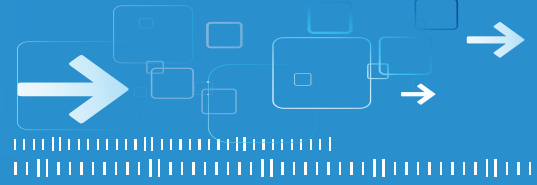




# INSIDE SOLIDWASTE



Inside Solid Waste produced quarterly by The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force



## TOP STORIES

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## Sunshine Canyon Landfill Odor Mitigation Update

Regulatory agencies step up odor mitigation efforts as complaint levels rise

Despite several infrastructure and operational improvements at the Sunshine Canyon Landfill, (one of the largest landfills in the Nation with a permitted daily disposal tonnage of 12,100 tons of solid waste), the number of odor complaints rose to unseasonably high levels in the last quarter of 2014. This has prompted regulatory agencies to step up their efforts to mitigate the odor nuisance.

Story continues on page 3



## Countywide Programs and Services Available to All

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works (Public Works) operates numerous waste reduction, recycling, and public education programs to serve virtually everyone in the 88 cities and the unincorporated communities of Los Angeles County.

From household hazardous waste (HHW) collection for residents to elementary school environmental education, as well as disposal site information and reuse programs for businesses, these programs aim to support our communities' efforts to reduce waste, conserve natural resources, and protect our environment.

Story continues on page 4

# Household Hazardous Waste Permanent Collection Centers

## City of Los Angeles S.A.F.E Permanent Collection Centers

Open Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

Services suspended during rainy weather.

For information, call 1 (800) 98-TOXIC (988-6942).

### Gaffey Street Collection Center

1400 N. Gaffey Street San Pedro, CA 90731

### Hyperion Treatment Plant

7660 W. Imperial Highway, Gate B Playa Del Rey, CA 90293

### Washington Boulevard Collection Center

2649 E. Washington Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90021

### Randall Street S.A.F.E. Center

11025 Randall Street Sun Valley, CA 91352

### UCLA Location (E-waste accepted on Saturdays only)

550 Charles E. Young Drive West Los Angeles, CA 90095

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

### Los Angeles/Glendale Collection Center

4600 Colorado Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90039

## County of Los Angeles Permanent Collection Centers

### 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.

### EDCO Environmental Collection Center

EDCO Recycling and Transfer Center, 2755 California Avenue, Signal Hill, CA 90755

Open 2nd Saturday each month 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

## About Household Hazardous Waste

Common items accepted: paint and solvents; used motor oil and filters, anti-freeze, and other automotive fluids; cleaning products; pool and garden chemicals; aerosol cans; all medicine except controlled substances; auto batteries; household batteries, computers, monitors, printers, network equipment, cables, telephones, televisions, microwaves, video games, cell phones, radios, stereos, VCRs, and electronic toys. **Not accepted: business waste, ammunition, explosives, radioactive material, trash, tires and bulky items such as furniture, refrigerators, washing machines/dryers, and stoves.**



# SWMC

## Inside Solid Waste

Task Force Public Education & Information Subcommittee

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Visit [www.lacountyiswmtf.org](http://www.lacountyiswmtf.org) to find agendas, meeting minutes, and copies of the Inside Solid Waste newsletter. **JOIN THE TEAM:** If you are interested in participating on the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Public Education & Information Subcommittee or if you would like to submit an article for Inside Solid Waste, please contact Aleen Bedrosian at (626) 458-6532, [abedrosian@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:abedrosian@dpw.lacounty.gov), or Kathy Salama at (626) 458-2521, [ksalama@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:ksalama@dpw.lacounty.gov). Quarterly meetings are held at the County Public Works Headquarters to discuss and review upcoming newsletters. If you want to be involved or contribute, please join the Subcommittee!



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## Odor Mitigation Update

Odor complaints began to rise in 2008 and accelerated rapidly in 2009 and 2010, prompting the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) to issue numerous Notices of Violation (NOVs).

This led the AQMD and other regulatory agencies, such as the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works (County Public Works) and the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Local Enforcement Agency (SCL-LEA), to require implementation of various measures towards mitigating the odors.

As a result of their efforts, Republic Services, the landfill operator, began to make structural improvements at the landfill, such as installing additional gas extraction wells; horizontal piping to collect landfill gas; upgrading the blowers on the flares; constructing two additional flares to manage landfill gas; and making other operational enhancements. These actions helped the situation somewhat, but did not bring down odor complaints (and associated NOVs) to a satisfactory level.

Consequently, the AQMD convened a working group of regulatory agencies that developed a comprehensive set of recommendations, released in June 2013, to further mitigate the odor problem. Each agency could then implement those recommendations within their areas of regulatory authority.

Despite these efforts, odor complaints peaked towards the end of 2014, reaching 302 and 277 complaints in September and December 2014, respectively, reversing a gradual but slow decline from the previous peak in 2011. In response, on October 22, 2014, County Public Works issued a letter requiring additional corrective measures at the landfill.

Measures include improvements to the landfill gas management system; increased landfill gas emission monitoring, landfill gas collection well

installation in problem areas, and additional horizontal trenches on the top lift; additional load-checking requirements; enhanced reporting; and other requirements.

