



Welcome to **KEEPING OUR COMMUNITIES CLEAN**, an email-newsletter designed to give you a window into what is going on at Waste Management in Ventura County. Topics include waste management issues, community involvement, and environmental protection and legislation.

Remember to reduce, reuse, and recycle!

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- Our renewable energy projects create enough energy to power nearly 1 million homes and save the equivalent of more than 13 million barrels of oil per year.
- The Simi Landfill and Recycling Center alone powers the equivalent of 2,500 homes each day with two landfill gas-to-energy generators using methane gas
- Waste Management's landfills provide more than 24,000 acres of protected habitat for wildlife. The Simi Valley Landfill is one of 73 certified sites by the Wildlife Habitat Council.
- WM's North American operations recycled enough paper and cardboard in one year to save 41 million trees.
- In California, we operate the largest fleet of clean natural gas collection vehicles and have reduced air emissions by 247 tons.

### Letter from Mike Smith

Dear friends and supporters,

I'm sure many of you watched the amazing Super Bowl game last month, and we hope that you were one of the 38.6 million viewers who watched the new reality show "Undercover Boss." Waste Management's very own Chief Operation Officer, Larry O'Donnell, went undercover and worked along front line employees to get an up close look at how they do their jobs. This show had the largest audience ever for a reality series premiere.



Locally, we have amazing employees too. In this newsletter, we are featuring our Senior Fleet Manager, Jean LaPorte ([www.keepingventuracountyclean.com/enews/0310/article4.html](http://www.keepingventuracountyclean.com/enews/0310/article4.html)), who has been working with us for over 30 years.

Spring is right around the corner and so is Earth Day! We are very happy to announce that we will be hosting an Earth Day event celebrating our grand opening of our Pollinator Garden on April 17 at the Simi Valley Landfill and Recycling Center. Stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks.

Here at WM, we are still working diligently to earn and keep your support for our Modernization and Expansion project. In fact, the Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Ventura County Economic Development Association recently committed their support ([www.keepingventuracountyclean.com/enews/0310/article2.html](http://www.keepingventuracountyclean.com/enews/0310/article2.html)) to our project. If you have any questions about the project, our Community Relations Manager, Lisa Hemenway, is always available and upon request will provide you with a tour of our facility. She can be reached at (805) 581-1746.

Finally, the Simi Valley Landfill and Recycling Center is celebrating its second anniversary of the construction and demolition recycling facility ([www.keepingventuracountyclean.com/enews/0310/article3.html](http://www.keepingventuracountyclean.com/enews/0310/article3.html)). In 2008, over 40,700 tons of construction and demolition waste was processed for further recycling; read on to see how much has been recycled since the facility opened!

Best,  
Mike Smith  
Director of Operations

Scott Tignac  
Landfill District Manager



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### Local Organizations Show Support

As many of you know, the Simi Valley Landfill and Recycling Center is currently undergoing the review process of our proposed Modernization and Expansion project. This month, we are proud to announce that both the Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Ventura County Economic Development Association (VCEDA) submitted letters supporting our project.

Leigh Nixon, President and CEO of the Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce, recently stated: "The board's decision to support the project focused on the business aspect of what the project brings to the business community. Hot topics for the business community today is keeping jobs here in Simi Valley and contributing to the local economy and WM's project fulfills those needs."

President and CEO of VCEDA Bill Burrato added: "Waste Management is to be commended for a project design that incorporates best practices in environmental sustainability, recycling and disposal services. We believe this project will be a vital asset in meeting the waste management needs of Ventura County now and well into the future."

We hope you that we have your support, as well. To show your support of WM's project, please visit [www.keepingventuracountyclean.com/expansionSupport.php](http://www.keepingventuracountyclean.com/expansionSupport.php). If you have any questions or concerns – or would like to take a tour of our facility – please contact our Community Relations Manager, Lisa Hemenway, at (805) 581-1746.





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## C&D Recycling Facility Celebrates Second Anniversary

The SVLRC celebrated the two-year anniversary of the construction and demolition (C&D) recycling facility. In 2008, we recycled over 40,700 tons of materials for beneficial re-use. Over the last two years, we have recycled an astonishing 81,800 tons!

Located at the Simi Valley Landfill and Recycling Center (<http://www.keepingventuracountyclean.com/simivalleylandfill.html>), the recycling facility accepts wood, concrete, dirt, drywall, metal, cardboard, plastic, roofing materials, appliances and tile. These materials are sorted onsite and transported to regional facilities to find a "second life" as new products.

In Ventura County, local laws require construction projects to divert a minimum of 60 percent of their waste. The SVLRC is exceeding that goal and recycles 88 percent of the materials received.

WM is committed to helping individuals and businesses meet their C&D recycling requirements. If you need to order containers for your construction project, please contact Tom Jacobellis at (805) 955-4346 or email [tjacobellis@wm.com](mailto:tjacobellis@wm.com).





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*Jean LaPorte –  
Senior Fleet Manager*

A local resident of Simi Valley for the past six years and a Ventura County resident for over 30 years, Jean knows the area. And, he knows WM since he's been working here for over 35 years! Jean is in charge of maintaining our collection trucks and works with his staff of 30 employees to make sure that all our trucks are safe and clean and on the road.



Jean and his team have won four WM Top Shop Awards from our Corporate offices! Winners of the award have to demonstrate excellence in costs, productivity, safety, shop and fleet appearance.

Recently, his three grandchildren Chandler, Pierce, and Landen (three-year old triplets!) came to visit grandpa at his "shop." They loved wearing the WM hat and vest and sitting in a WM trash truck. All three want to be "trash men" when they grow up and work for WM.



Jean, thanks for keeping our trucks in tip-top condition!