



City of Modesto

CITY PRIDE

February 1999

City Wide

CITY OF MODESTO SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE TO CITY RESIDENTS ONLY



Miguel DeCasso, from Gilton Solid Waste, collects used oil and provides Modesto resident Del Mayfield with a new recycling container.

Changes improve curbside oil recycling system

Each year, Modesto residents recycle approximately 22,000 gallons of used motor oil using the city's Curbside Collection Program.

In the past, residents simply placed the oil at the curb on their garbage collection day. However, many residents experienced occasional missed pick-ups and oil spills.

Below are recent changes made to improve the curbside oil recycling system:

• **Oil will be collected by appointment only.** Residents must call their garbage company no later than 4:00 p.m. the day before their garbage collection day to confirm an appointment.

This should assure residents of a timely collection.

• **Place oil on your driveway near garage/house by 6:00 a.m.** Residents should no longer place oil containers at the curb. This will reduce the possibility of accidental spillage in the street or storm drain system.

• **Pour oil into 1-gallon plastic containers with screw-top lids.** Up to four gallons may be placed out for recycling each week. This represents an increase from the previous 2-gallon limit.

If you have questions about the program or your garbage company, call the Used Oil Recycling Hotline at 577-5493.

VISIT THE CITY OF MODESTO ON THE INTERNET!
<http://www.ci.modesto.ca.us>

Leave Your Legacy
at downtown's
Tenth Street Place

See details on back.



City gears up for transition into the 21st Century

The gears are in motion as the City of Modesto carries out a detailed plan to address and resolve the Year 2000 problem, otherwise known as the Millennium Bug.

In 1995, the city began evaluating and testing systems to ensure uninterrupted service to our customers during the transition into the 21st century.

The Information Services Division began with a top-down (high to low priority) assessment of the city's core business systems—general ledger, utility billing, payroll, accounts receivables & payables, licensing and purchasing—to identify those systems which were Y2K compliant and those which were not.

In 1998, the city activated its Y2K task force, led by the city's Information Services Manager, to conduct an

inventory of computer hardware, software and embedded systems used for specific applications within each department of the city. This work remains in progress.

Following the inventory, the team will initiate efforts to remediate non-compliant systems which are determined to be mission-critical. It is the city's goal to make all critical systems compliant and establish contingency plans for non-compliant systems by August 1999.

The city is also working closely with vendors who supply equipment and service to ensure Y2K standards are met.

Finally, the City has developed a Y2K web presence which contains the latest information on the city's progress regarding Y2K related issues. Check it out at the address below.

www.ci.modesto.ca.us/fin/is/y2k



If you have a question for the Q&A, please send it to: City of Modesto, Communications & Marketing Division, P.O. Box 642, Modesto, CA 95353. Our question for this insert focuses on housing discrimination. See back page for the question & answer.

Community



■ Become a part of downtown history

You can be a part of the exciting developments taking place in Modesto's downtown and leave your legacy in Tenth Street Place by purchasing a historical "Hotel Covell" brick.

Only 3,000 Covell bricks will be engraved and included in the plaza at Tenth Street Place. These bricks will be placed into the plaza during construction and remain there for posterity.

The engraving consists of two lines, up to 11 characters per line, including spaces and punctuations. The engraving may list the donor's name, family, business, or be a

tribute in the memory of a loved one.

Bricks cost \$100 and are tax-deductible. Make checks payable to GMCF-Covell Brick and mail to: Covell Bricks, City of Modesto, P.O. Box 642, Modesto, CA 95353.

The City of Modesto, County of Stanislaus, and Modesto Redevelopment Agency, through the Joint Powers Agency, have authorized funding for art features to enhance the beauty and personal appeal of Tenth Street Place. The plaza will reflect the history and contributions of those who have built and live in our community.



■ Low income utility users tax refunds

Utility users tax refunds are available to households with an annual income of less than \$8,700.

If you have been a resident of Modesto (*within the city limits*) for the past year, have a qualified annual income, and have utility bills issued in your name for electric, gas telephone and/or water service, you may qualify for a refund of up to \$30 in Utility Users' Tax.

Claim forms are available in the city's Finance Department, 1012 I Street. These forms must be completed and filed with the city by April 15, 1999.

To qualify for a refund, you must be the person whose name appears on the utility bills. For additional information, call the city's Finance Department at 577-5395 or 577-5207.

■ Earth Day in the Park Festival

Mark your calendars now for the 10th Annual Earth Day in the Park Festival slated for Saturday, April 17, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Modesto's Graceada Park.

This great event promises lots of food, fun, entertainment and education for the entire family. Watch future inserts for more details!



■ Blue Ribbon comment line open

A Blue Ribbon Committee was established last year to review city finances and prepare recommendations for options to reduce spending or raise revenue for the City of Modesto.

If you have any comments about the city's budget priorities or financial policies, you may share them by calling the Blue Ribbon Committee's Comment Line at 491-4441.



To Your Health ...and the health of our community

Driving safely in foggy conditions

The Central Valley is famous for foggy weather conditions during the winter months. Sadly, the combination of dense fog, slick roadways and fast-driving motorists result in an increased amount of traffic collisions.

You can help reduce accidents by using good judgment and following these safety suggestions:

- Slow down!!!
- Use your headlights
- Watch for pedestrians
- Take a second glance
- Clean your windshields

Q. Who can I call for housing discrimination matters?



A. The City of Modesto has an agreement with Project Sentinel to conduct investigations and periodically test the housing market. If a discrimination complaint is found to be valid, Project Sentinel will take appropriate legal action to resolve the matter. Discrimination factors may include race, religion, sexual orientation, and disability.

If you have questions or believe that you are being discriminated against, you may call Project Sentinel at 236-1577.

Also, you may contact the City of Modesto Human Relations Commission at 577-5441.

SPRING SPECIAL ON CLEAN GREEN COMPOST

Buy One Yard, Get a 2nd Yard FREE!

\$10 / yd*

*Bulk sales only Offer expires 3-27-99

One yard minimum charge. Sales tax will be charged. Limit 1 free yard per resident.

Modesto Residents Only.

From Modesto, take Carpenter Rd. south, right on Keyes Rd., left on Jennings Rd.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

FEBRUARY 13 & 27

MARCH 13 & 27

8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

MODESTO COMPOSTING

7007 Jennings Road • Modesto • 538-2557

REMINDER: It is the customers' responsibility to cover their loads.