Other agencies are also stepping up their efforts to mitigate the odor nuisance. The AQMD Governing Board approved a contract for consultant services to analyze the gas flow characteristics at the landfill, identify and quantify the mechanisms that are creating odor emissions, and develop a solution. The findings of this study are expected to be completed in early 2015.

The SCL-LEA has also been monitoring various operational activities at the landfill such as ensuring negative air pressure systems and odor neutralizers are utilized when installing vertical gas extraction wells and horizontal collectors; verifying misting system have been properly mounted and operational to control odors at certain areas of the landfill; as well as ensuring treated medical waste loads are prioritized such that they are promptly managed at the landfill to minimize odor impacts.

More recently, the planning agencies for the County and the City of Los Angeles obtained approval for a new air quality monitoring contract. Given the operator's claim that County Public Works does not have authority to impose additional odor mitigation measures because "There is no evidence to suggest that the faint and fleeting odors may potentially be generated on occasion by the landfill are adversely affecting public health and safety," and that "None of the air quality monitoring data collected over the past several years has in any way suggested that air emissions from the landfill pose a potential threat to public health and safety," the Task Force has urged the regulatory agencies to closely coordinate their efforts and to seek input, as appropriate, from stakeholders, including the adjacent community.

For more information, contact Mr. Martins Aiyetiwa, staff to the Task Force, at MAIYET@dpw.lacounty.gov, or (626) 458-3553, Monday - Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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# Countywide Programs

## Brief History

The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939, as amended), required each city and county in the State to develop a plan outlining the programs and actions it would implement to achieve a waste diversion rate of 50 percent.

In addition, the law required the County to prepare, among other things, a Countywide Integrated Waste Management Summary Plan (Summary Plan) summarizing the cities' plans and identifying programs that could be more efficiently and cost-effectively implemented on a countywide or regional basis. After receiving approval from a majority of the cities (containing a majority of the cities' population) and the County Board of Supervisors, the Summary Plan was approved by the State in June 1999.

The Summary Plan incorporated programs and services to supplement and support County and city activities, such as facilitating proper management, recycling, and reuse of HHW; modification or expansion of existing County and regional programs; and encouraging multi-jurisdictional actions to reduce waste generation.

Public Works is responsible for preparation, maintenance and administration of the Summary Plan. The County funds these activities by utilizing a portion of the \$1.50 "tipping fee" surcharge (referred to as the Solid Waste Management Fee) on each ton of solid waste disposed at landfills and transformation facilities.

These programs and services include the following:

## Countywide Household Hazardous Waste Management Program (HHW Program)

To protect public health and safety, the County of Los Angeles—in partnership with the 88 cities in Los Angeles County—took a countywide approach for the safe management of HHW generated within the County's geographical boundaries with the implementation of the HHW Program in 1992. What started as a limited collection program has today turned into one of the nation's largest programs of its kind. The program continuously looks to enhance collection by forming creative partnerships with public and private organizations.

The HHW Program is comprised of several elements, including a HHW collection element, consisting of weekly mobile collection events and a network of nine permanent HHW collection centers operated through various partnerships, including a partnership with the City of Los Angeles; a sharps



collection element; a household battery collection element; and a network of nine used-oil centers. The HHW Program strives to maximize convenient disposal opportunities and encourage participation.

## HHW Collection

The County, in concert with the County Sanitation Districts, conducts weekly mobile, one-day HHW and e-waste collection events throughout the County. These events are open to all residents, city and county alike, to properly dispose of HHW and e-waste free of charge. The schedule and locations of these events can be obtained via the CleanLA website ([www.cleanla.com](http://www.cleanla.com)) or by calling 1(888) CLEAN LA.

In addition, through its partnerships with the Sanitation Districts and the private sector, the County operates permanent HHW collection centers at the EDCO Recycling and Transfer Center in Signal Hill and the Antelope Valley Environmental Collection Center in Palmdale. Also, thanks to the County's partnership with the City of Los Angeles, the City's S.A.F.E. Centers (permanent HHW collection centers) are also open to any resident of the County of Los Angeles including cities. The locations and schedule of these events can be found on the CleanLA website ([www.cleanla.com](http://www.cleanla.com)) or by calling 1(888) CLEAN LA.

In addition to HHW collection services offered through the mobile collection events and permanent centers, the County offers programs and services to make the disposal of certain waste streams more convenient and easy for residents.

## Sharps Waste Collection

The Countywide Sharps Waste Management Program makes it easy and convenient for residents to properly manage their filled sharps containers. Residents can take these containers to any of the County's designated collection sites, which include 21 Sheriff's stations, 12 Department of Public



Health clinics, and other locations, in addition to the mobile collection events and permanent centers described earlier. Residents can also pick up free containers at these and dozens of other designated locations.

To learn more about this program, visit [CleanLA.com](http://CleanLA.com) or contact Frances Mandujano of Public Works at (626) 458-3585, Monday - Thursday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

## Used Motor Oil and Oil Filter Collection

The Used Motor Oil and Oil Filter Recycling Public Education Program hosts collection/recycling events and is available to all residents in Los Angeles County. In exchange for recycling used motor oil and used oil filters, residents receive a free oil and oil filter container, oil funnel, and shop towel.

