

ENVIRONMENTAL UTILITIES CITY OF ROSEVILLE Today

April 2010



WATER • WASTEWATER • RECYCLED WATER • STORMWATER • SOLID WASTE

Can We Stop Conserving Water Now?



THE SHORT ANSWER IS NO. This winter brought more rain and snow than we've seen in the past three years, but this is still a dry region with many demands on a limited water supply. Water is always a precious resource and we should use only the water we need.

One way to do that is to take advantage of the many programs that make water conservation easy and upgrades more affordable, including:

NEW! Irrigation Efficiency | Receive up to a \$400 rebate for upgrading to new high-efficiency irrigation equipment. The program covers 100 percent of eligible parts and 25 percent of installation labor.

Cash for Grass | Last year's popular program is back, offering you another chance to replace thirsty grass with low-water use plants and get money back. We will rebate \$1 per square foot of turf replaced, up to a maximum of \$1,000 per site.

Pool Cover Rebates | Save water and keep your pool clean by installing a pool cover. Receive a \$50 rebate, or 50 percent of the purchase price of a pool cover, whichever is less. A rebate of up to \$200 is available to customers who install a permanent mechanical pool cover.

Other Services | Learn more about your water and energy use by scheduling a Water-Wise House Call visit and taking our free RE-View Energy and Water Audit. There's no charge for any of these services. You can also get a wealth of free information on water-smart landscaping in the Water-Wise Gardening in the Gold Country Region section of the Regional Water Authority site www.rwah2o.org.

In addition to the programs listed, we offer rebates on ultra-low flush toilets and high-efficiency toilets and clothes washers. All rebates require an application and are available on a first-come, first-serve basis until funds run out.

For more ideas and details on all current programs, rebates and resources, visit www.roseville.ca.us/savewater or call 774-5761.

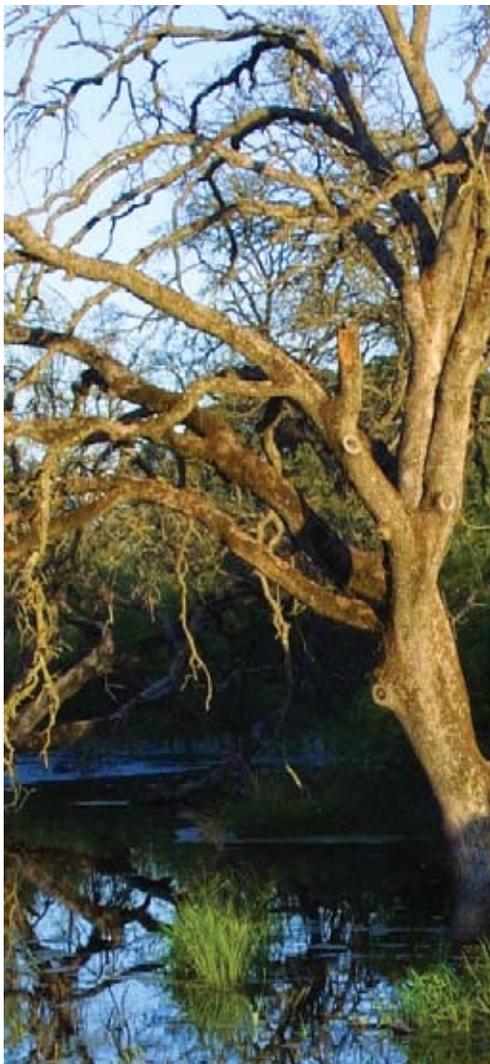
City Collects More Than 25 Million Pounds of Green Waste

It may seem hard to believe, but the grass and trimmings in your green waste container added up to about 700 pounds last year. Add your 700 pounds to other Roseville residents' green waste and you get a whopping 12,591 tons (more than 25 million pounds) of waste diverted from the landfill in fiscal year 2008-2009—about 34 percent of the city's residential waste stream.

Equally impressive is the finding that Roseville green waste contamination totals less than five percent. That means that you and your neighbors are doing an excellent job of keeping your green waste free of pet waste, dirt, rocks, plastic and other contaminants.

Many people don't know that the green waste we collect becomes part of the community compost pile and that they can buy back their green waste in the form of nutrient-rich compost. You can purchase the compost for a small fee at the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) at 3033 Fiddymont Road at the corner of Athens Avenue. Visit www.wpwma.com to find out more.





