

SOLID INSIDE WASTE

LOS ANGELES COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE



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City of Signal Hill Turns Construction Debris into New Construction Material

The City of Signal Hill is a 2.2-square mile jurisdiction with a population just under 11,000. Located in southeast Los Angeles County near the Long Beach Airport, Signal Hill is completely surrounded by the City of Long Beach. Because of its small size, minor increases in landfill disposal rates have a big impact on the City's ability to comply with AB 939 diversion requirements. Therefore, Signal Hill is always looking for ways to reduce its reliance on Los Angeles County landfills.

The Signal Hill Public Works Department is in the process of renovating its oldest water treatment and storage facility. The project includes replacing the wooden roof structure covering the 200-ft diameter, 5-million-gallon Gundry Reservoir. The reservoir originally entered into service in 1929. A large portion of the roof support system was built using 10" x 12" wood beams 25 feet in length.

The City requires construction contractors to recycle construction and demolition debris to the greatest extent feasible. To comply with this requirement, the construction contractor, Design-Build Solutions, located a developer in southern Arizona who was building a barn house and was interested in the availability of the large wood beams. Therefore, many of the salvageable beams were carefully removed during the reservoir roof demolition process and are being transported for use in the construction of the barn house. The reuse of the wood beams is keeping several tons of construction debris out of the landfill and provided the City of Signal Hill with a unique recycling opportunity. For more information contact Josh Rosenbaum at jrosenbaum@ci.signal-hill.ca.us.



City of Signal Hill construction debris is turned into new construction material.



JOIN THE TEAM: If you are interested in participating on the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Public Education Subcommittee or if you would like to submit an article for *Inside Solid Waste* please contact **Ken Pellman** at (626) 458-4094, or KPELLMAN@LADPW.ORG. Quarterly meetings are held at the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Headquarters to discuss and review upcoming newsletters. If you feel you have something to contribute why not become a member of the Subcommittee?

BURBANK RECYCLE CENTER HONORED TWICE IN APRIL

At the annual Used Oil/Household Hazardous Waste conference in Lake Tahoe, the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) selected the Burbank Recycle Center as the "2006 Cal/EPA Most Innovative Used Oil/HHW Urban Program." Noted were Burbank's 24-year history of recycling used motor oil at its Recycle Center, its five-year history of daily collection of universal and electronic waste that now collects 18 tons of e-waste each month, its Mercury Fever Thermometer Exchange Program, and its Learning Center, which entertains over 1,000 visitors each year.

The two state agencies also honored the cities of Burbank and San Francisco and a few counties and busi-

nesses for their participation in the new California Take-It-Back Partnership. The State program's objective is to establish partnerships with local governments and businesses so that consumers will have a convenient way to return used batteries, fluorescent lamps, and electronic waste for recycling.

Being a member of the California Take-It-Back Partnership means positive public relations, a minimal investment of time and floor space, free promotion through State-sponsored public service announcements and website links, and a branding and marketing opportunity for consumer resales. For further information, call the Burbank Recycle Center, (818)-238-3900.

STATE FINDS THAT FINANCIAL ASSURANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR LANDFILLS NEED TO BE OVERHAULED

Currently, State regulations require three types of financial assurances for municipal solid waste landfills.

- **Closure Financial Assurance** — covers the costs associated with closing the landfill.
- **Post-closure Maintenance Financial Assurance** — covers the costs for maintaining the landfill 30 years beyond its closure date.
- **Corrective Action Financial Assurance** — covers the remediation costs that are associated with groundwater contamination while the landfill is operating, in closure, or in post-closure.

In April 2006, the State's Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) released a report which found that none of the State's approved financial instruments provide "a complete assurance to the State that the owner/operator will have the financial resources to complete the required environmental mitigation once the facility ceases operations." Furthermore, the LAO found that the required dollar amount for each financial assurance does not include all unanticipated costs (e.g., earthquake damage) and replacement costs of equipment.

To strengthen the State's financial assurance mechanisms, the report, entitled "Financial Assurances: Strengthening Public Safety of Waste Facilities and Surface Mines," recommended the enactment of legislation requiring the following:

- All financial assurances should fully cover the costs of equipment replacement during the post-closure maintenance period.
- Eliminate the use of the Corporate Financial Test and Corporate Guarantee Financial Instrument since the corporation may encounter future financial troubles and the public would be left 'holding the bag.'
- Consolidate all financial assurance functions from the various State agencies under one unit in Cal-EPA to improve efficiencies and expertise.

