouraged to apply. Local businesses that provide supplies, goods and services utilized in these types of projects are also sought.

Service providers in the following areas are strongly encouraged to apply:

- Heating and Air Conditioning Contractors

- Concrete Contractors
- Roofing Contractors
- General Construction Contractors
- Pest Control Inspectors
- Street Pavers
- Electrical Contractors
- Plumbing Contractors
- Moving Contractors
- Specialty Contractors
- Demolition Contractors
- Department of Health Services (DHS) Certified Lead-Based Paint Abatement Contractors

For more information, contact Ernie Richardson, Housing Program Supervisor, at 577-5392 or email: erichards@modestogov.com.

Only Rain Down the Drain!
YOU are the Pollution Solution!

DON'T DUCK RESPONSIBILITY - KEEP OUR WATER CLEAN

NEVER pour used oil, paint, gasoline or chemicals down storm drains!

Report pollution: Call 577-6200

Recycle used oil & filters: Call 577-5493

Paid for by the City of Modesto and a grant from the California Integrated Waste Management Board

- Immunization (Flu) Clinic: Thursday and Friday, October 16 and 17, 8:30AM-3:00PM, at the Senior Citizens Center, 211 Bodem Street, Modesto. Nurses from Stanislaus County Department of Public Health will administer flu shots for the elderly. Fee: \$10 donation (no elderly person will be denied due to inability to pay).
- Covell Bricks: Having trouble finding a gift for someone? For only \$150 you can purchase a historic Covell brick, taken from the old Hotel Covell and have it engraved and installed at Tenth Street Plaza. All proceeds support the acquisition of public art for Modesto. For information, call 577-5235.
- Second Chance Week October 18-26: Give old items a "second chance" at life and help those in your community! This year the City of Modesto Solid Waste Office and Modesto Pregnancy Center will partner together to promote the reuse of maternity clothes, baby clothes and baby items. Watch for the specially marked collection bins throughout the community in October and start cleaning out your closets now!

Available at these local nurseries:

Scenic Nursery
1313 Scenic Drive
Westurf
1612 Claus Road

Buy one regular priced flat of flowers and get one bag of Mo-Gro Magic FREE or Buy 2 bags at regular price and receive third bag FREE

MUST PRESENT COUPON AT TIME OF PURCHASE
LIMIT 2 FLATS - BAGS PER COUPON OFFER EXPIRES 10/15/2003

Bulky Item Collection

—by appointment only—

Free to City of Modesto residents 2x per year

- For active, residential garbage services customers only (black and green garbage toters).
- For large household items, like furniture, appliances, toilets, etc.
- NO TV's, tires, auto parts, household garbage, hazardous waste or construction debris (wood, concrete, sheetrock, etc.)
- Place items out the evening before appointment or you may be subject to citation and fine.

Call your garbage company to schedule an appointment. Questions? Call the City of Modesto at 577-5494.