

# SOLID INSIDE WASTE

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



Winter 2010

Volume 61

## CALIFORNIA INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD DISSOLVED, BECOMES DEPARTMENT

Created by the California Legislature in 1989 with the passage of AB 939, the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) was appointed the task of reducing the waste stream generated by the state, encouraging recycling, and overseeing California landfills and other solid waste facilities. AB 939 also mandated that California cities, counties, and regional agencies achieve a waste diversion rate of 25 percent by 1995 and 50 percent by 2000. At the time, California diverted only about 10 percent of solid waste out of landfills and into recycling and/or reuse projects. Over the years, the CIWMB worked with cities and counties to implement the waste reduction mandates of AB 939. It also allocated grants and loans to businesses, non-profits, and public agencies related to a variety of solid and hazardous waste management issues.

On July 28, 2009, as part of the massive budget compromise, SB 63 (Strickland) was chaptered into law eliminating the CIWMB effective January 1, 2010. All

CIWMB duties and responsibilities along with the Division of Recycling of the Department of Conservation have been transferred to the new Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), which will be housed within the Natural Resources Agency. The CIWMB was previously one of six agencies under the umbrella of the California Environmental Protection Agency.

CalRecycle will be headed by a director who will have all of the authority of the CIWMB, including the ability to delegate decision-making authority down to staff. State laws compelled the CIWMB to conduct its meetings and decision making processes in a public manner, however these laws do not apply to CalRecycle. The Task Force will continue to advocate for transparency wherever possible.

For more information, please contact Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909) 592-1147.

Home Page: CalRecycle  
http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/#  
Apple Google Maps Wikipedia News (428) Microsoft O... Web Access Popular v

CA.GOV CalRecycle  
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GOVERNOR SCHWARZENEGGER Visit his Website  
THE NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY Mike Chrisman

Site Index News Room/Media

Welcome to the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)  
CalRecycle is the new home of California's recycling and waste reduction efforts. Officially known as the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, CalRecycle is a new department within the California Natural Resources Agency and administers programs formerly managed by the State's Integrated Waste Management Board and Division of Recycling.  
This web site is designed for California consumers, businesses, recycling and waste-hauling industries, nonprofit organizations, educational facilities, and others. The tabs above and below, and navigational links to the left and right lead to information on programs that are important to the long-term vitality of California's environment and economy. Over the next several months, the CalRecycle web site will be updated and improved on an ongoing basis. CalRecycle welcomes input on how this site can best serve the needs of its visitors.

Resources  
→ Events Calendar  
→ Broadcasts  
→ Publications  
→ Forms  
→ RSS Feeds  
→ Listservs  
→ Videos  
→ Logos & Clip Art

**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 Lopez](mailto:vanessa.lopez@dpw.lacounty.gov) at 626-458-6563, or [vlopez@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:vlopez@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!

## A New Plastic Bag Emerges

A parent's group at Middleton Elementary School in Huntington Park discovered a creative new way to reduce, reuse, and recycle.

The group transformed plastic shopping bags into purses. Used plastic bags collected by parents, teachers, and children are knitted together to make a purse. Each purse is made up of approximately 40 plastic bags and takes a few hours to make depending on the size of the purse. The group is expanding their collection to include purses made out of used potato chip and cookie bags.

The group decided to get involved after learning that discarded plastic bags are a nuisance to the City and environment.

"This is a win, win for the community because it encourages reuse and litter prevention," says Mario Rivas, the City's Recycling Coordinator. "When I started community outreach in this City, few people knew that plastic bags were a problem, but now there is a real acknowledgement that the environment affects us all."

The group's leader, Teresa Rosas, says that by creating these purses they are helping the environment and teaching others to recycle.

"These plastic bags were going to the landfill and now they are works of art," said Rosas.

For additional information, contact Mario Rivas, City of Huntington Park Recycling Coordinator, at (323) 584-6322 or at [mrivas@huntingtonpark.org](mailto:mrivas@huntingtonpark.org).





## COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICTS' PROGRESS REPORT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A WASTE-BY-RAIL SYSTEM AS REQUIRED BY THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR PUENTE HILLS LANDFILL

For many years, jurisdictions in Los Angeles County have relied on Puente Hills Landfill's (PHL) 13,200 tons per day of permitted disposal capacity and additional 33,000 tons per week of beneficial use material capacity to meet their solid waste management needs. In 2002, this matter was extensively considered by the County of Los Angeles in granting a 10-year extension of the PHL's operation which would allow the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (Districts) to develop a Waste-by-Rail (WBR) system to meet the needs of cities and the County after the closure of PHL in November 2013. As such, the County-issued Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for PHL, which among other things, established a number of deadlines for developing various elements of the WBR system as well as requires the Districts to assist the County in the enactment of legislative and regulatory activities which would promote development of alternative technology (i.e. conversion technology) facilities. To monitor the progress of the WBR system, the CUP sets three milestone deadlines, of which the first two were met by the Districts. The third milestone sets December 31, 2009, to be the date by which the system is to

be fully operational; otherwise a 2,000 ton-per-day reduction in the permitted daily disposal tonnage at PHL will be applied. No reduction in daily tonnage will be required, however, if the Districts can demonstrate their best-faith efforts in developing the system.

On November 20, 2009, the Districts' disseminated a draft progress report on the development of the system to stakeholders for comments. The draft report indicates that major accomplishments have been achieved, such as opening Puente Hills Material Recycling Facility; completing construction of all necessary infrastructure for the operation of Mesquite Regional Landfill in Imperial County; and entering into a 15-year Rail Transportation Contract with Union Pacific Railroad for the operation of two trains, each carrying approximately 4,000 tons per day of municipal solid waste from Puente Hills Intermodal Facility to Mesquite Regional Landfill. Despite these achievements, the draft report states that the WBR system is not anticipated to be completed until 2012.

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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 90023  
*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 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.*

**Los Angeles/Glendale Collection Center**

4600 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 Rd.  
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)**.

- Jan. 16 **Bell** - Bell City Yard, 5320 Gage Ave.
- Jan. 23 **Hermosa Beach** - Clark Stadium, Valley Drive between 8th & 11th Streets
- Jan. 30 **Santa Fe Springs** - Rio Hondo College Fire Training Academy, 11400 Greenstone Ave.
- Feb. 6 **Claremont** - Claremont Corporate Yard, 1616 Monte Vista Ave
- Feb. 13 **Gardena** - Hitco Carbon Composites, 1551 West 139th St.
- Feb. 20 **Diamond Bar** - City Streets Gateway Corporate Center, 1300 block of Bridge Gate Drive
- Feb. 27 **Marina Del Rey** - Dock 52 Parking Lot, Fiji Way
- Mar. 6 **Monrovia** - Myrtle Avenue Park and Ride Lot, Corner of North Myrtle Ave. and Pomona Ave.
- Mar. 6 **Hawthorne** - Betty Ainsworth Sports Center, El Segundo Blvd. & Doty Ave.
- Mar. 13 **Pico Rivera** - Southern California Gas Company, 8101 Rosemead Blvd.
- April 10 **Lynwood** - Lynwood City Streets, Butler Ave. & Bellinger St.
- April 24 **South Gate** - South Gate Park, Tweedy Blvd. & Hildreth Ave.

## TASK FORCE MEETINGS

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

- Feb 18
- Mar 18
- April 15

Meetings are scheduled at 1 p.m. in Conference Room C, except April 15, in Conference Room D.

*For information, call Benjamin Cortez 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](http://www.lacountyiswmtf.org) where you can find agendas, meeting minutes, and copies of the Inside Solid Waste newsletter.



## HUNTINGTON PARK WATER CONSERVATION WORKSHOP

The City of Huntington Park and the Metropolitan Water District hosted water conservation workshops at the Huntington Park Community Center on September 17, 2009 and November 21, 2009 to inform Huntington Park residents and the general public about the need to conserve water and natural resources.

