

SOLID INSIDE WASTE

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



Winter 2008

Volume 53

PROPER DISPOSAL OF HOME-GENERATED SHARPS WASTE

It is estimated that approximately nine million people nationwide administer self-injections outside traditional health care facilities each year. Many of these residents are people with diabetes and patients receiving home health care who throw used sharps into their trash containers or flush them down the toilet. However, with an estimated three billion sharps being generated each year, these sharps pose a significant health risk to everyone, especially to sanitation and landfill workers who often encounter sharps that have been thrown into the trash.

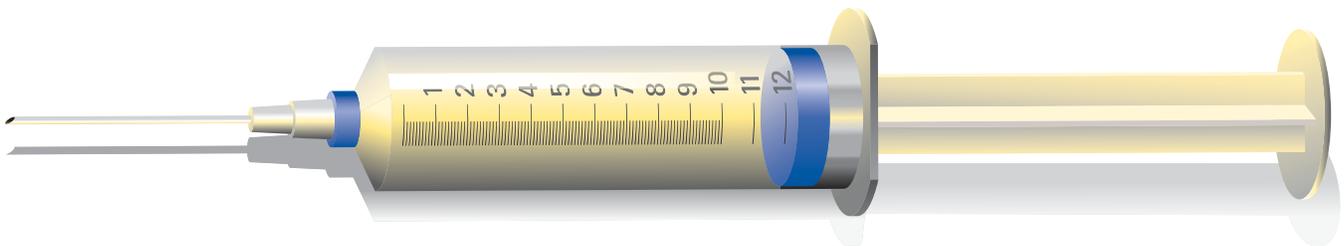
To ensure appropriate disposal of sharps waste necessary to protect the public from potential exposure to contagious diseases and health and safety risks, Governor Schwarzenegger signed Senate Bill 1305, which makes it illegal for residents to place home-generated sharps waste in trash, recycling, and green waste containers after September 1, 2008. SB 1305 would also require sharps waste to be collected and transported in approved sharps containers.

Currently, the County of Los Angeles accepts sharps waste at its weekly Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection events, the Antelope Valley Environmental

Collection Center (AVECC), and at the City of Los Angeles' permanent collection centers. However, the County Los Angeles Department of Public Works plans to enhance its existing HHW/E-Waste Management Program by implementing a Sharps Collection Program (Sharps Program) for the collection and disposal of home-generated sharps.

As part of the Sharps Collection Program, Public Works will purchase State-approved sharps disposal containers. These containers will be offered to all County residents free of charge. The County's HHW/E-Waste collection events, AVECC, and the City of Los Angeles' permanent centers, will continue to serve as collection outlets for the containers. Public Works will also launch a public education and outreach campaign to promote the Sharps Program and educate and inform residents of proper sharps disposal.

For more information on the Sharps Program, please contact Neonika Walker at 626-458-3509.



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 [Vanessa Lopez](mailto:vlopez@dpw.lacounty.gov) at (626) 458-6563, or vlopez@dpw.lacounty.gov. Quarterly meetings are held at the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Headquarters to discuss and review upcoming newsletters. If you want to be involved or to contribute, please join the Subcommittee!

2007 LEGISLATIVE WRAP-UP

The first-half of the 2007-08 Legislative session concluded with a number of bills chaptered, becoming two-year bills, or vetoed. Below is a summary of key solid waste legislation. The Legislature reconvenes January 7, 2008.

CHAPTERED BILLS

AB 118 (Nunez) - Funding for Alternative Fuels and Vehicle Technologies

Funds various programs intended to improve air quality and increase the use of alternative fuels and advanced vehicle technology through fees on vehicle owners and electric utility ratepayers.

AB 258 (Krekorian) - Preproduction Plastic Discharges

Requires the State Water Board and other regional boards to implement a program by January 1, 2009 for the control of discharges of preproduction plastics from point and nonpoint sources.

AB 679 (Benoit) - Illegal Dumping Assessments

Requires the court to impose an assessment in addition to any other penalty or fine, in the amount of \$100 for an infraction or \$200 for a misdemeanor, for use by the City or County for illegal dumping enforcement.

AB 800 (Lieu, Brownley and Krekorian) - Discharge of Hazardous Substances or Sewage

Expands the notification requirements and associated penalties for discharging sewage, hazardous substances, or other wastes into the waters of the State.

AB 1023 (Desaulnier) - Recycling Biodegradable Plastics

Exempts manufacturers of compostable and biodegradable trash bags from California's recycled-content requirements for plastic trash bags.

