

KEEPING our Communities clean



EMAIL NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2008

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.*
- *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.*

Dear Friends,

Please join me in welcoming Lisa Hemenway to the WM Ventura County team as Community Relations Manager. She has been with WM for over 15 years and has great experience and background, especially in recycling. Lisa was raised in Simi Valley so this is a homecoming for her and for her family!



Nine months after we opened the Construction and Demolition Recycling Facility at the Simi Valley Landfill, we're proud to announce that more than 24,000 tons of materials have been recycled. Keeping C&D materials out of the landfill benefits Ventura County and the environment and helps meet local and state regulations. We're thankful to local residents, businesses and contractors for pitching in to help us reach this achievement.

Waste Management has new solutions for disposing of materials that are not allowed in curbside trash. Batteries and compact fluorescent lamps are classified as universal waste under California law and need to be disposed of properly. We recently launched an online recycling service, ThinkGreenFromHome.com, which is a convenient way to protect the environment by safely disposing of these items.

Starting this month, it is illegal in California to dispose of hypodermic needles or other "sharps" used for medical self-injection with household trash. This measure protects residents and anyone else who might accidentally come in contact with used needles. We offer a mailback program that allows residents to safely and conveniently dispose of their sharps.

We're also proud to share that WM recently was named a Climate Action Leader™ by the California Climate Action Registry. We earned the honor by voluntarily gathering and reporting our greenhouse gas emissions throughout the state. Given how complicated the reporting and verification process can be, this truly is a remarkable accomplishment.

If you have any questions about our services and programs or would like to take a tour of the landfill, please don't hesitate to contact Lisa Hemenway at (805) 581-1746.

Best,
Michael E. Smith
Market Area General Manager
Waste Management of Ventura County

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Welcome Lisa Hemenway!

Please join us in welcoming Lisa Hemenway to WM's Ventura County team. A former Simi Valley resident, Lisa was recently hired as Community Relations Manager. She will be responsible for heading our community outreach efforts, including those focusing on the Simi Valley Landfill and Recycling Center modernization and expansion project.

In addition, she will help residents and businesses increase their recycling efforts through presentations at community groups and on-site assistance.

Lisa started working for WM more than 15 years ago as a customer service representative and has progressively moved up in the company, most recently serving as Recycling Manager in the Antelope Valley, focusing on implementing successful recycling diversion programs, school education programs and public outreach.

Having been raised in Simi Valley — she attended elementary, middle and high school locally — Lisa knows our community. She is a graduate of Moorpark College and is currently majoring in business administration at the University of Phoenix. She currently lives in Simi Valley with her husband and two young children.

Lisa's recycling expertise is available to large and small businesses throughout Ventura County that want to implement recycling programs. Additionally, she is available as a public speaker for community events and meetings. Please contact Lisa at (805) 581-1746 and make sure you introduce yourself if you see her around town.



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Helping Construction Materials Find a Second Life

We opened our new construction and demolition (C&D) recycling facility at the Simi Valley Landfill in January 2008. Nine months later, we're proud to announce that thanks to the efforts of local residents, businesses and contractors, more than 24,000 tons of C&D materials have been recycled. This is a terrific achievement for us, for Ventura County, and, most of all, for our environment.



The materials collected at our C&D facility include wood, concrete, dirt, drywall, metal, cardboard, plastic, roofing materials, carpet, appliances and tile. To date, the material we have recycled includes:

- Metal — 1,728,624 pounds
- Cardboard and Plastic — 437,800 pounds
- Drywall — 631,380 pounds
- Wood — 13,423,680 pounds

These materials are sorted and transported to regional facilities to find a second life as new products. Recycling these materials helps preserve valuable landfill space and helps Simi Valley and Ventura County meet state laws that require every municipality in California to divert at least 50 percent of its waste from landfills. In addition, Ventura County recently adopted its own C&D recycling ordinance that requires all construction projects to divert at least 60 percent of their waste.

WM's C&D facility is located at the Simi Valley Landfill and Recycling Center at 2801 Madera Road, just north of the 118 Freeway. The facility accepts co-mingled C&D waste from the public and from private contractors.

For information about C&D recycling services at your job site, please contact Tom Jacobellis (805) 955-4346. For more information about the C&D recycling facility, please contact Scott Tignac (805) 579-7478.

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Think Green From Home

Waste Management recently launched ThinkGreenFromHome.com, an online service for recycling household electronic waste, including compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) and batteries.

CFLs are a great — and longer-lasting — source of light. They provide energy savings and help reduce a household's environmental profile, but the bulbs contain mercury, a hazardous material that cannot be placed in the trash in California. CFL use is growing rapidly — it is expected that some 4 billion CFLs will be in household use by 2012 — but safe, convenient methods for recycling CFLs and other household universal waste have previously been lacking.

To help residents safely dispose of these light bulbs and batteries, WM is providing a recycling program featuring convenient prepaid postage mail-in kits that are available online. The kits are suitable for both the storage and transport of discarded bulbs or batteries and are approved for shipping by the United States Postal Service. The CFL recycling kits incorporate Mercury VaporLok™ technology, which is designed to reduce the risk of airborne exposure and environmental contamination from lamps broken during storage and shipping. Consumers can ship the boxes directly from their home or from a U.S. Post Office. The CFLs are sent to a facility near Minneapolis for recycling where the recyclable materials and the mercury are separated for reuse.

For more information on CFL, battery and electronic waste recycling, or to order recycling kits, visit ThinkGreenFromHome.com.



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Keep Sharps Out of the Trash

As of September 1, it is illegal to throw away home-generated hypodermic needles, or "sharps" in garbage or recycling bins. Under California Senate Bill 1305, all home-generated sharps waste must be disposed of in an approved sharps container and managed by a hazardous waste facility, medical waste generator facility, or a facility managed as part of a mail-back program.



Surveys show that more than 3 billion needles and syringes used by self-injectors end up in trash or recycling containers, or are flushed down toilets. This improper disposal puts residents and sanitation workers, including WM employees, at risk of needle sticks and serious infections.

The law, which Waste Management supported, makes California one of the first states in the nation to ban sharps waste from the residential waste stream.

Luckily, there are safe and convenient alternatives such as mail-back programs that allow for the proper handling of sharps. For example, WM offers Sharps Disposal by Mail®, a cost-effective solution that supplies customers with a sharps container and a government-approved, postage pre-paid mail-back box to return the sharps to a proper disposal facility. For more information, please call our toll-free number, (877) WASTE-MD (927-8363), or visit wastemd.com.

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WM: Climate Action Leader

Waste Management recently was named a Climate Action Leader™ by the California Climate Action Registry. We earned the honor by voluntarily gathering and reporting our greenhouse gas emissions throughout the state — at every single facility, every landfill and for every WM vehicle in California. We were also the first waste/recycling company to join the Registry.



An independent verification company — called First Environment — stated that our 105 operations in California represented the most complicated GHG emission inventory that they have ever seen. What's more, they found that we were accurate within a 2% error rate (The standard of accuracy is 5%). This is a remarkable achievement for a company as complicated as WM to achieve verification of its emissions on its first attempt.

Waste Management is committed to being a leader in environmental protection at all our facilities. In addition to the Climate Action Leader recognition, WM is a founding member of The Chicago Climate Exchange.

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