The Used Motor Oil and Oil Filter Recycling Public Education Program is partly funded through a grant from CalRecycle. To learn more about this program, visit [CleanLA.com](http://CleanLA.com) or contact Edna Gandarilla of Public Works at (626) 458-6536, Monday - Thursday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

## Household Battery Collection

The Household Battery Collection Program provides convenient locations for residents to properly manage common batteries such as AA, AAA, C cells, D cells and button cell batteries (e.g. hearing aid batteries). These

include 16 designated County Libraries, in addition to the mobile collection events and permanent centers. More information can be found on the CleanLA website ([www.cleanla.com](http://www.cleanla.com)) or by calling 1(888) CLEAN LA.

## Public Education and Outreach Program

Public Works' Environmental Programs Division is responsible for planning and executing innovative public education and outreach for all of the waste management programs managed within the Division. By leveraging program funding through various partnerships and grant opportunities, the Public Education and Outreach Program seeks to reach everyone in Los Angeles County through a multi-media approach that includes procured media buys, annual campaigns, and other tools to deliver messaging.

Tools include radio, web and mobile streaming, video production and public service announcements, digital freeway billboards, LED messaging at sports events, social media, and community events. Through these varied efforts the program engages residents to Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Rethink purchases, as well as inform them about proper disposal of household hazardous and electronic waste and numerous other services available to them.

For more information on the Public Education and Outreach Program, please contact Kathy Salama at (626) 458-2521, Monday - Thursday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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## Countywide Programs

The Countywide Smart Gardening Program offers workshops for residents who want to learn ways to make their gardens “greener.” Yard trimmings are valuable resources which can be used to compost and nurture our own backyards. Through this program, residents learn the techniques of Smart Gardening, such as backyard and worm composting, grass recycling, and water-wise and fire-wise gardening.

When residents practice these techniques, they conserve water and energy, save time and money, improve their gardens, recycle their yard waste and kitchen scraps, reduce waste going to landfills, and help protect the environment.

Click on the links to find the nearest Smart Gardening Learning Center, or when the next free Smart Gardening workshop will be hosted. More information can be found on the CleanLA website ([www.cleanla.com](http://www.cleanla.com)) or by calling 1(888) CLEAN LA.

### School Garden Program

The School Garden Program gives schoolchildren the opportunity to learn how to protect the environment and conserve natural resources by starting a garden at their school. The County provides free raised beds, plants, interactive worm composting demonstrations, tools, and seeds. Here teachers and students work together while learning how to grow food, get exercise, and eat healthy. For a free consultation, contact Beverly Jones at (626) 458-3516, Monday - Thursday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### Environmental Defenders

The Environmental Defenders Program is a Countywide educational effort that reaches residents at a young age (K-6), establishes and reinforces lifelong values regarding the environment, and encourages them to be positive agents of change with friends and family.



A key aspect of the program is the newly revamped Environmental Defenders Rock the Planet Tour—a 30 minute assembly program that is free to all elementary schools in LA County. This high-energy, music-driven show leads students in grades

K-6 to identify environmental problems and possible solutions that kids can implement themselves to reduce pollution. Topics include the Four “R”s (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Rethink), stormwater pollution, and proper disposal of household hazardous waste/electronic waste. To learn more about the Environmental Defenders Program, visit [CleanLA.com](http://CleanLA.com) or contact Edna Gandarilla of Public Works at (626) 458-6536, Monday - Thursday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### Generation Earth

The Generation Earth Program is a county-wide secondary school environmental education program. Generation Earth inspires teens to take personal responsibility for the environment. The program provides professional development and personalized support for teachers and students on waste reduction, recycling, and stormwater pollution. It encourages teachers and students who want to make a difference in their environment by implementing service learning projects on school campuses or within their community.



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## Countywide Programs

To learn more about the Generation Earth Program, visit [CleanLA.com](http://CleanLA.com) or contact Edna Gandarilla of Public Works at (626) 458-6536, Monday - Thursday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### Countywide Waste Tire Management Program

The Countywide Waste Tire Management Program provides education on tire issues, conducts waste tire collection events throughout the County, and constructs demonstration projects featuring practical uses for recycled tires, thus diverting thousands of waste tires away from landfills each year. The schedule and locations of these events can be found on the CleanLA website ([www.cleanla.com](http://www.cleanla.com)) or by calling 1(888) CLEAN LA.

### CleanLA Environmental Resources Website

Public Works manages the CleanLA environmental resources website ([www.cleanla.com](http://www.cleanla.com)) and hotline 1(888) CLEAN LA. This website is the main portal to an abundance of resources to help LA County residents, businesses, and government agencies keep the County clean and sustainable. From the basics of "reduce, reuse, recycle, and rethink," to information on household hazardous and electronic waste collection events, this site offers information and links to answer various environmental questions. Residents and business owners can also find out more information on gardening tips, business recycling resources, services provided by their trash hauler, and much more.