Topics discussed included water saving landscaping practices, watering times for specific types of soil, the benefits of using native plants, and organic recycling. Future workshops are anticipated in Spring 2010.

For additional information, contact Mario Rivas, City of Huntington Park Recycling Coordinator, at (323) 584-6322 or at [mrivas@huntingtonpark.org](mailto:mrivas@huntingtonpark.org).



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## WASTE-BY-RAIL SYSTEM

The Districts presented the progress report to the Task Force on December 17, 2009, after which the Task Force voted to send comments to the Districts and the County Department of Public Works (Public Works). In summary, the Task Force acknowledged the Districts' best-faith efforts and commented that the Districts should assist Public Works and the Task Force in developing additional solid waste management alternatives such as proactively lobbying the Legislature and other stakeholders to remove regulatory obstacles to the development of conversion technologies; facilitating presentations by Public Works on conversion technology to the Districts' Board of Directors; and collaborating with the Task Force, Public Works, and jurisdictions to develop alternatives to managing beneficial use material currently going to PHL.

Upon addressing stakeholders' concerns, the Districts submitted their 2009 final progress report to the County Department of Public Works on December 23, 2009. Based on Public Works' review and consideration of key stakeholder

comments including those of the Task Force, the Director of Public Works made a finding that the Districts demonstrated best-faith efforts to date towards developing the WBR system, and thereby waived the daily disposal tonnage reduction through December 31, 2010. Public Works will reevaluate the Districts' best-faith efforts annually, taking into consideration the Districts' efforts to expedite the development of the Mesquite Regional Landfill rail spur and Puente Hills Intermodal Facility; and efforts to obtain approvals for transporting waste by truck to Mesquite Regional Landfill. Public Works also requested the Districts to further assist the County in pursuing statewide legislation to establish a clear permitting pathway for the development of conversion technologies, and proactively work with jurisdictions and stakeholders who currently take beneficial use materials to Puente Hills Landfill to develop additional solid waste management alternatives for these materials. For more information, please contact Linda Lee, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, at (626) 458-6973, M-Th., 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., or [llee@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:llee@dpw.lacounty.gov).

# SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL FREE DUMP DAY

Sunshine Canyon Landfill held its first Free Dump Day for residents of the neighboring communities on Saturday, October 24, 2009.

The event was one of two Free Dump Days that will be conducted at the landfill annually as part of the landfill's compliance with Los Angeles County's land use permit.

Residents can bring up to one ton of household discards, such as furniture, appliances, and other bulky items, to the landfill

for free disposal. Residents can also drop off up to four tires and one bulky item per residence per year at no charge. Fire debris was also accepted to assist residents with cleanup efforts in the aftermath of the recent wildfires.

For more information, please email [info@sunshinecanyonlandfill.com](mailto:info@sunshinecanyonlandfill.com). To receive notification regarding future events, please register at <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/general/enotify/userPages/Registration.aspx> or call (800) 320-1771.





## Residents Impacted by Station Fire Provided Assistance with Household Hazardous Waste Cleanup and Debris Removal

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works (Public Works) worked with the Los Angeles County Fire Department, Health Hazardous Materials Division, USDA Forest Services, and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) to provide free cleanup services to residents affected by the Station Fire in Los Angeles County.

DTSC funded the cleanup of household hazardous waste for 34 affected Station Fire properties, of which, 23 also received free asbestos cleanup services. Hundreds of pounds of hazardous waste was safely collected and properly disposed. Household hazardous waste collection included small propane tanks, household chemicals, and other products used for

cleaning, painting, and disinfecting.

