



City Beat

JULY 2013

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

OIL FILTER RECYCLING

Celebrate Your "Do It Yourself" Independence!

Bring in a used oil filter to recycle at any participating Auto Zone or O'Reilly Auto Parts in Stanislaus County, and receive a FREE new comparable oil filter - valid any weekend during the month of July.



Conditions Apply:

See participating auto parts stores for details. Limit 1 filter per customer per event (valued up to \$12.99). Passenger and light truck oil filters only.



Questions? Call: (209) 577-5493.

BULKY ITEM COLLECTION

City of Modesto Residents with 2-can garbage service are allowed 2 bulky item appointments per calendar year to dispose of items such as large appliances, furniture, bicycles, and mattresses. Please call your garbage company to schedule your appointment:

Bertolotti Disposal 537-8000
Gilton Solid Waste 527-3781

Items may only be placed out the night before the scheduled collection date. Please call the Solid Waste Office at (209) 577-5494 for additional information.

PROTECT OUR WATERWAYS

Modesto has two drainage systems, the sewers and the storm drains. Storm drains are intended to drain rain water away from our streets and to prevent flooding. Since the system contains no filters, it can carry urban pollution straight to our rivers, groundwater, and the ocean. Urban pollution includes: chlorine and other pool chemicals, oil, paint, pet wastes, pesticides, litter, and automotive fluids. They harm aquatic life, pollute our rivers, streams, and groundwater, and increase the risk of flooding by clogging gutters and catch basins.

What can you do to keep our waterways free of pollutants?

- Per Modesto Municipal Code, MMC 5-10.201(f), you may never drain your swimming pool, hot tub or spa, and fountain into the street or storm drain system, even if the water is de-chlorinated.
- Always drain your swimming pool, hot tub or spa, and fountain water into a sewer line.
- Use the sewer clean out connection in your yard, generally located near a hose bib, close to the house.
- If you are unable to locate the sewer clean out, you can drain your pool water into a vegetated area, but be advised that chemicals may be very harmful to your landscaping.



City Beat is printed on 30% recycled paper.

MOVE THOSE CANS...

Per City of Modesto Municipal Code, where service occurs in the street in front of your home, garbage containers may be placed out only 24 hours prior to and after your garbage day. Garbage cans 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. For questions about garbage can placement, please call the Solid Waste Office at 577-5493.

PROPER CLEANING OF GARBAGE CANS...

When you clean your garbage cans in your driveway or gutter the water eventually ends up in our City storm drains.

So, what **IS** the proper way to clean and rinse your garbage cans?

Residential: Find an unused space in your yard where you can rinse your garbage cans and empty the wash water onto a grassy area. The water will not harm the grass. Any solid material that may be washed out of the cans may be collected with a rake. Properly dispose of the waste in a paper or plastic bag and place it back into your garbage can.

Businesses: Contact your garbage hauler to exchange your dumpster for a clean one (NOTE: there will be a fee for this service). Restaurants should always double bag their garbage and clean spills with absorbent materials such as kitty litter or sand instead of hosing it into a storm drain. For more information, contact the Solid Waste Office at (209) 577-5493.

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

Here are some helpful water conservation tips for the summer:

1. Check your sprinkler system frequently and adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street.
2. Check your water meter and bill to track your water usage.
3. Minimize evaporation by watering during the early morning hours, when temperatures are cooler and winds are lighter.
4. Use a layer of organic mulch around plants to reduce evaporation and save hundreds of gallons of water a year.
5. Avoid planting turf in areas that are hard to water such as steep inclines and isolated strips along sidewalks and driveways.
6. Divide your watering cycle into shorter periods to reduce runoff and allow for better absorption each time you water.
7. Use a broom instead of a hose to clean your driveway or sidewalk, and save 80 gallons of water every time.
8. Only water your lawn when needed. You can tell this by simply walking across your lawn. If you leave footprints, it's time to water.
9. Use sprinklers for larger areas of grass. Water small patches by hand to avoid waste.
10. We're more likely to notice leaky faucets indoors, but don't forget to check outdoor faucets, pipes, and hoses for leaks.

Year-round watering schedule for City of Modesto customers.

	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
IF YOUR ADDRESS IS...	ODD	DO NOT WATER	EVEN	ODD	EVEN	ODD	EVEN
MIDNIGHT TO NOON	WATER		WATER	WATER	WATER	WATER	WATER
NOON - 7:00 PM			DO NOT WATER				
7:00 PM - MIDNIGHT	WATER		WATER	WATER	WATER	WATER	WATER

ODD NUMBERED ADDRESSES END IN 1, 3, 5, 7, 9
EVEN NUMBERED ADDRESSES END IN 0, 2, 4, 6, 8

For more information or to report water waste, call (209) 342-2246.

<http://www.modestogov.com/pwd/utilities/water/conservation/>

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