### Solid Waste Information Management System (SWIMS)

SWIMS is a web-based application that collects, manages, and makes available to residents and businesses a vast array of information on solid waste disposal, collection, and recycling. SWIMS allows over 200 solid waste disposal and transfer facility operators and waste haulers to electronically submit disposal and collection information, as well as solid waste exported outside the County. The system has streamlined the compiling and reporting process, resulting in quality solid waste reports that can be conveniently downloaded online by government entities, private industries, and the general public.

The CleanLA website also provides a free searchable database of recycling facilities and recycling service providers, which can be searched by material type, location, or other key words or parameters to help make recycling connections in the local area. SWIMS has many additional features, such as finding the closest transfer and disposal facilities, a Green Waste Management Resource Guide, and much more.

To learn more about this service, please visit SWIMS at <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/swims/>.

### Conversion Technology Program

In partnership with the Task Force, LA County has been a leader in evaluating and promoting the development of solid waste conversion technologies, as environmentally preferable alternatives to landfill disposal. The County has developed a comprehensive conversion technology resources website with reports and information relevant to the topic, and publishes a monthly electronic newsletter with events and news regarding the latest developments in the field of conversion technologies. The County has assisted municipalities, such as the Cities of Glendale and Avalon, to conduct technical analyses of potential conversion technology projects, analyzing the technical and financial viability of different potential projects.

To learn more about this program, visit <http://www.socalconversion.org/> or contact Coby Skye of Public Works at (626) 458-3550, Monday - Thursday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### LACoMAX

The Los Angeles County Materials Exchange (LACoMAX) Program is a free countywide service that facilitates material exchange and finds markets for surplus materials and other usable discards. Through LACoMAX, residents and businesses can give away usable surplus computers, TVs, furniture, or construction materials.

To learn more about this service, please visit [www.LACoMAX.com](http://www.LACoMAX.com).

### Los Angeles County Recycling Market Development Zone

The Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) Program combines recycling with economic development to fuel new businesses, expand existing ones, create jobs, and divert waste from landfills. The program was developed by the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) as part of an ongoing effort to increase the diversion of waste going to landfills. It is a partnership between CalRecycle and local jurisdictions.

This program provides business and technical assistance, product marketing, and financial assistance to businesses that manufacture a recycled-content product or process materials for recycling. Manufacturing or processing must occur within the RMDZ. To find out more about the RMDZ Program, call (626) 458-3517, Monday - Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For information on additional countywide programs that may be available to you, please visit CleanLA ([www.cleanla.com](http://www.cleanla.com)) or contact Kathy Salama at (626) 458-2521, Monday - Thursday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

# Public Hearing for Statewide Composting Regulations under the CalRecycle Purview

On December 10, 2014, CalRecycle hosted a public hearing to receive oral and written comments for compostable materials and transfer/processing regulations.



The hearing came at the end of a 45-day public comment period during which numerous agencies and stakeholders provided written comments on the proposed regulations, which would revise Title 14 and 27 of the California Code of Regulations pertaining to compostable materials, transfer/processing, permit application, and permit exemptions.

Key provisions in the proposed regulation text, which was formally released for public comment on October 10, 2014, include expanding the definition of food material to include vegetative food material; establishing a limit for physical contaminants in compostable material products; the need to establish a method by which to determine whether land application is considered disposal rather than beneficial use; odor control requirements; in-vessel digestion regulatory tiers; and clarifications on the solid waste facility permit application.

The Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force had previously sent two letters to CalRecycle in October 2013 and October 2014, expressing numerous concerns with previous drafts of the proposed regulations. In particular, the letters identified the need to define terms such as “organics” and “compostable organics” throughout the regulatory process in order to avoid any ambiguities and ensure compliance with the regulations. Moreover, the Task Force commented on the need to refine the proposed “Joint Permit Application Form” in a manner that would ensure mitigation measures established pursuant to CEQA are properly monitored by the responsible agencies. The second letter questioned whether adding “vegetative food material composting facilities” to the definition of “compostable materials handling operation” was appropriate since this may expand the requirements of Assembly Bill 1826 (2014).

Various stakeholders testified at the public hearing, including Mr. Mike Mohajer who spoke on behalf of the Task Force, testified at the public hearing. Mr. Mohajer stated that it is critical for CalRecycle to define terminology, because precise definitions will provide a strong foundation for the proposed regulations. Mr. Mohajer also said that there are California Environmental Quality Act documents, such as Environmental Impact Reports or Negative Declarations, associated with siting composting or anaerobic digestion facilities. These documents contain mitigation measures beyond the state minimum standards for solid waste handling that the responsible agency, CalRecycle, must implement. He requested that, when adopting a solid waste permit, CalRecycle identify the mitigation measures in the permit so that local enforcement agencies, as the CEQA’s “Lead” or “Responsible” agency, are aware of which measures they are required to enforce.

In addition, Mr. Mohajer expressed concern over private citizens’ ability to substantiate the existence of a nuisance, such as odors or vectors. In the proposed regulations, a nuisance is defined as “anything which is injurious to human health or is indecent or offensive to the senses and interferes with the comfortable enjoyment of life or property, and affects at the same time an entire community, neighborhood or any considerable number of persons. The extent of annoyance or damage inflicted upon an individual may be unequal.” Private citizens are unlikely to possess the resources to prove that a nuisance affects an entire community, and under the current draft of the proposed regulations, a nuisance that affects a small number of people may not be addressed.