Explore Roseville's Secret Neighborhoods

Join Dry Creek Conservancy for this year's Creek Week event from April 9 to 18 and discover the little-seen world of Roseville's waterways. Tucked out of view, our creeks are teeming with native plants and aquatic, bird and animal life. Creek Week offers an opportunity to explore this hidden world with experts who can tell you about these special neighborhoods. In addition to Creek Week activities, the conservancy is holding a special planting project April 24. www.creekweek.org

Set a Course for Earth Day 2010

Come out and explore the latest in green living at our third annual Celebrate the Earth Festival. This year's event takes place April 17, 2010 from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the Utility Exploration Center, 1501 Pleasant Grove Boulevard, Roseville.

Admission is free to the family-centered festival of more than 70 organizations divided into venues for alternative transportation, locally grown foods, recycling and waste reduction, water conservation, energy conservation, and nature protection. The zones will be located around the Martha Riley Community Library and attendees will receive passports they can have stamped as they travel through the venues. Full passports will enter attendees in drawings for prizes donated by event vendors and the community.

Parents can be sure children will delight in plenty of fun learning activities, including Dr. Solar's Magical Medicine Show, reCREATE recycled art tables, and the AGROart™ Produce Playgarden. Shoppers will enjoy browsing vendor displays of eco-conscious products, from clothing and jewelry to home and garden products.

Center stage performances in the courtyard feature a colorful performance by the Crane Culture Theater entitled "Grandfather." The play depicts one man's post-war efforts to preserve the Viet Nam wetlands and encourage the cranes' return. Other event highlights include performances by popular STOMP-style percussionists who make great music with humble instruments.

This year's event also features a new locally grown foods zone. The zone will provide information and taste samples of organic foods grown, produced or sold locally. Sponsors include Whole Foods Market, United Natural Foods and Placer Grown, offering information and healthy food for sale and tasting.

There are many other events and activities for every member of the family, so mark your calendars for April 17 and make your destination our Celebrate the Earth Festival! www.roseville.ca.us/explore

Sustainability Action Committee Wants to Hear Your Ideas

The city's Sustainability Action Committee is asking for your ideas on ways Roseville can reduce greenhouse gas emissions and create a more environmentally sustainable community. The committee of city staff and volunteers considers community involvement critical to meeting the state's aggressive emission reduction mandates and building a more sustainable future.

You can submit ideas in person during the Celebrate the Earth festival on April 17, 2010 or visit www.roseville.ca.us/greencommittee.



Draining Your Swimming Pool

If you plan to drain your swimming pool this year, remember:

- You need to call the city at 746-1876 to obtain a one-time discharge permit.
- A city inspector will come to your home and test your pool water.
- If no chlorine is detected and no other contaminants are present, you will be permitted to discharge your pool water to the storm drain.
- If chlorine or other contaminants are present, you must pay a \$40 fee and discharge the pool water into the sanitary sewer system.

The reason for this requirement is to protect the plants, fish and wildlife that make their homes in and around our creeks. Since all water that enters the storm drain flows directly into city creeks, we want to ensure that water is free of chlorine or other contaminants.

Recycled Water Returns

The numbers are in for the city's recycled water use last year, and we once again topped the billion-gallon mark. We use the recycled water to irrigate parks, golf courses streetscapes and commercial facility landscapes, as well as to provide cooling for Roseville Energy Park. Once wastewater passes through our treatment plants, recycled water travels through special purple pipes leading to the irrigation site. This year, the city added a new ultraviolet system to disinfect water at the Dry Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant, reducing the amount of chemicals used in our water treatment process. Recycled water continues to be a reliable water source adding to our community's water portfolio.

Water Awareness Day

Come celebrate water! Join us at the Water Awareness Day event, Saturday, May 8, 2010 from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Utility Exploration Center, 1501 Pleasant Grove Boulevard, Roseville.

Meet with "green" certified plumbers, irrigation specialists, landscape professionals and local nurseries to find out about water-saving strategies they use in their professions. At the event, you can have your water usage evaluated, receive drought-tolerant plant information from a number of local nurseries, and see smart new ideas in irrigation. Throughout the day, you can also attend free workshops on landscape design, irrigation, composting, plant health and many other timely topics.

Learn more about Water Awareness Day by visiting www.roseville.ca.us/savewater.

FREE
Advice on how to
 save money on your water bill.
 How?
 Call us today for a **free**
Water Wise
House Call.
 774-5761



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TODAY is published for Roseville's residents by the Environmental Utilities Department of the City of Roseville. ©2010. Comments and suggestions are welcome—please send to the attention of Sean Bigley.