

Preserving Turlock's Next 100 Years

Brought to you by your friends in Municipal Services at the City of Turlock



"100 Things to Go Green"

Season's "Greenings"

With all the holiday hype, it's hard to keep mother earth in mind. However, here are some helpful and affordable tips to keep your holiday festive and good for the planet!



- ★ Buy gifts from locally owned stores OR make your own.
- ★ Bring a reusable bag to place purchases in while shopping.
- ★ Look for gifts that are unpackaged or minimally packaged with unnecessary plastic wrap and cardboard boxes.
- ★ If you are planning to purchase an artificial tree, look for one that is of a high quality that you can use for many years to come or even pass down to your grandkids.
- ★ Use natural decorations, like popcorn and cranberry strings, on your tree and around the house.
- ★ Set your indoor and outdoor light display timers to run during the 3-4 hours you'll typically be awake in the evening.
- ★ Use Light Emitting Diode (LED) lights. They have extremely low energy use and last longer than ordinary bulbs.
- ★ Recycle your Christmas tree—call Turlock Scavenger for curbside pick-up information at (209) 668-7274.
- ★ At your holiday party, reduce the heat before the guests arrive. The extra bodies will heat the room on their own, and invite friends over the phone, email or use recycled cards.
- ★ Wrap gifts with reusable or recycled wrapping paper.
- ★ Wrap gifts using decorated brown paper bags or even colorful fabric, a pillow case or a towel for a unique, festive touch. The Sunday comics are a fun way to wrap or just decorate a box, plastic container or tin to use for holidays to come. And forget the tag; sign your warm wishes right on the box.
- ★ Give rechargeable batteries for the gift that keeps on giving. They are a great compliment to those battery operated toys.
- ★ Shop online and cancel unnecessary catalogues. Be sure to recycle any catalogues you do get in the mail.

Banned from the Trash- It's the Law

As of February 2006, the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) adopted new regulations governing fluorescent lamps, batteries, and electronics because they are deemed hazardous to people and the environment. It is now a violation of hazardous waste laws to place these items (also known as Universal Waste or U-waste) in your dumpster/trash cart. They must be separated from the regular trash and collected for safe disposal.

Fluorescent Lamps

Fluorescent lamps produce light when an electric current passes through the lamp and vaporizes the mercury to generate light. Fluorescent light tubes and bulbs, high-intensity discharge (HID), metal halide, sodium and neon bulbs all contain mercury vapors. If broken, mercury can be released into the environment and may cause nerve damage as well as a host of other serious illnesses.

Batteries

Universal waste batteries include rechargeable nickel-cadmium batteries, silver button batteries, mercury batteries, small sealed lead acid batteries, most alkaline batteries, and carbon-zinc batteries. Batteries are considered hazardous because of the metals and/or other toxic or corrosive materials contained within.

Batteries are potentially a valuable source of recyclable metal.

Electronics

Many components of electronic equipment— including metals, plastic, and glass—can be reused or recycled, while others may present environmental hazards if not managed correctly. Certain components of some electronic products contain materials that render them hazardous, depending on their condition and density. For instance, California law currently views non-functioning CRTs (cathode ray tubes) from televisions and monitor as hazardous, as they contain mercury.

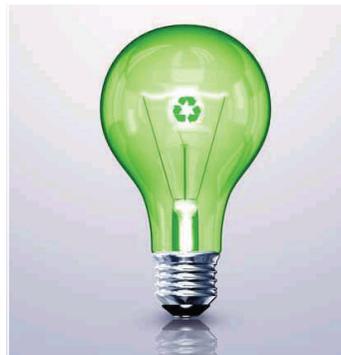
Local Reuse and Recycle Programs

Turlock Transfer, 1020 S. Walnut Road, Turlock - (209)668-6049
Stanislaus County Fink Road Sanitary Landfill, 4000 Fink Road Crows Landing - (209)837-4800
Stanislaus County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center, 1716 Morgan Road, Modesto

Mercury is Toxic to People: Mercury is a powerful neurotoxin that affects every aspect of brain and nerve function. It can cause tremors, memory loss, mental impairment, and many other complications in the nervous system.

Mercury is Toxic to the Environment: Bacteria from river and estuary bottom sediments produce a highly toxic form of mercury through a process called methylation". The methylated mercury accumulates in aquatic organisms, making the fish from those bodies of water dangerous to eat.

Volume 1, Issue 4, Nov/08



Green Business Spotlight



PRIME SHINE CAR WASH

Prime Shine customers have been instrumental in saving another very valuable resource...water! Since opening in 1991 Prime Shine has utilized both state of the art technology and good common practices in order to achieve a car wash that is the most environmentally sensitive way to professionally wash a car.

At Prime Shine all fresh water used is collected in reclaim tanks and held for potential re-use. When re-used, water is processed through a series of filtering systems and then pumped into the early stages of the wash process where it is not necessary to use fresh water. The reclaim tank has an overflow pipe and water that is not re-used is diverted to the municipal's sewer system. This system treats the water and "cleans" it prior to sending it back into our areas rivers.

Additionally, they have created a website (www.savemoneysavetimesavewater.com), to educate the communities in which Prime Shine serves that by using professional car washes like Prime Shine they are both saving water and saving the water. They also offer a charity car wash program for non-profit clubs and organizations.

For more information on Prime Shine Car Wash and their pledge to the environment, visit their website at: www.savemoneysavetimesavewater.com

Other Turlock Automated Car Washes

MAIN STREET CAR WASH
2575 W MAIN STREET

KEN'S CAR WASH
1075 N GOLDEN STATE BLVD

REFLECTION'S CAR WASH
1400 GEER ROAD

FAST TRACK CAR WASH
200 E GLENWOOD AVENUE

BUBBLE CLEAN INC.
2725 W MONTE VISTA AVENUE

BONANDER CENTER STREET CAR WASH
325 S CENTER STREET

**As well as Turlock service stations with automated car washes*

For more information on the GREEN BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT contact the Municipal Svcs Dept. at 209.668.5599 ext. 4474