Finally, Mr. Mohajer stressed the need to develop composting and anaerobic digestion facilities in Southern California, especially in light of the passage of AB 1826, which aims to reduce greenhouse gases. Trucking organic materials that originate in Southern California to Central or Northern California for processing impedes the GHG reduction goals of AB 1826.

Due to the large number of comment letters received during the comment period and additional comments provided during the hearing, CalRecycle expects that there will be changes to the draft regulations. The revised draft regulations will be distributed again for another public comment period for a minimum of 15 days. The Task Force will continue to monitor CalRecycle’s progress in implementing the proposed regulations. In addition, the Task Force recommends that local jurisdictions monitor the development of the regulations and ensure that their concerns are addressed.

For additional information, please visit: [www.calrecycle.ca.gov/laws/Rulemaking/Compost/default.htm](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/laws/Rulemaking/Compost/default.htm) or contact Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at [MikeMohajer@yahoo.com](mailto:MikeMohajer@yahoo.com) or at (909) 592-1147.





**WALT GARRISON,  
FORMER CHIEF ENGINEER  
AND GENERAL MANAGER OF THE  
SANITATION DISTRICTS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY,  
PASSES AWAY AT THE AGE OF 92.**

Walter Edward Garrison, fondly known by all as “Walt,” former Chief Engineer and General Manager of the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, passed away on November 6, 2014, at the age of 92.

Mr. Garrison was born in Newark, New Jersey, and, at the age of 16, began studying engineering at Cooper Union College. During his studies, the United States entered World War II, and Mr. Garrison volunteered to serve in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ultimately promoting to Captain. After the war ended, he returned to complete his engineering degree, graduating in 1948. He was then hired by the Sanitation Districts, a regional agency that currently provides wastewater and solid waste management services to over 5.5 million people residing within 78 cities and unincorporated areas within Los Angeles County. The Sanitation Districts’ governing body is comprised of the mayors of the cities within the agency’s service area and the Chair of the County Board of Supervisors.

During Mr. Garrison’s career, he made many contributions to the agency that will be of great value long into the future. He was instrumental in the implementation of the Sanitation Districts’ water reclamation program in the early 1960s with the construction of the first wastewater treatment facility specifically designed to treat water to a high quality for groundwater recharge. That facility, the Whittier Narrows Water Reclamation Plant, became a historic civil engineering landmark as designated by the American Society of Civil Engineers. Today, the Sanitation Districts operate 11 wastewater treatment plants and produce over 100,000 acre-feet of recycled water for landscape and agricultural irrigation, groundwater recharge, and industrial uses at over 750 reuse sites.

With the passage of state Proposition 13 in 1978, the Sanitation Districts were faced with changing from property tax funded wastewater services to a fee-for-service-based program for residential, commercial and industrial customers throughout the Sanitation Districts’ service area. Mr. Garrison was

tireless in his efforts to develop and implement a fee-based funding program that, with guidance of local elected officials and input from community groups, provided a foundation for future wastewater management services, which today are among the most cost-effective in the country.

Mr. Garrison also played a key role in the commencement of solid waste operations by the Sanitation Districts in the early 1960s. The banning of backyard incinerators by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors in the late 1950s created a need for regional disposal capacity. Mr. Garrison worked to develop a system of solid waste management facilities to serve the county’s needs that has provided up to 50 percent of the county’s disposal capacity. Today, the Sanitation Districts operate two landfills, three materials recovery/transfer facilities, two refuse-to-energy facilities and three landfill energy recovery facilities.

Mr. Garrison was a widely respected leader in the field of environmental engineering. He served as the President of the California Water Environment Association from 1968 to 1969 and as the President of the California Association of Sanitation Agencies from 1976 to 1977. Mr. Garrison was the author of numerous technical articles and reports and was board-certified by the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists.

Mr. Garrison is survived by his wife of 70 years, June, as well as six children, ten grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.



# CalRecycle

## Reducing Landfilling of Packaging

On November 13, 2014, CalRecycle hosted a workshop to discuss potential policy approaches to increase the collection and recovery of packaging in California.

The main driver of this effort is to help the State achieve the 75 percent statewide goal established pursuant to Assembly Bill 341 (Chesbro, 2011). The effort would also help the State reach the greenhouse gas reduction targets established under Assembly Bill 32 (Nuñez, 2006) as well assist the State Water Resources Control Board in its efforts to abate plastic marine litter. CalRecycle hosted a similar workshop in December 2013 which was summarized in a background paper that was disseminated prior to the November workshop and which CalRecycle presented at the workshop.

In order to significantly increase the collection and recovery of packaging in the State, CalRecycle found it was important to develop a broad definition and scope of the initiative. The proposed definition is “all products made of any materials of any nature to be used for the containment, protection, handling, delivery, and presentation of goods to the consumer” and the scope is “all packaging placed on the California market and all packaging waste, whether it is used or disposed at industrial, commercial, office, retail, household, or any other level, regardless of the material used.” Both were based on previous definitions and scope for similar efforts in Europe and elsewhere and are generally accepted along the packaging supply chain.