AB 1109 (Huffman and Feuer) - Incandescent Light Bulbs

Prohibits, on or after January 1, 2010, a person from manufacturing or selling incandescent light bulbs that contain levels of hazardous substances prohibited by the European Union.

AB 1473 (Feuer) - Temporary Solid Waste Facility Permits

Requires the Waste Board to adopt emergency regulations to authorize an enforcement agency, upon Waste Board's concurrence, to issue a temporary solid waste facilities permit to an operating solid waste transfer or processing station or a composting facility, which, as of January 1, 2008, is required to have a solid waste facilities permit but for which a permit has not been obtained. The bill sunsets July 1, 2010.

SB 966 (Simitian and Kuehl) - Pharmaceutical Drug Waste Disposal

Requires the Waste Board to develop model programs for the collection and proper disposal of pharmaceutical drug waste.

SB 1021 (Padilla) - One-Time Grant for Multi-Family Beverage Container Recycling

Makes available \$15 million in grant funding to place source separated beverage container recycling containers at multifamily homes.

TWO-YEAR BILLS

AB 712 (De Leon) - Off-Road Solid Waste Vehicles

Imposes a surcharge of \$0.50/ton on the existing Statewide solid waste tipping fee in order to fund air quality compliance activities for off-road diesel vehicles that dispose, transfer, or process solid waste or recyclable materials; and, provides up to four million dollars in grants for projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions from landfills through organic material diversion (excluding "thermal technologies").

SB 140 (Kehoe) - Renewable Diesel Fuel

Requires the Air Resources Board to develop regulations requiring all diesel fuel sold to contain at least 2% renewable diesel (derived from vegetable oils, waste grease, or animal fat), increasing to 5% within two years.

2007 LEGISLATIVE WRAP-UP

SB 1016 (*Wiggins*) - **Statewide Solid Waste Diversion Measurement and Reporting System**

Revises the State's Solid Waste Diversion Measurement and Reporting System from a diversion-based measurement system to a disposal-based measurement system, and would implement mandatory disposal reduction goals, equivalent to an 88% diversion rate using current methodology.

SB 1020 (*Padilla*) - **Increased Waste Diversion Mandate**

Increases the State's waste diversion mandate from 50% to 60% by 2012 and 75% by 2020.

VETOED BILLS

AB 35 (*Ruskin*) - **Sustainable State Buildings**

Would have required a state agency that constructs or renovates a state building on or after July 1, 2010 to meet a minimum gold standard under the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.

AB 48 (*Saldana*) - **Electronic Waste**

Would have prohibited the manufacture of electronic devices for sale in California that are prohibited from sale in the European Union by the EU's Reduction of Hazardous Substances Directive, effective January 1, 2010.

AB 484 (*Nava*) - **Disposal of Concrete by CalTrans**

Would have prohibited CalTrans, or its contractor, from disposing of asphalt concrete or Portland cement concrete in a solid waste landfill, unless the department makes a specified determination that no other means of using or disposing the material is feasible or that it will be used for beneficial reuse in the construction or operation of a solid waste landfill.

AB 546 (*Brownley*) - **Electronic Waste**

Would have required a retailer that sells a covered electronic device to provide a customer with the Waste Board's Internet website, through either a sign, written material, or on the sales receipt. The website would describe where and how to return, recycle, and dispose of the covered electronic device.

AB 548 (*Levine*) - **Multifamily Recycling**

Would have required the owner of a multifamily dwelling (consisting of five or more units) to provide recycling services.

AB 1058 (*Laird*) - **Green Building**

Would have required the Department of Housing and Community Development to develop and promote green building standards for residential occupancies and submit them to the Building Standards Commission for review, adoption, approval and publication.

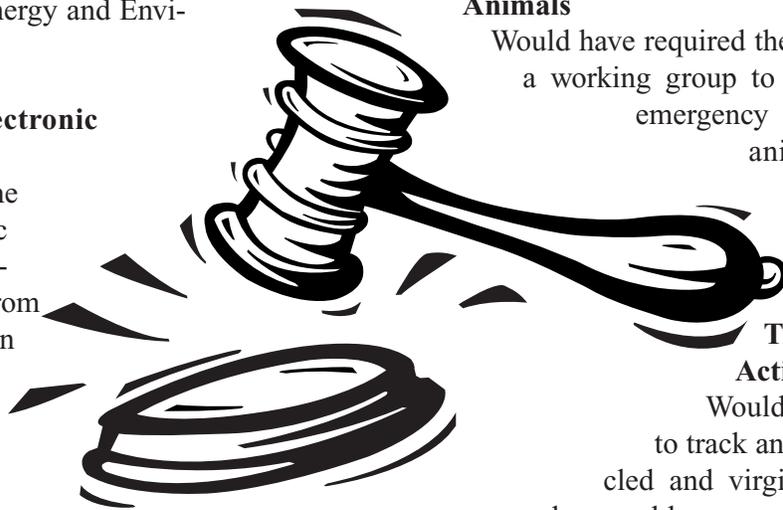
SB 470 (*Ashburn*) - **Management of Dead Animals**