The imposition of a new fee (\$0.45 per ton) on all solid waste disposed in the State to (a) continue maintenance activities after the 30-year post-closure maintenance period if a landfill poses a threat to public health and safety or the environment, (b) finance closure and post-closure activities when a financial assurance mechanism fails, (c) finance unforeseeable costs in the event that the owner/operator does not have the financial resources to pay these costs, or (d) finance urgent closure or post-closure activities at landfills exempt from the State's financial assurance provisions. However, publicly owned landfills would likely be exempt because they have the ability to raise new revenue to cover the costs of maintenance at these facilities.

For a copy of this report, please visit the LAO website at www.lao.ca.gov.

THE CITY OF SANTA CLARITA INCREASES RESIDENTIAL DIVERSION WITH ITS "WE RECYCLE" CAMPAIGN

In June of 2005, the City of Santa Clarita implemented the "We Recycle" outreach campaign. The campaign was created to encourage recycling while rewarding residents who actively participate in the City's curbside recycling program. The City, Waste Management, Inc., and local radio station KHST-AM 1220 have partnered to make it a successful program.

The City conducted a preliminary evaluation of the program after its first six months of implementation. Through their evaluation they determined that single family curbside recycling has increased by five percent in comparison to what was collected during the same months during the previous year. The City continues to monitor the program and is looking forward to reviewing the results after the completion of its first year of implementation.

This is the way the program works: 1) Residents place a green "We Recycle" sticker on their curbside recycling container. 2) The local radio station drives their marked vehicle through randomly selected neighborhoods during their scheduled trash and recycling collection day. 3) The representative from the radio station selects recycling carts that have both the green sticker and are properly filled with commingled recyclable material - approximately four addresses per week. 4) The selected households receive prizes such as tickets to movies, theme parks, sporting

events, and gift certificates. 5) All the winners are then entered into a drawing to win the monthly grand prize of **free trash collection services for one year!**

When the campaign began, it was intended to run for a total of six months. Due to the overwhelming response, the City decided to extend the program an additional six months. The key element to making this program a success has been the great deal of exposure by the local radio station throughout the community. The station plays a large role by promoting the City's programs on-air and distributing the "We Recycle" stickers at the local shopping mall and at local events. In addition, stickers are available at City Hall and are distributed at public events and buildings. To date, approximately 6,000 stickers have been distributed to residents. The City has also paid for additional outreach methods including television commercials, newspaper ads, bus shelter ads, local magazines ads, and the City's website. Waste Management continues to promote the program in their quarterly newsletter.

If you have any questions or would like additional information about this program, please contact the City's Environmental Projects Development Coordinator, Benjamin Lucha at (661) 284-1411 or via email at blucha@santa-clarita.com.

COUNTY TO EXPAND WEBSITE TO HELP HAULERS AND SOLID WASTE FACILITY OPERATORS COMPLY WITH NEW REGULATIONS

After four years of deliberations and consultations with stakeholders, on January 1, 2006, the California Integrated Waste Management Board's new Disposal Reporting System and Adjustment Method regulations became effective. The regulations require waste haulers, transfer station/non-disposal facility operators, landfill operators, and transformation facility operators to provide detailed tracking information on the amount of solid waste collected and disposed.

To assist haulers and solid waste facility operators in complying with the new regulations, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works is expanding its web-based application system, www.solidwastedrs.org, to allow the required information to be submitted via the Internet in a user friendly format. The website, expected to 'go live' on August 1, 2006, will also enable

the Waste Board and affected jurisdictions to access and download the applicable information and forms via the Internet. "We are excited about the website's expansion. Not only will it make it easier for the State and local governments to access the information 24 hours a day in whichever format they want, but, it will also save haulers and solid waste facility operators time and money. This website is the first of its kind in the State, and possibly the nation," says Martins Aiyetiwa, the County website's project manager.

Public Works will be conducting public information and training sessions between August 1 and 23, 2006, at its Headquarters, 900 South Fremont Ave, Alhambra. For more information, contact Ms. Claudia Chan of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works at (626) 458-2190, M - Th, 7 - 5:30.