According to CalRecycle, several policy approaches or combination of them are being considered for this effort. Some of the approaches would be mandatory in nature while others would be voluntary. Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is a mandatory approach which would incentivize producers of covered products to take management and financial responsibility of their products into account. Another mandatory approach would be to enact a landfill ban of covered products such as the State’s approach to Universal Waste. Voluntary approaches would include programs such as the Closed Loop Fund which is a commitment



from businesses across the U.S. to increase recycling. Ideally, voluntary approaches afford policy makers the opportunity to access whichever systems work best.

On January 21, 2015, the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) commented on CalRecycle’s potential policies as identified in the background paper and discussed at the November 2014 Workshop. Among the policy approaches being considered, the Task Force is most in favor of EPR. However, the Task Force is aware that it would be impractical to believe EPR can capture every type of packaging material and combination of materials used in commerce today. The Task Force has long promoted the use of conversion technologies to divert post-recycled municipal solid waste, which includes packaging, from landfill disposal.

Although the background paper mentions energy recovery as a key take-away from the December 2013 packaging workshop, the background paper and CalRecycle staff presenting at the workshop failed to consider energy recovery as a viable option for reducing the landfilling of packaging.

The Task Force looks forward to participating in the development of sound policies with CalRecycle to reduce the landfilling of packaging material. For more information regarding CalRecycle’s packaging efforts, contact Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at [MikeMohajer@yahoo.com](mailto:MikeMohajer@yahoo.com) or (909) 592-1146.



## ZERO WASTE LA

COMMERCIAL & MULTIFAMILY  
FRANCHISE HAULING

# City of Los Angeles Commercial Franchise System Moves Forward

In November 2012, the Los Angeles City Council directed the City's Bureau of Sanitation to develop an implementation plan for an Exclusive Commercial and Multifamily Solid Waste Franchise System (Franchise System) for the collection, diversion and disposal of solid waste.

The implementation plan was adopted by the City Council in April 2013. As part of its implementation plan, in June 2014 the City issued a request for proposals from waste haulers to provide solid waste, commingled recyclables and organics collection, transfer, disposal and processing services to commercial establishments in the City. According to City officials, in October 2014 the City received many good proposals and is currently in the evaluation process.

The City plans to enter into negotiations with the selected proposers by mid-2015, prepare and process for approval franchise contracts in 2016, and begin the new services in 2017.

The City's objective is to enter into exclusive, 10-year agreements (with two five-year renewal options) that give each selected proposer the exclusive right to provide solid waste, commingled recyclables and organics collection, transfer, processing and disposal services in one or more of the franchise zones defined by

the City. The City has established 11 franchise zones, three of which are "small" in order to create opportunities for smaller private waste haulers to compete for the agreements.

Other elements of the proposed Franchise System include a high-level of customer service, outreach and education, diversion standards, an AB 939 fee of 10 percent, a franchise fee, extra services provided at pre-established rates, and clean air vehicle requirements.

Approximately 69 percent of the solid waste generated within the City is generated by commercial establishments (this includes multifamily establishments).

For more information on the City's proposed Franchise System, visit our website at <http://www.lacitysan.org/ZeroWasteLA/index.html> or please contact Lisa Carlson at [zerowastela@lacity.org](mailto:zerowastela@lacity.org).



# Two Years of PaintCare Stewardship

The California Architectural Paint Recovery Program (commonly known as the PaintCare Program) established by Assembly Bill 1343 (Huffman - 2010), requires manufacturers of architectural paint to develop and provide a system for the management of postconsumer architectural paint. Compliance with the law has been managed by PaintCare, the paint industry's designated stewardship organization. On behalf of participating paint manufacturers, PaintCare has assisted with the management of postconsumer architectural paint providing collection, transportation, processing, recycling, and proper disposal.



during the same year. Other local jurisdictions in Los Angeles County have also realized some savings through their partnerships with PaintCare. As PaintCare's program continues to expand, further cost savings are anticipated. These cost savings will afford local governments the opportunity to expand other diversion efforts such as sharps, pharmaceuticals, and battery collection programs.

Even though local programs have benefitted from reduced paint recycling and disposal costs, PaintCare is unable to provide program-specific collection or disposition data. Lack of collection data makes it impossible for jurisdictions to accurately measure cost savings, diversion rates, or program effectiveness. Local jurisdictions would greatly benefit from PaintCare developing a more sound collection and reporting system.

Since the start of the program in October 2012, PaintCare has set up 701 drop-off sites in California where the public can take unwanted, leftover paint for recycling, 50 of which are in Los Angeles County. Most of these drop-off sites are paint retailers; however, PaintCare has also partnered with 67 local government household hazardous waste (HHW) programs, including 12 in Los Angeles County.

The program has also experienced some challenges, one being complaints from the public that retail stores aren't able to accept their paint due to limits on retail storage space. According to PaintCare, more sites than anticipated have very limited storage space, which fills up quickly especially in heavily-populated/urbanized areas. In response, PaintCare has improved the situation by scheduling regular pick-ups when the bins are about 1/3 full.