Public Works requested and received emergency waivers from the Regional Water Quality Control Board for local landfills, allowing them to receive the burned debris. Public Works also coordinated with disposal companies to assist Los Angeles County residents with the disposal of post-fire debris. Allied Waste/Consolidated Disposal and Waste Management provided assistance to fire victims in the form of vouchers and/or free/discounted roll-off bins (on a limited basis) to assist community cleanup efforts in the fire-affected areas. In addition, the waste management companies offered reduced tipping fees for post-fire debris at Sunshine Canyon and Lancaster Landfills.



## STATE MOVES TO IMPOSE MANDATORY COMMERCIAL RECYCLING

At its final meeting on December 15, 2009, the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) directed staff to continue their efforts to implement statewide mandatory commercial recycling in concert with the California Air Resources Board. A formal rulemaking process for the imposition of mandatory commercial recycling statewide will commence in January 2010 and is expected to be finalized in late 2010 or early 2011.

The proposed regulation was intended to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Under the current draft regulatory language, jurisdictions that do not already have a preexisting commercial recycling program will be required to implement a program by July 1, 2012, regardless of having achieved the existing 50 percent mandatory diversion rate or higher. All businesses and multifamily residential dwellings of five or more units that generate four cubic yards or more of commercial solid waste and recyclables per week would be subject to this regulation.

The Task Force remains active in the stakeholder process and has several concerns with the proposed regulation, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Local governments would be required to implement and enforce this measure within their jurisdiction – an unfunded State mandate during a time of economic downturn.
- This new regulation would require the collection of

additional materials without addressing the need for local markets that make use of the recyclables collected.

- Materials taken to a transformation facility, including two existing waste-to-energy facilities in Los Angeles County, would not be given diversion credit under this regulation.
- CalRecycle, formerly CIWMB, estimates 5 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (GHG) can be reduced through a statewide mandatory commercial recycling measure. This estimate is based on the assumption that facilities in the Pacific Rim countries (which receive most of the materials collected in California) meet the same environmental standards as facilities in California. The Task Force questions the validity of this assumption.

The Task Force also expressed concerns regarding the process leading to the State's decision to impose this mandate. The Task Force urges cities and other interested stakeholders to actively participate in the rulemaking process since the regulations are expected to have a significant impact on their solid waste management operations.

For more information, visit CalRecycle's website: <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov//climate/Recycling/>. Recent Task Force correspondence to CalRecycle on this topic can be viewed at <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/tf/Corresp.cfm>. For additional information, please contact Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909) 592-1147.

## ELIMINATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL CRITERIA FOR CIWMB GRANTS

After years of effort from Southern California local governments, in 2001, the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) adopted policy that provided competitive grants to be awarded based on the geographic distribution of the State's population, ensuring an equitable distribution of grants to Southern California jurisdictions.

Unfortunately, this past November, CIWMB eliminated the policy prior to their dissolution, despite the Task Force's compelling arguments against the proposal.

The Task Force's arguments against elimination of the policy stemmed from inequitable distribution of funds to Northern

California jurisdictions compared to those in Southern California. The CIWMB's analysis of the policy did not address the inherent differences between jurisdictions in Southern California.

The Task Force will continue to argue for the reinstatement of the policy with the new State Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), which replaced the CIWMB effective January 1, 2010.

For additional information, contact Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909) 592-1147.



## FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES HONOR THE MEMORY OF JOHN MCTAGGART

It is with great sorrow that we report the passing of Mr. John McTaggart. John passed away peacefully at his home in Rancho Palos Verdes, California, on Wednesday, November 4, 2009.

A long time resident of the South Bay, John touched the lives of so many people. He served as founder, planning commissioner, councilmember, and mayor of Rancho Palos Verdes. He was also active in many civic organizations earning the moniker "Mr. RPV." Among his many attributes, John helped found the South Bay Cities Council of Governments and was Chair for the first two years. He also served on the Board of Directors of the Inland Empire Regional Composting Authority; served as Vice Chair of the Metro South Bay Governance Council; served on the Los Angeles County West Vector Control Board for ten years; was a member of the South Coast Air Quality Management District's Advisory Council;



and was chairman and member of the Board of the California Marine Affairs and Navigation Conference.

