



City Crews to Collect Holiday Trees for Recycling



City of Modesto pruned refuse crews will begin picking up holiday trees in January as part of the normal pruned refuse collection.

Collection will begin Monday, January 2, 2006 for residents who have pruned refuse collection in the street. Collection will begin Monday, January 16, 2006 for residents who have pruned refuse collection in alleys.

Untreated green trees may also be cut-up and placed in your green yard waste can for pick up with your normal weekly collection.

Collected trees are recycled at the city's co-compost facility.

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

Disposal of Untreated Green Trees:

- Remove all tree stands, rods and tinsel. 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 to be collected with your regular yard trimmings pickup or in your green yard waste can

Disposal of Trees Treated with Flocking, Paint or Fireproofing:

Trees with flocking, paint 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 Resource Recovery Transfer Station (Dump).

Transfer stations can be found at the following locations:

Gilton Solid Waste
800 S. McClure Road,
Modesto
527-3781

Modesto Disposal/Waste Management
2769 W. Hatch Road,
Modesto
538-2210

Bertolotti Disposal
231 Flamingo Drive,
Modesto
537-8000

For more information on holiday tree collection or the city's pruned refuse/green waste program, visit the city's website at www.modestogov.com, or contact the Community Forestry Division at 342-2249.

Bulky Item

Program Deadline

Due to the busy holiday season, the Bulky Item Program will be temporarily suspended from December 21, 2005 - January 1, 2006. Please call your garbage company to schedule your final appointment for the year and to learn about program guidelines and restrictions.



Holiday Garbage Routes

Christmas and New Year's holidays will have no effect on the residential garbage routes. Be sure to place your black and green containers out by 6:00 am on your regular collection day throughout the holiday season.



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Helping Modesto's Storm Drains Work Through Winter Storms

The storm drain system works best when leaves, dirt and debris are kept out. Even small amounts of leaves, concrete or plaster will block up the drain and cause flooding. Hazardous materials like motor oil, antifreeze and paints are especially damaging, causing permanent blockage and polluting our water supply. Keeping the drains clean and free from debris and hazardous contamination is CRITICAL. Here are ways you can help:

- Recycle used motor oil and filters (call 577-5493 for more information)
- Fix oil/antifreeze leaking automobiles, and clean driveway spills with absorbent material - don't hose it off
- Keep yard clippings out of the gutter
- Rinse your latex paint, brushes, rollers, and pans in the sink...not in your driveway or gutter
- Dispose of paint, motor oil, antifreeze and other hazardous materials at the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility. It's FREE! Call 525-4123
- For more Storm Drain information, call 577-6200.



Cable Channel 7



English

Wednesdays: 5-6 p.m.
Thursdays: 3-4 p.m.
Fridays: 6-7 p.m.

En Español

Los Miércoles: 6-7 p.m.
Los Jueves: 4-5 p.m.
Los Viernes: 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Don't miss a beat with Modesto Police CrimeLive television!!

Eco-Friendly Holiday Gift Ideas

If your garbage can overflows with an abundance of boxes, wrapping paper and food waste during the holidays each year, perhaps it's time to make some simple eco-friendly changes!

- Recycle all your food waste (including meat, bones & egg shells) by putting it in your green yard waste can.
- Also include all kitchen paper products (plates, napkins, etc.).
- Wrap gifts in reusable gift bags, boxes, or decorative cloth (wrapping paper IS NOT recyclable).
- Wrap gifts with newspaper or Sunday funnies.
- Use organic rope or twisted paper instead of ribbon on packages.
- Make a donation to the person's favorite charity in their name.
- Ask for a wish list so you give something they really want and will use.
- Give gift cards or certificates so they can get what they want.
- Donate unwanted items to charity.
- Purchase an artificial Christmas tree and reuse it for years to come!
- Make ornaments and decorations out of existing items and materials.
- Buy a star, donate a tree, or protect an animal for your special person.

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE
and help decrease the demand on our environment!

2005 YARD TRIMMINGS COLLECTION SCHEDULE

The calendar below provides you with specific information about when you should place your yard trimmings out for collection. Trimmings are only collected once a month. Remember, it takes approximately two weeks for crews to pick up your collection area.

Key for Street Collection	Only days you may place your trimmings out on the STREET for collection.	Key for Alley Collection	Only days you may place your trimmings out on the ALLEY for collection.
	Day crews start to pick up STREET collection (First Monday of Month)		Day crews start to pick up ALLEY collection (Third Monday of Month)

November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January 06

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February 06

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

March 06

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

April 06

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

December 2005. Leaves picked up only. No yard trimmings.

Leaves will be collected from STREETS only. No plastic bags, boxes, etc.

For further information or questions regarding this schedule, please call the Community Forestry Division at 342-2249.

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Recycling with Blue Bags

City of Modesto residents are encouraged to utilize the Blue Bag Recycling Program.

Toss all your glass, paper, cardboard, plastic bottles (#'s 1-7), aluminum and metal containers in a blue bag and place the bags in your black garbage can.

Please lightly rinse containers and remove bottle lids; labels may be left on.

Blue bags (one roll per household) are available for free at the following locations:

- Tenth Street Place 2nd and 4th Floors – 1010 Tenth Street
- [King-Kennedy Center – 601 N. Martin Luther King Drive](#)
- Senior Citizens Center – 211 Bodem St.
- [Leisure Services – 720 Coldwell Ave.](#)
- Police Command Center – 3705 Oakdale Rd.