TASK FORCE POSITIONS ON KEY SOLID WASTE BILLS

The Task Force continuously monitors and analyzes pending legislative bills that may have an impact on solid waste management in the Los Angeles County region. If a bill is deemed significant, the Task Force will comment to positively affect the final outcome of adopted legislative proposals. The following is a list of pending State bills that the Task Force has taken a position on:

Bill Number	Version	Opposed/ Supported	Task Force Position Summary
AB 1688	5-26-06	Support	Would provide illegal dumping officers with the authority to arrest illegal dumpers
AB 1992	2-09-06	Support	Would streamline the definition of solid waste to aid in the prosecution of illegal dumping
AB 1966	5-31-06	Oppose unless amended	Would allow power plants producing electricity from renewable sources to be eligible for capital investment funds, however the latest amendment excludes conversion technologies
AB 2118	2-17-06	Oppose	The bill was recently gutted and is now a spot bill with "intent" language to develop a definition for "conversion technology"
AB 2253	2-22-06	Support	Would authorize local governments to seize vehicles used in the act of illegal dumping
AB 2271	4-04-06	Support	Would impose a \$0.10 fee on each non-rechargeable household battery sold in California
AB 2296	3-27-06	Support	Would require owners/operators of solid waste landfills to provide for facility maintenance in perpetuity
AB 2449	6-14-06	Oppose	Would require stores to establish in-store recycling programs for the return of plastic bags
AB 2845	2-24-06	Support and Amend	Would increase payments to local governments for beverage container recycling and litter cleanup programs.
AB 3001	4-17-06	Support	Would expand the State's electronic waste management program by levying a \$6 fee on all computers sold in California
SB 369	1-19-06	Support	Would extend the sunset date for the State's rubberized asphalt concrete grant program to 2010
SB 926	3-21-06	Support	Would require solid waste facilities approved at the ballot box to prepare and certify an environmental impact report pursuant to CEQA
SB 1305	5-01-06	Support	Would prohibit disposal of home-generated sharps beginning September 1, 2008
SB 1778	4-04-06	Oppose	Would exclude green waste used as ADC from receiving diversion credit
SB 1835	4-18-06	Support	Would prohibit the issuance of a solid waste facility permit for a solid waste facility approved at the ballot box until the facility complies with all local permitting requirements
SB 928	2-22-05	Oppose	Would increase the State mandated diversion rate of 50% by an unspecified amount by 1/1/20011. Note: On 6/27/06, this bill was amended in the assembly to remove the proposed increase in diversion rate

For more information on these bills or copies of related Task Force letters, please visit our website, www.lacountyiswmtf.org, or contact Coby Skye of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works at (626) 458-5163, M - Th, 7 - 5:30.

City of L.A. MultiFamily Recycling Update

Only two years ago, there were no City programs to collect recyclables from multifamily dwellings with five or more units in Los Angeles. Recently, the City of Los Angeles established pilot multifamily recycling programs in apartment buildings and condominiums. There are now weekly collection routes up and running in every neighborhood in the City.

The pilot program is very successful—with over 70,000 multifamily units currently participating, the City receives positive feedback on a daily basis from program participants. These units generate a significant amount of recyclables, which were previously taken to local landfills, but are now removed from the waste stream and taken to Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) throughout the City. These facilities sort, bale, bundle, and ship clean recyclables to manufacturers who reuse recyclable material in making new products. Therefore, the stream of recyclables generated by multifamily residences is not only diverted from local landfills, it becomes a product stream for new material.

On April 25, 2006, the Los Angeles City Council approved a plan to move forward with releasing an Request For Proposal (RFP) to establish the Permanent Multifamily Recycling Program in 2008. Building upon the 70,000 units already in the pilot program, the permanent program will expand this service availability to all multifamily residential units in the City. All multifamily dwellings in the City of Los Angeles that do not have a recycling program in place will be able to participate in this important Citywide program.

One of the pilot program goals was to test several different recycling methods to see which one works best for citywide implementation. Tenants have responded positively to a source-separated method, where multifamily residents receive 95-gallon, blue, wheeled bins labeled "Recycling." In a source separated recycling program, residents sort their recyclables from their regular trash and place them into their designated recycling bins located in a common area, usually alongside the regular trash bin. Private waste haulers empty these recycling bins on a weekly basis.

The City is committed to ensuring that all multifamily residents of Los Angeles have the opportunity to recycle. While the City prepares and releases an RFP for companies to provide recycling services to multifamily residents, we will not be actively recruiting new pilot program participants. We will, however, continue to develop a list of interested tenants to be contacted when the permanent program rolls out in 2007.