For the past sixteen years, John served on the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force and a number of its subcommittees, including the Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee for the last six years. He was excited to see the Subcommittee advance the development of conversion technologies. Being a dedicated proponent of emerging technologies, one of his last acts was to make the supreme effort, despite his failing health, to attend the State Waste Board tour of the conversion technology facilities in Southern California on October 19, 2009. His warm demeanor and quick wit were always appreciated. John will be missed.

The Task Force adjourned its meeting on Thursday, November 19, 2009, in McTaggart's honor.

## UPDATE ON CIWMB'S PROPOSED REGULATIONS TO STRENGTHEN LANDFILL FINANCIAL ASSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

California Integrated Waste Management Board's (CIWMB's) regulation to strengthen the financial assurance demonstration was approved by consent on December 15, 2009.

The regulation, which incorporates comments by the Task Force and other stakeholders, provides:

- Clarification on the proactive monitoring program that an operator must perform for CIWMB to determine whether the level of post-closure maintenance financial assurance may be reduced.
- Clarification on the requirements for a non-water release Corrective Action (CA) plan to be based on reasonably foreseeable causal events, such as earthquakes, flooding, or degradation of environmental control systems, which could result in a non-water release CA.

The Task Force believes that the proposed regulations are a step forward in protecting the State, local governments, the public, and the environment. A formal regulatory package will be filed with the Office of Administrative Law by February 2010.

For a copy of the regulations, visit <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Laws/Rulemaking/postclosure/default.htm>.

For more information, please contact Linda Lee, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, at (626) 458-6973, Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., [llee@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:llee@dpw.lacounty.gov), or Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at (909) 592-1147.

## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES AND KRAGEN AUTO PARTS TEAM UP TO RECYCLE USED MOTOR OIL FILTERS

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works collected approximately 119 used oil filters and 141 gallons of used motor oil at two filter exchange events in Fall 2009.

Public Works is hosting three additional filter exchange events at the following Kragen locations:

January 23, 2010

**San Gabriel**

965 E. Las Tunas Drive  
(626) 451-9853

February 27, 2010

**Hacienda Heights**

15840 E. Gale Avenue  
(626) 961-2128

April 17, 2010

**Rowland Heights**

19705 E. Colima Road, Suite B  
(909) 595-9744

Residents will receive a free oil filter in exchange for their used motor oil. In addition, free oil filter containers will be given to those who bring in their used oil filter. Each event will accept up to five gallons of uncontaminated used motor oil.

Used oil and oil filters can also be disposed of at weekend Household Hazardous Waste/Electronic Waste (HHW/E-Waste) collection events or at local Certified Collection Centers (CCC's). These centers typically accept up to five gallons of uncontaminated used motor oil, and some will also accept used oil filters for recycling – *all free of charge*.

To find out more information about upcoming weekend HHW/E-Waste events and CCC's, please call 1(888) CLEAN LA or visit [www.CleanLA.com](http://www.CleanLA.com).

## SAVING THE PLANET ONE FRENCH FRY AT A TIME!

### Santa Monica's Solid Waste Management Division Offers Oil and Grease Recycling Service for Santa Monica Restaurants

The City of Santa Monica launched an innovative restaurant recycling program.

The program, a collaborative effort by GeoGreen Biofuel and the City, collects fats, oil, and grease (FOG) from city restaurants and converts them into biofuel, a renewable fuel, in an effort to reduce air pollution and dependence on fossil fuels.

Restaurants deposit their FOG in containers located downtown in Parking Structures 2 through 6 and maintained in the refuse collection area for free. Residents can recycle their FOG at the City's Household Hazardous Waste Facility at 2500 Michigan Avenue. The hazardous waste contact numbers are: main office at (310) 458-2213 and drop-off-center at (310) 458-8255.

Santa Monica restaurants can request a container by contacting Wes Thompson, Recycling Coordinator, at (310) 458-8546 or by email at [wes.thompson@smgov.net](mailto:wes.thompson@smgov.net).

