



# Keeping Our Communities Clean



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.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Remember to reduce, reuse, and recycle!

- 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 21,000 acres of protected habitat for wildlife. The Simi Valley Landfill is one of 49 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:

It's that time of year again. The holidays are fast approaching and everyone's looking forward to their well-deserved time with family and friends. While none of us look forward to the usual extra pounds we gain during the holidays, we can ALL do our best to help reduce our waste.



We've included in this newsletter some tips on how to green your holidays, protect the environment and add some extra savings to your wallet.

One key way to green your holidays is to recycle your Christmas tree. Waste Management offers the annual free program to help residents recycle their trees. It's the right thing to do and helps protect the environment. And, for those of you with WM service, we make it as easy as possible for you!

Recent good news we wanted to share with you includes the Simi Valley Landfill and Recycling Center receiving certification for enhancing our wildlife habitat programs at our Pollinator Garden.

We also had some youngsters up to the landfill recently. Four-year old twins Grant and Avery are champion recyclers and had a fun day visiting our facility.

At this time of year, we want to make sure you know that we value our customers and thank you for your business and continued support.

From our family to yours, Happy Holidays!

Mike Smith  
Director of Operations

Scott Tignac  
Landfill District Manager



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### *Tis' the season to GO GREEN!*

Don't forget that there are easy ways to go green without altering your holiday routine. These include:

- Buy recycled wrapping paper
- Reduce paper and save a tree by sending email holiday greetings
- Reduce paper goods and use the nice china!
- Need decorations? Visit your local thrift shop for great bargains
- Recycle your Christmas tree or better yet, purchase a tree that can be planted after the holidays





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## Christmas Tree Recycling

Residents can take advantage of the annual Christmas Tree Recycling Program, a free service that gives recycled trees a second life as mulch as fuel to create electricity.

Trees can be left curbside or in greenwaste containers during scheduled program dates. Please contact us at (805) 522-9400 for dates in your area or visit us at [www.KeepingVenturaCountyClean.com](http://www.KeepingVenturaCountyClean.com) Residents are also welcome to recycle their tree at the Simi Valley Landfill and Recycling Center located at 2801 Madera Rd. in Simi Valley from December 26 to January 16 from 7 am to 4 pm. *Please remember to remove all decorations before bringing it to us!*



**As a reminder, trash and recycling services will be delayed one day due to the Christmas and New Year's holiday. For example, if your regular service day is scheduled for Friday, then service will be on Saturday.**



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## SVLRC receives Wildlife at Work/International Accreditation

Last month, the Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC) recognized our landfill for outstanding environmental stewardship and community leadership. The "Wildlife at Work" is a 2-year certification program that companies must demonstrate a long-term commitment to wildlife habitat enhancement programs.

The Pollinator Garden, located at the SVLRC, is a two-acre facility and hiking trail that is available for groups (including scout troops, school groups and Mommy and Me groups) to come out and learn about pollination, eco-systems, and the importance of recycling.





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## Four-year-old twins teach US about recycling!

When mother of 4-year old twins Grant and Avery, Kristi, contacted us for a tour with these photos - how could we refuse?

Grant "knows more about recycling than I ever thought possible," his mother said. "They get so excited when trash day arrives. Every week they run to the window and even have asked if they can skip school so they can wait for the trash truck."



For Halloween, Grant gave "very specific instructions" about how his trash truck costume was to be made. The Phillips family toured the facility and the kids really enjoyed seeing the trash trucks and the big compactors in action.

Needless to say, everyone enjoyed the tour immensely. Welcome to the Waste Management crew, Phillips Family; glad to have you aboard and remember to keep recycling!