According to their November 1, 2014, annual report to the State, PaintCare has managed paint collected from over 140 HHW collection events; provided 241 direct large volume pick-ups from homeowners, businesses, and institutions; and partnered with 11 door-to-door collection programs to manage their paint. Through the County of Los Angeles Countywide HHW Program in 2014, PaintCare processed approximately 184,000 gallons of paint saving the Countywide Program approximately \$800,000. PaintCare also processed 150,000 gallons collected through the City of Los Angeles' HHW program, saving the City's program approximately \$800,000.

Despite storage issues and the difficulty in measuring source reduction, the PaintCare program appears to be working. Jurisdictions continue to increase paint diversion as the PaintCare program expands, and now residents have more options for paint recycling and disposal through the addition of retail stores. Residents can locate drop-off sites and obtain information on acceptable paint products on PaintCare's website at [www.paintcare.org](http://www.paintcare.org).



# The Alameda Pharmaceutical Lawsuit Continues

The pharmaceutical ordinance established by Alameda County continues to be opposed by the pharmaceutical industry.

The ordinance, established in July 2012, requires producers that distribute or sell covered drugs in Alameda County to operate take-back programs, either individually or as part of a group.

In September 2012, three trade groups (the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America [PhRMA], the Genetic Pharmaceutical Association, and the Biotechnology Industry Organization) filed a lawsuit against Alameda County on the basis that the ordinance violated the Commerce Clause by shifting local costs to out-of-state producers and interfering with interstate commerce. The Northern California U.S. District Court found that the ordinance did not violate the U.S. Constitution and rejected the claim.

The three trade groups appealed the rejection with the Ninth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, which also upheld Alameda's Ordinance and denied the claim. The three trade groups then filed a Petition for Certiorari with the U.S. Supreme Court on December 29, 2014, questioning, "whether the dormant Commerce Clause permits a local law that directly conscripts out-of-state manufacturers to enter the locality and to assume all costs and responsibility for collecting and disposing of unused medicines from local residents, for the avowed purpose of shifting the costs of this



traditional government function from local taxpayers and consumers to foreign producers and consumers." Subsequently, on January 28, 2015, motion to file amicus brief was filed by Washington Legal Foundation and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce with the Supreme Court. It is currently unknown if the Supreme Court will hear the case, however, a decision is expected within the next few months.

While the court case is being challenged, Alameda County is currently operating 31 collection sites throughout the County where residential consumers can drop off their unwanted prescription drugs. The collection sites are operated by 10 different participating agencies who have partnered with the County to provide collection until Product Stewardship Programs take over.

The Alameda County Environmental Health Department (ACEH) has consulted with third party Stewardship Plan developers to assist producers with creating plans that meet the ordinance requirements. Final approval is pending. More information can be found on ACEH's website at <http://www.acgov.org/aceh/safedisposal/>.

# Palmdale Unveils Public Art to Promote Recycling Effort in the City

This past summer, the City of Palmdale unveiled a new piece of public art at the Palmdale Transportation Center as part of an effort to promote recycling through the arts.

The work, titled “Back Home” by native Argentinian artist Sol Mesz, features two Joshua trees that stand 7.5 and 5 feet high. The trees are composed of recycled and repurposed materials donated by local businesses. The City also contracted with Mesz to create an art display for the City’s Community Garden. The City wanted the art pieces to encourage people to recycle their beverage containers and show that they can be put to use and given new life through recycling. The artist was selected based on her work with recycled glass, particularly her use of glass beverage containers to create sculptures.



Artist Sol Mesz poses with her artwork entitled “Back Home” located at the Palmdale Transportation Center.



“Nature Re-Presented” is on display at the City of Palmdale’s Community Garden.



# *It's the Season to be Green*

LA County Department of Public Works teamed up with KOST 103.5 FM to remind listeners to reduce, reuse, recycle, and rethink their purchases this past holiday season.

The campaign efforts reached nearly 7.3 million people and reminded residents to take their reusable bags when shopping, reuse gift wrapping, send electronic holiday cards—which save trees and

postage money—and to consider renting a holiday tree, which can be returned to the nursery and maintained until next season. The integrated multi-media campaign included various radio ads, website banners, a holiday tips portal, and a “Go Green” quiz.

To find out more about how to be green year-round, visit [www.CleanLA.com](http://www.CleanLA.com).



## **Mattress Recycling Council Seeking California Solid Waste Facilities to Collect Mattresses**

California’s Used Mattress Recovery and Recycling Act (enacted in 2013 and amended in 2014) requires the mattress industry to create a statewide recycling program for discarded mattresses.

The industry has created the Mattress Recycling Council (MRC) to create and manage the program, expected to begin in early 2016. MRC is currently seeking permitted solid waste facilities currently accepting discarded mattresses to participate in the program. MRC will provide storage containers, transportation from the collection site to a recycler, and mattress recycling services at no cost. The program is funded through a recycling fee collected from consumers at retail when a mattress or box spring is sold. These fees will fund the collection and recycling of mattresses discarded in California. MRC will submit a comprehensive program plan to CalRecycle by July 1, 2015.