For additional information, contact Wes Thompson or Myesha Jones at (310) 458-2201, Extension 5706. You may also contact GeoGreen Biofuels for your city's grease recycling program at [www.geogreen.com](http://www.geogreen.com).





# GOVERNMENT GONE VIRAL

The City of Los Angeles takes their Multifamily Residential Recycling Program (Program) viral with Facebook and Twitter. The City has found that Social networking sites can be a helpful tool to invigorate a solid waste marketing program.

Viral marketing is any marketing technique that allows users to pass on a marketing message to other users, creating a potentially exponential growth in the message's visibility and effect.

When a fan logs on to their Facebook account, they can view a list of status updates from friends and fan sites, including the Program's Facebook status. When a Facebook member requests to be a fan of the Program's Facebook page, their friends are notified about the connection, further expanding the Programs reach.

Fans are encouraged to leave comments and suggestions. City staff answer questions, which can then be viewed by the public on Facebook. The Program's current fan base includes union representatives, local and state elected officials, and media reporters.

Social networking sites are not intended to fully replace the benefits associated with advertising with traditional media outlets like print, television, and radio. However, it can compliment traditional marketing approaches by reaching audiences that prefer to receive information digitally. More importantly, it shows that municipalities are using the same viral marketing techniques that private industry has already found extremely successful.

The City also posts short messages called "Tweets" via Twitter. Followers can also "retweet" or "RT" what was posted by City staff for their own followers. This allows a tweet to be viewed by potentially twice as many people through RT's. Followers can also submit tweeted questions to the City by starting their tweet with "@larecycles."

For additional information, contact Cathie Chavez-Morris, Project Manager, at (213) 485-3752 or by email at [Cathleen.Chavez@lacity.org](mailto:Cathleen.Chavez@lacity.org).

The City's Facebook page currently has over 450 fans receiving weekly status updates on solid waste programs such as mobile hazardous waste drop-off events, composting education workshops, and clarification on acceptable blue bin materials.

Status updates are a form of multimedia blogging that allows users to send brief text updates, photos or audio clips. These are published to be viewed by fans of a program.

A tweet is similar to a blog posting, but cannot be longer than 140 characters. Tweets provide other users with quick information. When you publish a tweet, it will show up on the Twitter home pages of all users following your program.



## CALIFORNIA INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD STAFF HOSTS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY TOUR

California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) staff conducted a tour of conversion technology facilities located in Orange and Riverside Counties on October 19-20, 2009. The tour was to update local and state government technical staff on the deployment of conversion technologies in the region. Several members of the Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee participated in this tour that included representatives from the CIWMB, Air Resources Board, the Energy Commission, the City of San Jose, UC Davis Biomass Collaborative, the City and County of Los Angeles, and the Sacramento Municipal Utilities District.

It included visits to Bluefire Ethanol, a green waste-to-ethanol pilot facility; Enertech, a biosolids-to-fuel facility; International Environmental Solutions, a demonstration facility that converts post-recycled solid waste into carbon char and syngas; and Rentech, a company proposing a facility that would convert urban green wood waste through gasification into synthetic fuel.

The tour concluded with presentations by the City and County of Los Angeles and visits to Hyperion Wastewater Treatment Plant and Southeast Resource Recovery Facility. The City of Los Angeles Public Works Board recently authorized the Bureau of Sanitation to move forward with their alternative technology project by entering into negotiations with CR&R, Incorporated for an anaerobic digestion project and is preparing recommendations for a commercial alternative technology facility. Similarly, the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works expects to submit conversion technology demonstration project recommendations to the County Board of Supervisors in the first quarter of 2010.

If you would like to learn more about conversion technologies, please visit [www.SoCalConversion.org](http://www.SoCalConversion.org) or contact Tobie Mitchell, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, at [tmitchell@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:tmitchell@dpw.lacounty.gov) or (626) 458-4946 M-Th, 7 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

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