VIRONMENTAL U T I L0 F CIT ROSE Y

June 2010



WATER • WASTEWATER • RECYCLED WATER • STORMWATER • SOLID WASTE

Waste Reduction Top Ten Hits

We all want to help keep waste out of the landfill, but you may have wondered what actions you can take to will make a real difference. Here they are—the top ten best things you can do to reduce waste-

Yard Trimmings Food Scraps 13.2%

1 Shop with reusable shopping bags.

- 2 Avoid purchasing over-packaged snacks that cannot be recycled.
 - 3 Set up a composting bin at home for yard waste or try vermicomposting.
 - Make a zero waste lunch.
 - 5 Sign-up for electronic bill pay. Visit www.roseville.ca.us/billpay.
 - 6 Print double-sided when you can.
 - Shop garage sales and thrift stores for gently used items.
 - Avoid buying disposable items like plastic plates, cups and silverware.
 - Get off junk mail lists, visit www.dmachoice.org.
 - 10 Instead of bottled water use a reusable water bottle and fill from your tap at home.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. municipal solid waste totaled 250 million tons in 2008, before recycling. This chart shows the percentage of different materials that went into the mix. Only 33 percent (83 million tons) of municipal U.S solid waste is recycled each year. You can help boost that number higher just by $practicing\ the\ simple\ top\text{-}ten\ tips. \quad Source: Environmental\ Protection\ Agency$

Plastics

12.0%

Paper 31.0%

How Much Trash Do We Generate Daily?

For many years, California measured how well cities were doing at keeping trash out of the landfills by determining the percentage diverted (the percentage of material that is either recycled or reused), compared to the amount sent to the landfill in 1993. As a whole, California reached a 54 percent diversion rate, exceeding the original 50 percent diversion goal. Roseville had one of the state's best local diversion rates, recycling/reusing (or diverting) 66 percent, or two-thirds, of the amount that would have gone to landfill before 1993.

With the statewide success, that complex measurement used by the state changed recently. Now, the state simply measures the amount of waste taken in by the disposal facility divided by a) the number of Roseville residents and b) the number of people who work here. In other words, the number of pounds of waste per person generated by residents and employees per day. Beginning in 2007, the state set annual target goals for each jurisdiction to measure progress for the new per capita per day measurement. Again, Roseville exceeded the target goals set by a considerable margin. Numbers for 2009 won't be available until August, but the 2007 and 2008 show progress:

YEAR	POPULATION		EMPLOYMENT**	
	Target*	Actual*	Target*	Actual*
2007	8.8 lbs.	5.8 lbs.	14.3 lbs.	9.3 lbs.
2008	8.8 lbs.	5.4 lbs.	14.3 lbs.	9.0 lbs.

*Number represents pounds of waste generated per person per day **Waste generated at work, per employee





Compost—Good for the City, Great for the Garden

The city continues to offer its Green Waste Program, but composting your own backyard is a great way to produce nutrient rich compost and reduce the amount of green waste that has to be hauled away. Compost is a complex, slow-release fertilizer, which is much better for plants than commercial quick-release types. Compost is also a soil conditioner that opens the soil to allow roots to penetrate easier. It also helps the soil hold onto nutrients and water in healthy amounts, making clay soil retain less water and sandy soil hold more. Earthworms and other beneficial organisms also love compost. Use compost as a soil amendment or as a mulch or top dressing. Your lawn and garden will thank you by growing stronger and healthier.

The city recycles its old 90-gallon trash containers into free composting bins that are available by calling 774-5780. Availability is limited, but we keep a list to deliver when bins become available.

Live Sewer Smart to Avoid Costly, Messy Headaches

Ever think about your sewer system? Probably not. Most people don't give their sewer pipes another thought until there's a problem—often a very messy, very expensive problem.

But take a minute to think about your sewer pipes and what happens when fats, oils and grease (FOG) starts to build up in them. FOG sticks to pipe walls, gradually narrowing the passage until nothing can get through. Sewage that can't move through the pipes and to the city sewer line has to go somewhere, and that somewhere is usually in your house or on your property. Sewage spills can also drain down the curb into the stormwater system, contaminating

"Living sewer smart" is thinking about the consequences of clogged pipes before they happen and not dumping FOG down the drain to create a buildup.