Would have required the Waste Board to convene a working group to draft regulations for the emergency disposal or rendering of animal carcasses/livestock during a state of emergency.

SB 735 (*Wiggins*) - **Tracking Recycling Activities by CalTrans**

Would have required CalTrans to track and report their use of recycled and virgin materials for subbase, base and lean concrete base.

For more information, please contact Coby Skye of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works at (626) 458-5163, M-Th, 7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. or Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at 909-592-1147.



Household Hazardous waste can be taken to any of these locations. Electronic waste is also accepted. 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 Saturday and Sunday 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.

Los Angeles/Glendale Collection Center

4660 Colorado Blvd.

Los Angeles, CA 90039

Open Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. - 3 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.

What's Up?

HHW ROUNDUPS are open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. unless otherwise indicated. For more information, call the County of Los Angeles 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)**.

- January 5 **Paramount** - Paramount Swap Meet
7900 All American City Way (off Paramount Blvd.)
- January 12 **El Monte** - El Monte Airport
4233 North Santa Anita Ave.
- January 19 **Bell** - Bell City Yard
5820 Gage Ave.
- January 26 **Hermosa Beach** - Clark Stadium
Valley Drive between 8th & 11th streets
- February 2 **Santa Fe Springs** - Rio Hondo College Fire
Training Academy, 11400 Greenstone Ave.
- February 9 **Claremont** - Claremont Corporate Yard
1616 Monte Vista Ave.
- February 16 **Cudahy** - Lugo Park
7810 Otis Street
- February 23 **Diamond Bar** - City Streets, Gateway Corporate
Center, 1300 block of Bridge Gate Drive
- March 29 **Long Beach** - Long Beach Veteran's Stadium
Clark Ave, & Conant St.

ANNOUNCEMENT

www.lacountyiswmtf.org

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

Visit the Task Force
website to view agendas,
meeting minutes, and
copies of the Inside Solid
Waste newsletter.



TASK FORCE MEETINGS

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

February TBD
March 20
April 17

All meetings are
scheduled at 1 p.m.
in Conference Room C.



For information,
call Carrie Cui at
(626) 458-3596,
M-Th, 7 a.m. -
5:30 p.m.

GENERATION EARTH EMPOWERING TEENS TOWARD CHANGE

Generation Earth is an environmental education program of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works. The primary purpose of this program is to educate and empower middle school and high school students in the County of Los Angeles to be an active part of the solution to environmental concerns in their communities. Youth are powerful agents of change in their families and among their friends. Generation Earth believes that the rewarding experience of taking action for positive change will inspire teens to take responsibility for their lives and, in turn, their communities.

Generation Earth's professional development workshops are designed for secondary educators. The training introduces service learning as an instructional strategy, connecting environmental issues in the community to State curriculum standards. The program materials highlight pertinent environmental information and guide educators toward an action project that will help their students make a positive impact on their campus and in their community.



The Generation Earth program provides workshops on the following:

- Waste Reduction and Recycling
- Stormwater Pollution Prevention
- Professional Development workshops designed for secondary educators interested in conducting service learning projects on school campuses

Assistance is provided to schools based on environmental projects such as:

- Guidance and support to schools wishing to cut campus waste by reducing and recycling or improving the condition of our watershed.
- Knowledge necessary to create an impacting and sustainable campus initiative through on-site visitations.

The teen action program was developed as an additional component to the Generation Earth Program. This program provides:

- Teen groups such as eco-clubs, scout troops, after-school programs and community groups to explore environmental issues, technology and careers.
- Service projects allow teens to use information they have collected during their activities in contributing to their community.

For more information, please contact Generation Earth at (818) 623-4870 or by email at generationearth@treepeople.org.

TEACHERS CAN ENGAGE STUDENTS WITH ECOLOGICAL LESSONS BY PARTICIPATING IN THE PLAN-IT-EARTH PROGRAM

Plan-It-Earth, a Times in Education program sponsored by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, is open to all 6th through 9th grade students.

