

SOLID INSIDE WASTE

LOS ANGELES COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE



Spring 2007

Volume 50

County's Conversion Technology Project Update

As an extension of its commitment to promote the development of conversion technologies, the Task Force established the Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee in 2004. At present, the Subcommittee continues to implement a contract to facilitate developing a conversion technology demonstration facility. The Subcommittee ranked the top five conversion technology suppliers and six Southern California materials recovery facilities where the demonstration facility can be co-located (two in Los Angeles County, one in Ventura County, two in Riverside County, and one in Orange County).

As part of the Subcommittee's technical evaluation and analysis, on January 23 and 24, 2007, representatives from the five conversion technology suppliers traveled to Los Angeles from around the world to give a detailed presentation on their proposal. In order to validate the operational characteristics of these technologies, in March and April 2007, key technical experts from the Subcommittee visited (or will be visiting) the suppliers' operating facilities in Europe, Israel, Japan and the United States. Based on its findings, the Subcommittee will publish a comprehensive report in Summer 2007 identifying the optimum pairing of a conversion technology supplier and materials recovery facility.

The Subcommittee continues to implement a contract to increase public awareness of conversion

technologies. As part of this contract, the Subcommittee plans to enhance their conversion technology website, and launch a newsletter this Spring.

For more information on the Task Force's conversion technology efforts, please visit http://ladpw.org/epd/tf/conv_tech.cfm or contact Coby Sky of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works at (626) 458-5163, M - Th., 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.



JOIN THE TEAM: If you are interested in participating on the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Public Education Subcommittee or if you would like to submit an article for *Inside Solid Waste* please contact **Vanessa Olivas** at (626) 458-6563, or volivas@dpw.lacounty.gov. Quarterly meetings are held at the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Headquarters to discuss and review upcoming newsletters. If you want to be involved or to contribute, please join the Subcommittee!

2006 RECYCLING COLORING CONTEST

Calabasas Environmental Commission hosted an environmentally themed coloring contest that was open to students in elementary and middle schools. The theme was: “How Can You Help the Environment by Recycling?” and encouraged students to submit 8½” x 11” hand-created drawings. The contest was open to all schools in the region, including Woodland Hills, West Hills, Agoura Hills, Westlake Village and other unincorporated LA County areas.

The Commission received 255 entries. All entries were carefully reviewed by the commissioners during the November 7, 2006 public meeting. Thirteen (13) winners were chosen based on creativity and theme of their illustration. The winning drawings were printed in the 2007 City of Calabasas Community Recycling Awareness calendar. The first place winner’s drawing was printed on the cover of the calendar. Additionally, each winner received a \$25 gift certificate during the December 5, 2006 Environmental Commission meeting.

The winners were:

STUDENT	GRADE	SCHOOL
Jennifer Contreras	(8th grade)	A.E. Write Middle School;
Reshmae Mohammed	(8th grade)	A.E. Wright Middle School;
Megan Nison	(4th grade)	Chaparral Elementary School;
Tiffany Ducharme	(4th grade)	Lupin Hill Elementary School;
Kelly Collins	(5th grade)	Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran School;
Arezu Maghsoudi	(3rd grade)	Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran School;
Ashley Knaack	(5th grade)	Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran School.
Whitney Levine	(5th grade)	Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran School;
Minerva Solis	(6th grade)	St. Augustine School;
Abigail Tsai	(3rd grade)	White Oak Elementary School;
Samantha Tsai	(4th grade)	White Oak Elementary School;
Rachael Murciano	(1st grade)	Woodlake Elementary School;
Amanda Beatrice Lopez	(3rd grade)	Yerba Buena Elementary School;

For more information, please contact Alex Farassati at (818) 878-4225 Ext. 307.



Environment - "Al" Avoian Retires

Mr. Al Avoian's recent announcement of his retirement from the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) at their meeting on January 18, 2007, marked the end of a long and illustrious career in the service of citizens of Los Angeles County. Mr. Avoian, of Avoian Enterprises, was the business/commerce representative to the Task Force since his appointment as a member of the original Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee in 1977.

During his tenure, Mr. Avoian served as the Chair of various key Task Force subcommittees. Here he provided guidance in developing the original County Solid Waste Management Plan - a plan that guided the County's solid waste management activities through the 1980's. Subsequently, with the advent of the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939), Mr. Avoian was a key and dependable figure in the scene providing invaluable assistance and guidance to the cities and the County in developing their plans to meet the new waste reduction mandates imposed by AB 939.