For more information, including a map of service areas, links to our recycling publications, and details on other City of Los Angeles recycling programs, visit us at: <http://www.larecycles.org>. Please remember that recycling programs can only work with public participation; success is a direct reflection on the commitment of Los Angeles residents to keeping the environment clean.

For more information, please contact Multifamily Recycling Program Manager TJ Knight via email at T.J.Knight@lacity.org, or at (213) 485-3752.

Get Into Smart Gardening

The Los Angeles County Countywide Smart Gardening Program was started in 1994 by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works to help meet the California Integrated Waste Management Board's mandated goal of reducing disposal of solid waste in landfills by 50 percent. The program offers free workshops to all County residents covering backyard composting, worm composting, grass recycling, water-wise gardening, and fire-wise gardening. These workshops provide residents with "smart gardening" techniques that are easy to follow and do not require much time. By practicing these simple techniques, residents will not only conserve water, save money, reduce waste going to our landfills, and help preserve our environment, but also enjoy a healthy and beautiful lawn and garden.

Workshops are conducted on most Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at various locations throughout the County. Residents attending a Smart Gardening workshop will have the chance to either win a backyard compost or worm bin, or purchase one at a discounted rate. For a limited time, Los Angeles County residents can order a free Smart Gardening Video, in DVD or VHS format, in English or Spanish. To take advantage of these opportunities and to learn more about the "smart gardening" techniques, please visit www.smartgardening.com or call (888)CLEAN LA.



COUNTY APPROVES NEW LAND USE PERMIT FOR SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL

Landfill to Close within 30 Years

On June 7, 2006, the County Board of Supervisors approved a replacement Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for the County side of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill. The replacement CUP will allow the separate landfilling operations in the City of Los Angeles and the unincorporated County area to be run as a single operation and establishes a maximum operational period of 30 years. It also increases the permitted waste disposal intake to a maximum of 12,100 tons per day when operating as a combined City/County landfill. Ultimately, the City/County Landfill would provide approximately 90 million tons of disposal capacity.

The replacement CUP is the culmination of efforts, which began when the County issued the existing CUP for the County landfill in 1993. In compliance with the County CUP, Browning Ferris Industries, Inc. (BFI), the landfill operator, pursued and obtained land use entitlements in 1999 for the development of the landfill on the City side, which had been inactive since 1991. Thereafter, BFI requested a replacement CUP for the County landfill to facilitate the operation of a combined City/County landfill. On July 28, 2005, BFI opened the City portion of the landfill.

The replacement CUP includes a vast array of stringent environmental protection measures and recycling

requirements to assist cities in meeting the State's waste diversion mandates. For example, all areas not yet utilized will be double-lined, additional video cameras will be installed to monitor operations at the working face, alternative fuel trucks must operate onsite, a trust fund to pay for closure, post-closure, and corrective action activities will be established, BFI is responsible for maintaining the site in perpetuity, a \$1 per ton fund will be established for the benefit of the neighboring community, a \$0.25 per ton fund will be established to expand waste diversion activities in the unincorporated County areas, and a \$2 million conversion technology fund will be established. "The replacement permit for Sunshine Canyon establishes some of the most stringent environmental protection measures ever imposed on a landfill in the nation. It provides added protections and benefits to the community and the environment and allows BFI to run the landfill more efficiently" said Carlos Ruiz, Assistant Division Engineer of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works.

Joint County/City operations at the landfill will not start until the approval of Joint Powers Agreement between the City and County.

For more information, please contact Martins Aiyetiwa of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works at (626) 458-3553.

Materials such as paint, motor oil, anti-freeze, cleaning products, and pesticides can be taken to any of these locations. Electronic waste will also be accepted including computers, monitors, printers, televisions, and cell phones. Please read each permanent center description below for details or call 1-800-98-TOXIC or 1(888)CLEAN-LA for more information.

Gaffey Street collection center

**1400 N. Gaffey St.
San Pedro, CA 90021
Open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

Hyperion Treatment Plant

**7660 W. Imperial Highway, Gate B
Playa Del Rey, CA 90293
Open Saturdays and Sundays 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

Washington Boulevard collection center

**2649 E. Washington Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90021
Open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

Randall Street S.A.F.E. center

**11025 Randall St.
Sun Valley, CA 91352
Open Saturday, Sunday, and Monday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

UCLA location

**550 Charles E. Young Dr. West
Los Angeles, CA 90095
Open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

Antelope Valley Environmental collection center

**Antelope Valley Public Landfill
1200 West City Ranch Road
Palmdale CA 93551
Open 1st and 3rd Saturday each month 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

TASK FORCE MEETINGS

Meetings will be held at the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Headquarters, 900 South Fremont Avenue, Alhambra.