Plan-It-Earth helps students:

- Better understand some of today's environmental challenges and their role in protecting the environment.
- Expand their knowledge about the causes and prevention of stormwater pollution.
- Learn how to preserve our natural resources through recycling.
- Discover ways to reduce waste and household hazardous materials.

Participating teachers receive the Plan-It-Earth study package at no cost. This includes:

- Plan-It-Earth teaching guide
- Art & essay contest information
- Copies of the Los Angeles Times delivered to their classroom weekly for up to 8 weeks

For more information on how to participate in the Plan-It-Earth program and essay/art contest, call 1-800-528-4637, ext. 73539.

Update on Proposed Regulations To Strengthen Financial Assurance Requirements For Landfills

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 remediation costs associated with water contamination issues while the landfill is operating, in closure, or in post-closure.

As required by Assembly Bill 2296 (2006 Statutes), the California Integrated Waste Management Board (Waste Board) is currently completing a study on how to strengthen the above financial assurance mechanisms in the event that a landfill owner or operator fails to meet its legal obligations to fund post-closure maintenance or corrective action (including repair of the environmental control systems and non-water related issues) during the post-closure period. Upon completion of the study, the Waste Board must adopt regulations and develop recommendations for the Legislature by July 1, 2009, to implement the study's findings.

To date, the Waste Board has found that:

- By 2009, half of the 282 landfills in California subject to financial assurance requirements will be closed and in the post-closure maintenance phase.
- In 2021, the first California landfill will exhaust its required 30-year post-closure maintenance financial assurance requirement.

- By mid-century, the **unassured** post-closure maintenance costs for all sites in the post-closure maintenance period could be more than \$600 million, growing to \$3.2 billion by the end of this century.

Due to the sheer significance of this issue, the Task Force has been an active participant in the Waste Board's Working Group to ensure that the above financial assurance mechanisms are strengthened, so that local governments aren't left holding the bag at anytime during the closure or post-closure maintenance period. Such liabilities may result from a landfill owner/operator defaulting on its obligations, entering bankruptcy, or from liabilities beyond the current 30 year post-closure maintenance period. On the other hand, some participants, especially landfill operators, have expressed concerns regarding the precautionary measures being considered since they may have a significant impact on the waste industry, and instead prefer to maintain the status quo.

Simultaneously, the Waste Board is near the end of the first phase of rulemaking to revise closure and post-closure maintenance cost estimates based on the State's liability should the operator fail to perform its obligation.

For more information, please contact Martin Aiyetiwa of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works at (626) 458-3553, M-Th, 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. or maiyet@dpw.lacounty.gov; or Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909) 592-1147; or visit the Waste Board's rulemaking site at www.ciwmb.ca.gov/rulemaking/Postclosure/default.htm.

Recycling Numbers Keep Adding Up

The City of Calabasas is proud to announce the success of its monthly recycling round-up events for the 2006-07 Fiscal Year (FY).

During the reporting period, Calabasas collected 125,742 pounds of mixed electronics that included 1,287 televisions and computer monitors. The City collected 57,382 pounds of waste and served a total of 1,075 customers. This shows a 2.7 times increase from FY 2005-06 when 45,520 pounds were collected. Our goal for this fiscal year is to collect and recycle at least 150,000 pounds of electronics. The E-waste round-up is open to residents and businesses of all cities and communities.

For FY 2006-07, Calabasas collected 9,149 pounds of dry cell batteries, an increase of 56% from the previous fiscal year with 5,845 pounds. Calabasas spent \$16,500 to collect and recycle dry cell batteries. Our goal for the 2007-08 FY is to recycle 12,000 pounds of batteries.

During the same period, Calabasas served over 421 residents and collected 2,994 gallons of water base paint, 44 car batteries, 47 used oil filters, 308 gallons of used motor oil, and 35 gallons of antifreeze. The City of Calabasas administers the Oil Block Grant on behalf of other cities in this region. The round-up is funded both through the Oil Block Grant and contribution of four participating agencies.

The electronic waste round-ups are held on the first Saturday of the month at the Calabasas City Hall from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and the Used Oil and Water Base Paint round ups are held the second Saturday of every month from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Calabasas Tennis and Swim Center.

For further questions or information regarding the City of Calabasas recycling efforts, please contact Kay Ayazi at (818) 878-4225 or visit www.cityofcalabasas.com.