Mr. Avoian brought with him a wealth of experience in solid waste management. He owned South Bay Disposal for over 29 years. He then sold his

company to Browning Ferris Industries in 1985 and formed Avoian Enterprises, a property management company. His waste hauling experience and business insight contributed to the Task Force's overall understanding of the solid waste management industry and its key role in accomplishing the AB 939 waste reduction mandates. Mr. Avoian remarked that, "with all of the changes in goals and policies of the California Integrated Waste Management Board, it is truly a team effort by the full Task Force to assist cities in complying with AB 939."

The Task Force applauds Mr. Avoian for his dedication and service. His contributions to the work accomplished by the Task Force have been of great value in addressing the solid waste management needs of residents and businesses in the County. He will surely be missed.

In his spare time, Environment-"Al" enjoys restoring and touring classic cars and playing golf. With his retirement from the Task Force, he will likely be found more often on the greens.



Environment-"Al" Avoian (center) receives a Certificate of Appreciation from the Task Force.

Household Hazardous waste can be taken to any of these locations. Electronic waste is also accepted. Call 1-800-98-TOXIC or 1 (888) CLEAN-LA for more information.

Gaffey Street Collection Center

1400 N. Gaffey St.

San Pedro, CA 90021

Open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Hyperion Treatment Plant

7660 W. Imperial Highway, Gate B

Playa Del Rey, CA 90293

Open Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Washington Boulevard Collection Center

2649 E. Washington Blvd.

Los Angeles, CA 90021

Open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Randall Street S.A.F.E. Center

11025 Randall St.

Sun Valley, CA 91352

Open Saturday, Sunday, and Monday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

UCLA location

550 Charles E. Young Dr. West

Los Angeles, CA 90095

Open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Los Angeles/Glendale Collection Center

4660 Colorado Blvd.

Los Angeles, CA 90039

Open Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Antelope Valley Environmental Collection Center

Antelope Valley Public Landfill

1200 West City Ranch Road

Palmdale CA, 93551

Open 1st and 3rd Saturday each month 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

What's Up?

HHW ROUNDUPS are open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. unless otherwise indicated. For more information, call the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, at 1 (888) **CLEAN-LA (253-2652)**. For information about City of Los Angeles events call, 1 (800) **98-TOXIC (988-6942)**.

- April 14 **Santa Clarita** - College of the Canyons
26445 Rockwell Canyon Rd.
South Parking Lot
- April 21 **Hawthorne** - Betty Ainsworth Sports Center
El Segundo Blvd. and Doty Ave.
- April 28 **Azusa** - Northrup-Grumman Corporation
West 3rd St. and Zachary Pedilla Ave.
- May 12 **Pico Rivera** - Southern California Gas Company
8101 Rosemead Blvd.
- May 12 **Rancho Palos Verdes** - City Hall/City Yard
30940 Hawthorne Blvd.
- May 12 **West Covina Maintenance Yard**
825 Sunset Ave.
- May 12 **Maywood** - Maywood Park
57th Street & Heliotrope Ave.
- June 2 **Pomona** - Fairplex - LA County Fair
Hotel & Exposition Complex, Gate 23,
Arrow Highway
- June 3 **Agoura** - Calabassas Landfill, Scale Area
5300 Lost Hills Road
- June 3 **Torrance** - American Honda (enter event off
Harper's Way)
1919 Torrance Blvd.
- June 3 **Irwindale** - County of Los Angeles Department of
Public Works - Flood Control Maintenance Yard
160 East Longden Ave.

TASK FORCE MEETINGS

Meetings are held at the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Headquarters, 900 South Fremont Avenue, Alhambra.

May 17

June 21

July 19

All meetings are scheduled for 1 p.m. in Conference Room C.

For information call Erayna Chang at (626) 458-2536, M-Th, 7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Looking for up-to-date information about the Task Force?

Visit www.lacountyiswmtf.org to view agendas, meeting minutes, and copies of the Inside Solid Waste newsletter.

WASTE BOARD ESTABLISHES PRIORITIES FOR STAFF

On February 13, 2007, the California Integrated Waste Management Board adopted a far reaching internal Governance policy, known as the “Strategic Directives.” The Directives are intended to define the Waste Board’s essential purpose, identify priorities and describes the vision for success. Key topics include: purpose and vision, waste minimization, producer responsibility, market development, research and development of technology and the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. In response to the Waste Board’s action, the Executive Director is currently formulating a plan to achieve the specified goals, including providing progress reports and annually reviewing the Directives to determine if adjustments are necessary.

To ensure stakeholders are aware of the new Directives, the Task Force invited the Waste Board to give a presentation to the Task Force this Spring. Please visit the Task Force website regularly for the date and time of the presentation.

For more information or a copy of the Strategic Directives, please visit www.ciwmb.ca.gov/agendas/mtgdocs/2007/02/00021620.doc or contact Chuk Agu of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works at (626) 458-3556, M - Th., 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 a.m.