Residents can also use the blue grocery bags provided by Richland Market, Save Mart, New Deal, O'Brien's and Michotti's.

Please do not use blue bags for garbage or non-recyclable items.

For more details, call the Solid Waste Office at 577-5494 or go to www.modestogov.com/prnd/recycling.



Ways to Conserve Water:

Adjust the clock of your automatic watering system to fit the needs of your lawn! Your lawn will need less water when it starts to cool off.

Do not water in the middle of the day or during windy and rainy conditions. Remember, during the fall and winter your lawn is semi-dormant and needs very little added water. Learn to adjust your irrigation timers to save water during the rainy season.

Occasional watering through the winter is needed for evergreens during dry periods.

Consider aerating your lawn and yard to keep the soil porous. Applying fine humus or mulch over the lawn will increase moisture holding ability in the soil. About 1/8 to 1/4 inch at a time will help.

Remember, the water restrictions are year-round for City of Modesto customers.

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Year-round watering schedule for City of Modesto customers.

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
If Your Address Is...	ODD	DO NOT WATER	EVEN	ODD	EVEN	ODD	EVEN
Midnight To 12 PM (Noon)	WATER	DO NOT WATER	WATER	WATER	WATER	WATER	WATER
12:00 Noon to 7 PM	<i>DO NOT WATER DURING THESE HOURS!</i>						
7 PM to Midnight	WATER	DO NOT WATER	WATER	WATER	WATER	WATER	WATER

Odd numbered address end in 1,3,5,7,9
Even numbered address end in 0,2,4,6,8

For more information regarding water conservation call (209) 342-4580.

To report water waste, call (209) 571-5103.



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Winter Fire Safety Tips

While curling up in front of a blazing fire this winter, most of us will not be thinking about our chimneys. However, maybe we should be paying a little more attention. According to the National Fire Protection Association, heating equipment is the leading cause of home fires during the months of December, January and February and trails only cooking equipment in home fires year-round. In 2001, space heaters and heating equipment (i.e., fireplaces and chimneys) accounted for 66 percent of home heating fires and 67 percent of associated deaths. These statistics ought to give you pause as you start buying firewood or using your portable heater. Fortunately, a little knowledge can help keep you safe while you warm your home this winter.

Chimney fires often occur because of a buildup of creosote. As smoke leaves the fireplace, it travels up a cooler chimney and condensation occurs. Creosote is the resulting residue that sticks to the chimney's inner walls. It is very combustible and, if allowed to build up, will sooner or later ignite and burn inside the chimney. The good news is that there is much you can do to prevent these types of fires.

Here are some tips that can keep your house safe this winter:

- When installing a new stove, fireplace or chimney, make sure that a qualified technician installs it or checks the unit for proper installation.
- Chimneys should be inspected and cleaned annually.
- When burning wood in fireplaces or stoves, it is important to use properly seasoned wood. Green wood contains more moisture and is likely to smolder, leading to increased creosote buildup. Wood that is too old may also result in excess creosote.
- Allow ashes to cool before disposing. Dispose of ashes in a metal container.
- Space heaters need space. With very few exceptions, home heating devices need a 36" clearance from flammable material.
- Portable space heaters should be turned off every time you leave a room or go to bed.
- When buying heaters, choose devices with automatic shutoff features.
- Have a multi-purpose ABC fire extinguisher easily available and know how to use it.

If you realize a chimney fire is occurring you should:

1. Get everyone out of the house, including yourself.
2. Call the fire department.

Remember that homes are replaceable, but lives are not.

Tracie Dutter
Fire Inspector

Cathode Ray Tube (CRT) Recycling Program

USA Today reports that by 2006, more than 163,000 TVs and computers are expected to become obsolete in the USA every day. TVs and computer monitors contain cathode ray tubes (CRTs), which are considered hazardous as they contain high volumes of lead.

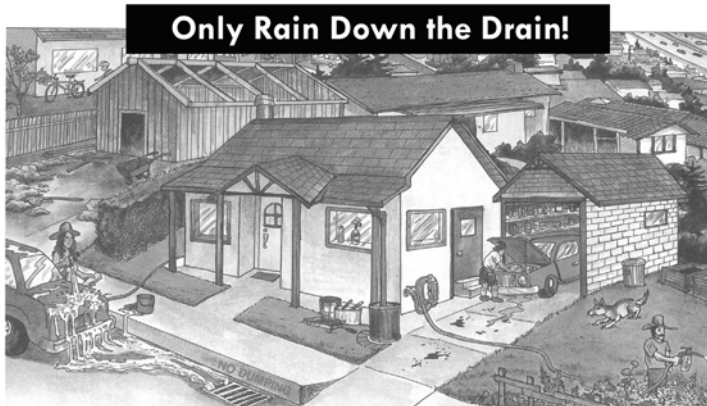
Modesto residents are eligible to recycle their CRTs (televisions, computer monitors, camcorders, etc.).

City of Modesto residential garbage customers can recycle two CRTs per calendar year and commercial garbage customers can recycle four.

If you have any questions, call the Solid Waste Office at 577-5494 or see details at www.modestogov.com/prnd/recycling.

Modesto Garbage Companies

**Bertolotti Disposal
Service**
(209) 537-8000
**Gilton Solid Waste
Management**
(209) 527-3781
**Waste Management
- Modesto Disposal**
(209) 538-2210



PLEASE KEEP OUR WATER CLEAN!

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

Report Pollution: (209) 577-6200 Recycle Used Oil & Filters: (209) 577-5493

Funded by a grant from the California Integrated Waste Management Board



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