Conversion Technology Update:

Demonstration Facility Takes One Giant Step Towards Realization

Conversion technologies are innovative processes capable of converting post-recycled residual solid waste into marketable products, green fuels such as ethanol or biodiesel, and clean, renewable energy. Since 2004, the Task Force's Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee has spearheaded efforts on behalf of the County to evaluate and promote the development of these groundbreaking technologies in Southern California.

On October 18, 2007, the Task Force achieved a major milestone when they officially adopted the Phase II Conversion Technology Assessment Report. The Phase II Report represents a culmination of extensive research and first-hand analysis by the Subcommittee. To further the County's goal of successfully developing an operational demonstration facility in Southern California, the Phase II process completed several key tasks, including an independent evaluation of selected technology suppliers and candidate materials recovery facility sites; a review of permitting pathways/requirements; and identification of project funding opportunities, financing requirements, and potential County incentives to help facilitate project development.

Most importantly, the Phase II Report:

- Identified four conversion technology suppliers capable of developing a demonstration project in Southern California;
- Identified four sites capable of hosting the demonstration project; and,
- Confirmed that utilizing conversion technologies would result in a net reduction in air emissions, including greenhouse gas emissions and criteria air pollutants.

Information regarding the four technologies and four site locations is summarized in the two tables below:

CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY SUPPLIER	TECHNOLOGY TYPE	REFERENCE FACILITY LOCATION
Arrow Ecology and Engineering (Arrow)	Anaerobic Digestion	Hiriya, Israel
International Environmental Solutions (IES)	Pyrolysis	Romoland, CA
Interstate Waste Technologies (IWT)	Pyrolysis / High Temperature Gasification	Chiba, Japan Kirashiki, Japan
NTech Environmental (NTech)	Low Temperature Gasification	York, England & Bydgoszcz, Poland
LOCATIONS	FACILITY NAMES	OWNER/OPERATOR
Ventura County (Oxnard)	Del Norte Regional Recycling & Transfer Station	City of Oxnard/ Republic Services
Riverside County (Perris) Orange County (Huntington Beach)	Perris MRF/Transfer Station Rainbow Disposal Company, Inc. MRF	CR&R Rainbow Disposal Company
Riverside County (Unincorporated)	Robert A. Nelson Transfer Station and MRF	Riverside County/Burrtec

As recommended by the Phase II Report, the identified conversion technologies and sites will participate in a County-sponsored "competition" to select the optimum pairing. The competition is structured in such a way as to leverage maximum private-sector financing and development. Competition results are anticipated to be finalized by summer 2008.

Following selection of one or more viable proposals, the County would subsequently negotiate support activities and proceed with permitting, design, construction, and facility startup. Operation of the demonstration facility is anticipated for late 2011.

For more information or a copy of the Phase II Report, please contact Coby Skye of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works at (626) 458-5163, M-Th, 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. or cskye@dpw.lacounty.gov; or visit www.socalconversion.org.

Inglewood - 100 More Years of Environmental Leadership

In February 2008, Inglewood celebrates its centennial as an incorporated City. In honor of our proud one-hundred-year history, we hope you will join us in our efforts to keep Inglewood clean of litter and debris and to do our part to recycle.

Here are some recent efforts we made to keep Inglewood clean:

In October 2007, we joined the national Cans For Cash Recycling Challenge organized by the U.S. Conference of Mayors and Novelis Corporation. The competition challenged like-sized cities to compete against each other in aluminum beverage can collection for cash rewards towards community programs. Inglewood residents turned out on October 27 at the Hollywood Park parking lot to give us their cans. The results are being tallied and will be announced at the U.S. Conference of Mayors Winter 2008 meeting.

On the same day, we held a Household Hazardous Waste Round-up and collected electronic waste, paint, batteries and cleaners that can't be deposited in regular waste receptacles. We also conducted a City-wide yard sale in October, to help residents sell and buy gently used items. Yard sales are one way to encourage re-use—which is one of the environmental 3-Rs!

Please help us this year to give back to our environment and our community by recycling what you use, reducing the waste that you generate, and finding ways to reuse what you can. Here are some easy things that everyone can do:

- Recycle your cans and bottles.
- Return empty plastic bags to grocery stores with bag collection programs.
- When you are entertaining, buy drinks and snacks in bulk to reduce packaging.
- Use washable instead of disposable plates and glasses.
- Take your gently used items to a thrift store or donation center so that someone else can use them.

Help us keep Inglewood clean and beautiful for another 100 years! For more information, contact Angela Williams at 310-412-5333.

Los Angeles County
Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force
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