WASTE BOARD TO STRENGTHEN LANDFILL GAS REGULATIONS

The Waste Board staff is revising the existing landfill gas monitoring and control regulations for clarity and consistency between active and closed disposal sites. The more comprehensive gas monitoring and control regulations that are currently applicable only to closed landfills would be applied to active landfills. The proposed regulations include a time schedule for the Waste Board to approve the landfill gas system design as part of the closure/post closure maintenance plans and solid waste facility review process. The local building authority is added as an enforcement agency.

On March 8, 2007, the Task Force forwarded a letter to the Waste Board expressing its support for the proposed regulations because it would strengthen the public trust and confidence that

landfills operate under appropriate technical and environmental standards. It would also help meet California’s aggressive green house gas emission reductions goals. The Waste Board will consider adopting the proposed regulations at its April 17, 2007 meeting.

For more information or to obtain a copy of the March 7, 2007 letter, please visit www.lacounty-iswmtf.org or contact Martins Aiyetiwa of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works at (626) 458-3535, M-Th., 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909) 592-1147.

2007-2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION BEGINS FLURRY OF BILLS INTRODUCED

On December 4, 2006, the California Legislature hosted the 2007-2008 Legislative session. As a result, numerous bills were introduced. Below, is a short list of some the bills that, if adopted, would have a major impact on the solid waste management community.

Bill	Author	Introduced	Summary
AB 1150	Lieu	2-23-07	This bill would revise the definition of “transformation” to mean incineration of solid waste, or the processing of solid waste through a noncombustion thermal, chemical, or biological process.
SB 842 pressure,	Scott	2-23-07	<p>“Gasification” is the noncombustion thermal processing of waste using heat, and steam to convert materials directly into a gas for electricity generation.</p> <p>To qualify for diversion credit, a gasification facility must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not use air or oxygen in the conversion process; • Not discharge air contaminants or emissions; • Not discharge to surface or groundwater; • Not produce hazardous waste; • Remove all recyclable materials and marketable green waste materials to the maximum extent feasible; • Be in compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and ordinances; & • Any jurisdiction using the facility must have a 30% diversion rate.
This bill would authorize a gasification facility’s discharge of air contaminants or emissions to be regulated by the State Air Resources Board or Air Quality Management Districts rather than having an absolute zero threshold.			
SB 1016	Wiggins	2-23-07	<p>This bill would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require the Waste Board to consider a jurisdiction’s programs (as identified in the jurisdiction’s Source Reduction and Recycling Element, and any programs identified in a Time Extension request or Compliance Order) in determining compliance with AB 939; • Establish the 2006 Countywide disposal tonnage as the Base Tonnage Year; • Require diversion programs identified in a jurisdiction’s SRRE to not increase the overall Countywide disposal tonnage, as compared to the Base Tonnage Year; • Require jurisdictions to submit a SRRE update to the Waste Board between April 2008 and September 2008 to determine initial compliance. If the Waste Board determines additional information is needed, then the jurisdiction has 90 days to submit the requested information; and • Require jurisdictions, beginning September 1, 2009, to submit biennial reports to the Waste Board describing its waste diversion programs.
SB 1020	Padilla	2-23-07	This bill would increase the 50% waste diversion requirement to 75% beginning 2012.
SB 1021	Padilla	2-23-07	This bill would, for calendar year 2008, make available \$15 million in grant funding to local governments and non-profit agencies to place source separated beverage container recycling bins at multifamily homes.

For more information on these bills or copies of related Task Force position letters, please visit www.lacounty-iswmtf.org or contact Coby Skye of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works at (626)-458-5163, M - Th., 7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. or Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909)-592-1147.

CALABASAS RECYCLING NUMBERS KEEP GROWING

The City of Calabasas Environmental Services Division implemented several recycling initiatives that not only benefits the city residents and businesses, but also residents and businesses of all surrounding cities and communities in the northern portion of Los Angeles County.

Water Base Paint and Used Oil Round-Up

Calabasas is the lead agency to administer collection events (round-ups) for water base paint and used oil, through California's Used Oil Block Grant. Other participating agencies are Agoura Hills, Hidden Hills, Malibu and Westlake Village. The round-up takes place every Saturday in one of the participating cities (except Hidden Hills). A cargo container was designed to have storage areas for paint and used oil, and is fully equipped with all equipment and necessities to hold a round-up. Each week the container is carried to each site for the duration of the round-up. For Fiscal Year 2005-2006, the City had 401 participants, and collected 2,000 gallons of water base paint, 38 car batteries, 275 gallons of used oil, 58 oil filters, and 34 gallons of antifreeze.

Electronic Waste Round-up

Since October 2005, Calabasas initiated, free of charge, electronic waste round-ups, for residents and businesses in neighboring cities and communities. Calabasas contracted with an e-waste recycling company to advertise the events. The 2006 electronic waste round-ups were a huge success.