August 17
September 21
October 19

All meetings are scheduled for 1 p.m. in conference room C.

For information call Christine Frias at (626) 458-3565. M - Th, 7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

What's Up?

HHW ROUNDUPS are open from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. unless otherwise indicated. For more information, call the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, at 1(888)CLEAN-LA (253-2652). For information about City of Los Angeles events call 1(800)98-TOXIC (988-6942).

- August 5 **Whittier** - Rio Hondo College
3600 Workman Mill Road
- August 12 **Arcadia** - Santa Anita Race Track, Gate 6
Colorado Place
- August 12 **Sierra Madre** - Mariposa Ave. Parking Lot,
9am - 2pm Mariposa Ave. just west of Baldwin Ave.
- August 19 **Downey** - Columbus Continuation High School
12330 Woodruff Ave.
- Sept. 9 **Lynwood** - Lynwood City Streets
intersection of Butler Ave. and Bellinger St.
(enter from Alameda St. only)
- Sept. 9 **Burbank** - Burbank Fire Department
Training Center
1845 Ontario St.
- Sept. 16 **Alhambra** - LA County DPW Headquarters
Parking Lot, 900 South Fremont Ave.
- Sept. 16 **South Pasadena** - South Pasadena Unified
9am - 2pm School District Headquarters (Parking Lot)
Diamond Ave. & Mission Street
- Sept. 23 **San Fernando** - San Fernando Civic Center
Parking Lot
1st St. and Maclay Ave.
- Sept. 23 **Covina** - Walmart Overflow Parking Lot
1275 Azusa Ave. (North of Arrow Hwy.)
- Sept. 30 **Beverly Hills** - Beverly Hills City Streets
Foothill Rd. and Alden Dr.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Looking for up-to-date information about the Task Force?

Visit www.lacountyiswmtf.org where you can find agendas, meeting minutes, and copies of the Inside Solid Waste newsletter.

Inglewood Discouraging Litter, Encouraging Beautification

Fighting Litter - With a litter rate higher than average, Inglewood can't ignore a problem that costs thousands of dollars each year in cleanup efforts and immeasurable dollars in loss of economic development and community pride. According to Keep America Beautiful, Inc. (KAB), there are seven primary sources of litter: pedestrians, motorists, uncovered trucks, loading docks, construction sites, improper residential refuse set-out, improper commercial refuse set-out, and fast food wrappers. Individual behavior is cited as the main cause of litter. According to the Institute for Applied Research (IAR), a California firm that has conducted extensive litter research, 25% of the population will always litter, 25% will never litter, and 50% may be persuaded not to litter. Reaching the 50% who are persuadable is the key to litter prevention. The key to reaching them is education: changing their attitudes and actions through volunteer-based community education programs, and targeted media campaigns.

Enforcement follows education, specifically the enforcement of existing ordinances essential for effective litter prevention and control. Enforcement measures include monitoring proper refuse set-out requirements, waste ordinances for home and commercial businesses and vehicles, and ordinances prohibiting intentional litter. Cameras are being installed in alleys to catch violators, and Special Inspectors are being deployed to monitor and abate unsightly areas.

Cleanup and volunteer involvement also play an integral role in the campaign. Mechanical street sweepers are being upgraded, while retailers and other businesses are being encouraged to clean their adjacent sidewalks regularly. Volunteers are pitching in with regular cleanup programs. City of Inglewood Department of Public Works-sponsored programs are now operating in every Council District. A new "Community Tool Box" Program is underway, which will allow volunteer groups access to needed equipment and supplies to keep their neighborhoods clean and safe.



The Community Toolbox

Inglewood Public Works has started planning a "Community Toolbox Program." The Community Toolbox is filled with paint supplies and landscaping tools such as lawnmowers, weed eaters, trimmers, that will be available to residents and business owners wishing to improve their property or clean up surrounding parkways, neighborhood parks, and alleys. The

program will share City resources with the community in order to beautify Inglewood. This service is provided free of charge, and tools will be delivered to designated cleanup sites by request.

For more information, please contact the Inglewood Public Works Department by phone at (310)-412-5333, or through e-mail at <http://www.cityofinglewood.org/depts/pw/default.asp>