For more information about California’s program or to submit a form for mattress recycling services, visit [www.mattressrecyclingcouncil.org](http://www.mattressrecyclingcouncil.org).



**MATTRESS**  
RECYCLING COUNCIL

# FEBRUARY 2015 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

The Task Force continuously monitors and analyzes pending legislative bills that may impact solid waste management in Los Angeles County. Below is a summary and status of legislation the Task Force has taken a position on through February 2015

## 2015-2016 State Legislative Session (Except as noted)

Bill Number/ Author	Task Force Position	Status	Summary
<p><b>AB 45</b> Mullin</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Assembly</p>	<p>This bill would express the Legislature’s intent to enact legislation that would establish curbside Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection programs, door-to-door HHW collection programs, and HHW waste residential pickup services as the principal means of collecting HHW and diverting it from California’s landfills and waterways.</p>
<p><b>AB 190</b> Harper</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Assembly</p>	<p>This bill would repeal all provisions related to Senate Bill 270 (Padilla, 2014) which among other things would prohibit certain stores from providing single-use plastic-carryout bags to customers; require that these stores charge not less than \$.10 for each recycled carryout paper bag provided; and establish a statewide minimum standard for reusable bags. The requirements related to SB 270 are currently on hold pending a potential referendum petition.</p>
<p><b>AB 191</b> Harper</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Assembly</p>	<p>This bill would repeal Senate Bill 270’s (Padilla, 2014) provision related to the requirement that certain stores that distribute recycled paper bags make those bags available for purchase for not less than \$0.10. This and other requirements related to SB 270 are currently on hold pending a potential referendum petition.</p>



Bill Number/ Author	Task Force Position	Status	Summary
<p><b>AB 199</b> Eggman</p>	<p>Support if Amended</p>	<p>Assembly Natural Resources Committee</p>	<p>This bill would expand projects eligible for the sales and use tax exclusion to include projects that process or utilize recycled feedstock, but would not include a project that processes or utilizes recycled feedstock in a manner that constitutes disposal. The Task Force is requesting an amendment that clarifies projects which produce fuels or other type of renewable energy from recycled feedstock are eligible for the proposed sales and use tax exclusion.</p>
<p><b>AB 237</b> Daly</p>	<p>Watch</p>	<p>Assembly Local Government Committee</p>	<p>This bill would require, before the adoption of any new parcel tax, the legislative body of a local agency to provide at least 90 days' notice of the vote to enact the proposed parcel tax to the owner of each parcel affected by the tax. This bill would provide that the local agency may recover the reasonable costs of the notice from the proceeds of the parcel tax.</p>
<p><b>AB 239</b> Gallagher</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Assembly Natural Resources Committee</p>	<p>This bill would prohibit the State Air Resources Board (ARB) on and after January 1, 2016, from adopting or amending regulations pursuant to the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Nunez, AB 32). The bill would authorize ARB to submit to the Legislature recommendations on how to achieve the goals of AB 32.</p>

Bill Number/ Author	Task Force Position	Task Force Position	Summary
<p><b>SB 32</b> Pavley</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Senate Environmental Quality Committee</p>	<p>This bill would require the State Air Resources Board (ARB) to approve a statewide greenhouse gas emission limit that is equivalent to 80% below the 1990 level to be achieved by 2050. The bill would authorize ARB to adopt interim greenhouse gas emissions level targets to be achieved by 2030 and 2040. The bill also would state the intent of the Legislature for the Legislature and appropriate agencies to adopt complementary policies that ensure long-term emissions reductions advance specified criteria.</p>
<p><b>SB 47</b> Hill</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Senate Environmental Quality Committee</p>	<p>This bill would require the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, by July 1, 2017, in consultation with CalRecycle, the State Department of Public Health, and the Department of Toxic Substances Control, to prepare and provide to the Legislature a study analyzing synthetic turf for potential adverse health impacts and would additionally prohibit a public or private school or local government, until 2018, from installing a new field or playground surface made of synthetic turf within the boundaries of a public or private school, or public recreational park.</p>
<p><b>SB 350</b> De Leon/Leno</p>	<p>Watch</p>	<p>Senate</p>	<p>This bill would express the intent of the Legislature for the purposes of the Renewable Portfolio Standard program that the amount of electricity generated per year from eligible renewable energy resources be increased to an amount equal to at least 50 percent by December 31, 2030. This bill would require the motor vehicle standard adopted and implemented by the State Air Resources Board to be in furtherance of achieving a reduction in petroleum use in motor vehicles by 50 percent by January 1, 2030. This bill would require the California Energy Commission, by January 1, 2017, and at least once every 3 years thereafter, to adopt an update to the program in furtherance of achieving a doubling of energy efficiency in buildings by January 1, 2030.</p>

## **FEBRUARY 2015 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**

For more information on these bills or copies of Task Force letters, please visit the Task Force website, [www.lacountyiswmtf.org](http://www.lacountyiswmtf.org) or contact Christopher Sheppard, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, at (626) 458-5163, Monday - Thursday, 7 am to 5:30 pm or Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at [MikeMohajer@yahoo.com](mailto:MikeMohajer@yahoo.com) or (909) 592-1147.