Calabasas collected and recycled a total of 110,000 pounds of electronics. This includes 953 TVs and computer monitors. Over 600 people from Calabasas and surrounding communities benefited from the round-ups.

Battery Recycling Summary

Since dry cell batteries are considered hazardous by the State, the City of Calabasas initiated a dry cell recycling program. A few collection canisters were placed at City facilities and a few major supermarkets. Soon, the program became so popular that the collection sites were increased and currently there are 22 public sites and 10 private sites throughout the city. All participating schools, public buildings and supermarkets have a canister at a location accessible to the public. In 2006 the program collected 6,586 pounds of dry cell batteries, of which 90% were alkaline. The same canisters are used to collect cell phones and inkjet cartridges.

Old Eyeglass Recycling Program

The City of Calabasas initiated the old eyeglass recycling program in November 2006. Collection boxes were located at all city facilities, several schools and supermarkets. Eyeglasses received were sorted, cleaned, categorized, bagged, and boxed by the International Lions Club in preparation for shipment to developing countries.

For more information, please contact Alex Farassati at (818) 878-4225 Ext. 307.



CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD SHARPS DISPOSAL BY MAIL PROGRAM

In January 2006, the City of West Hollywood was one of the first cities in California to embark on a program to increase awareness that “sharps” such as hypodermic needles, syringes and lancets are hazardous medical waste. Used needles and other personal medical instruments often end up in the general trash where they pose a health hazard to both waste collection personnel and the general public.

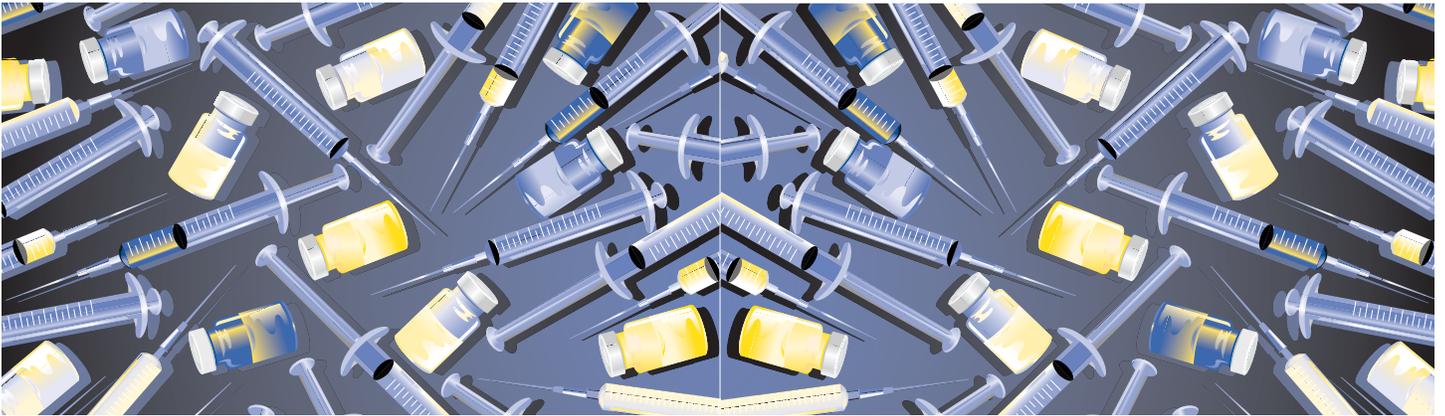
Nationally, about one out of every 12 households use sharps for medication. Seeing the situation as a public health and environmental issue, the City of West Hollywood introduced the Sharps Disposal by Mail Program to help residents dispose of used sharps in a safer, more responsible manner. With the rising rate of diabetes and other medical conditions involving patients self injecting medication at home, the disposal of sharps is a rising issue. Recently, California passed SB1305 which, among other things, will require strict measures for disposal of home sharps, including but not limited to, prohibiting

placement of home-generated sharps in solid waste containers starting September 1, 2008.

To roll out the West Hollywood program, all residents citywide received a special postcard to redeem at designated participating pharmacies for a free, postage paid disposal kit which can hold up to 300 pen needles or lancets, or up to 100 syringes. When the container is full, the user simply puts it in a pre-paid mailer and takes it to the nearest post office. The containers are received by Sharps Compliance, a company which destroys the used needles in accordance with applicable federal regulations.

Since its inception in January 2006, the program’s total cost is \$25,000, which includes an initial inventory of 1,000 pieces. Funding for the Sharps Disposal by Mail System is provided by Athens Services, the city’s franchise contractor for trash and recycling services.

For more information call Jan Harmon at (323) 848-6499.



Los Angeles County
Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force
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