How can you live sewer smart? It's easy—never dump FOG down the drain. Instead, collect your FOG in a container you can seal and call 774-5780. We'll come pick it up at no charge. While you're at it, don't forget to gather up your spent batteries, CFL bulbs and other universal waste items so we can pick those up too.

For more information about free FOG and universal waste pickup and a list of eligible items, visit www.roseville.ca.us/batteries.



www.roseville.ca.us/eu 2005 Hilltop Circle Roseville, CA 95747 916-774-5750

TODAY is published for Roseville's residents by the Environmental Utilities Department of the City of Roseville. @2010.

Comments and suggestions send to the attention of Sean Bigley.



New! Generous Irrigation-Efficiency Rebates Now Available

Act fast to take advantage of our new rebate program and receive up to \$400 for upgrading your existing irrigation system to new highefficiency equipment. The rebate covers efficiencies that may include converting to drip irrigation and adding pressure regulation equipment, low volume sprinkler nozzles, moisture sensors and rain shut-off devices, and climate-based irrigation controllers that monitor environmental conditions to provide the right amount of water.

Details of other included upgrades and a rebate application form are available in the For the Home residential rebate section at www.roseville.ca.us/savewater or by calling 774-5761. As with all rebates, funding is limited and rebates are offered on a firstcome, first-served basis.

More Rebates on Tap

In addition to the ever popular Cash for Grass Program and new Irrigation Efficiency rebate, we also have funding for water-saving toilets, high-efficiency clothes washers and swimming pool covers. Funding is limited and rebates are offered on a first-come, first-served basis. If funding is depleted, new funding of water conservation rebates begins on July 1, 2010. You can find information on those and a number of free programs in the For the Home residential programs and rebates section at www.roseville.ca.us/savewater.



With H2O in the Normal Range it's a Good Time to Take Advantage of Cash for Grass Rebate Program

The late rains and snowstorms pulled our seasonal totals into the normal range for the first time in four years. As a result, Roseville is receiving its full water allocation from the federal government. That's welcome news for Roseville and means no shortage restrictions on use this year.

"Getting our full water allocation is good news," said Water Utility Manager Ed Kriz, "but we still need to pay attention to water use. We live in a dry region where there's never enough water to waste."

Because we don't know what next year will bring, this year offers a perfect time to take advantage of our **Cash for Grass** rebate program. You can receive up to a dollar per square foot of lawn replaced—up to \$1,000—with low-water use plants. This year is a great time to take advantage of the program because even drought-tolerant plants require regular watering their first year. Planting in a year when there are no water shortages makes sense and helps you prepare for years when the news is not as good.

To learn more about Cash for Grass, visit www.roseville.ca.us/cashforgrass or call 774-5761.



Several projects are under way to help protect public health and safety by improving the city's wastewater transport and treatment facilities.

Ultraviolet (UV) Conversion Dry Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant's conversion to ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system is now complete and fully operational. Pleasant Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant's conversion ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system is about 50 percent complete. When finished, the UV system will replace the chlorine used to disinfect wastewater, leaving no harmful residue in the treated wastewater.

Flood Control Levee A levee relocation project is underway to increase flood control protection to the Dry Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant. The project will greatly reduce flooding in Dry Creek and help prevent plant flooding.

Influent Pump Station The city is replacing a 60-year old pumping station that pulls wastewater into the Dry Creek plant. The new pump station will also include a biofilter system to further control odors.

Sewer Pipe Rehabilitation The second phase of the sewer pipe replacement project in the city's older sections will be using a new, cost-effective approach. Instead, of digging up and replacing old sewer pipes, the city will use a trenchless approach, also called "cured in place" pipe. Crews will insert new pipe sleeve into the existing cracked or deteriorating pipe. The new pipe hardens in place once inserted and acts as a liner inside the old pipe.

The wastewater improvements projects have been planned for several years to comply with federal mandates, upgrade aging components and protect the public health and safety.

