



Perspectives

Welcome to *PERSPECTIVES*, an email-newsletter designed to give you a window into what is going on here at El Sobrante Landfill. Topics include waste management issues, community involvement, and environmental protection and legislation. We hope you enjoy it.

EL SOBRANTE LANDFILL

El Sobrante Landfill is a Class 3 regional disposal facility permitted to accept up to 10,000 tons per day, seven days per week. It employs approximately 40 full-time employees. Landfill operations are overseen by the California Integrated Waste Management Board, and the Riverside County Department of Environmental Health.

Letter from Damon De Frates District Manager, El Sobrante Landfill

Dear Friends,

With fall just around the corner, you are probably busy getting your kids ready for a new school year – I know I am. This is a great opportunity to teach your children about the impact we all have on the environment and help them learn how to make environmentally conscious decisions when buying school supplies. This becomes even more important when you consider that each student makes approximately 240 pounds of waste each year. We've included a few ideas to help your child start their new school year thinking green.

I also want to personally invite you to The 9th Annual Temescal Valley Community Faire, being held Saturday, September 27, from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. This is a fun community event that is organized by the local businesses in the area for the local residential communities. We hope that you and your family attend this great event and don't forget to visit our Waste Management booth.

This month, El Sobrante employees celebrated over 215,000 hours with no reported accident or injury. This is an astounding accomplishment and confirms our employees' commitment to working in a safe and responsible manner. I want to personally congratulate every single employee for their outstanding commitment to our safety culture at El Sobrante Landfill.

As always, we invite you to tour our operations and answer any questions you may have. Please don't hesitate to contact me or Community Relations Manager Lily Quiroa at 951-277-5112.

Best,

Damon De Frates
District Manager
El Sobrante Landfill



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A Green School Year

It's that time of the year again to start getting your kids ready for school – and that means school supplies. Unfortunately back to school can translate to mounds of waste in the forms of packaging and resources needed to make all the new supplies. It is estimated that each student produces up to 240 pounds of waste a year. When you consider the nearly 75.5 million students who attend school in the United States, the impact increases exponentially.

This school year, you can help your kids become eco-friendly by helping them make some green choices.

Here are a couple of suggestions from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency:

- * Choose and use a wide assortment of supplies made from recycled products, such as pencils made from old blue jeans; binders made from old shipping boxes; and many types of recycled paper products. You can also reuse items like refillable pens, rechargeable batteries, and scrap paper for notes. Using recycled-content and reusing supplies prevents waste and saves you money.

- * Use and maintain durable products. Sturdy backpacks and notebooks can be reused for many years, which helps reduce the amount of broken items tossed away each year.

- * If you bring your lunch to school, package it in reusable containers instead of disposable ones, and carry them in a reusable plastic or cloth bag, or lunch box. Bring drinks in a thermos instead of disposable bottles or cartons.

Kids are more tech-savvy than ever- but they need to learn that all electronics need to be disposed of in a safe and environmentally manner because they contain hazardous substances. Here's a couple of ways Waste Management can help you recycle your old electronics:

- * El Sobrante Landfill can assist you with disposing or recycling your electronics in a safe manner.

- * Also, for electronics that you no longer want but still have some use left in them, another option for responsible reuse and recycling is Free'N Exchange, a new Waste Management program provided by Greenopolis. This online marketplace is designed to help reduce waste and connect users with others in need of everyday items.

Finally, this is a great opportunity for parents and kids to work with their teachers to find ways to learn how to form eco-savvy habits that will last a lifetime. A good way to start is by organizing a field trip to El Sobrante Landfill and Wildlife Preserve. Our educational tours, conducted by experts, highlight the importance of waste reduction and the importance of protecting the environment. You can contact Community Relations Manager, Lily Quiroa, at 951-277-5112 to schedule a school tour.

Free'N Exchange is a free service available through Greenopolis.com, an online community about sustainable living. To learn more about Free'N Exchange, visit: <http://greenopolis.com/marketplace/free-n-exchange>.





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“Mission to Zero” Milestone

This month, El Sobrante employees celebrated two years which translates to over 215,000 hours without accident or injury. This accomplishment highlights how seriously our employees have embraced Waste Management’s safety program, “Mission to Zero.”

The Mission to Zero safety program helps engage our employees to take positive actions everyday to yield safe results. Working safely is something that our employees can relate to because no one wants to be hurt; we see this every day as they diligently identify and avoid potentially unsafe situations. The program also lays out a very clear goal: zero tolerance for any acts, condition or behaviors that might cause unsafe conditions in or around the landfill. To meet this goal, El Sobrante staff meets as a team every week to hold safety meetings where they focus on positive safety actions rather than negative outcomes.



There is also a safety committee comprised of landfill employees that meet on a monthly basis to discuss safety concerns, incentives and report out to the group.

To celebrate this magnificent achievement, El Sobrante employees and their families were rewarded with a fun trip to Sea World. We sincerely appreciate the dedication each and every employee makes to our safety culture and are extremely proud of everyone involved for taking safety to a new level and we hope to continue to end the year with no accidents or injuries.

The general public can also help us continue our strong safety record by abiding to the following important rules when coming to the landfill:

- Follow the instructions of the landfill’s traffic coordinators who guide you away from the large trucks where you can safely dispose of your trash. The traffic coordinator always has your safety as their number one concern.
- Stay far away from the roll off trucks or end dumps when dumping to avoid injury. They are less stable when dumping and have the potential to tip over.
- You must always wear a high visibility safety vest while outside of the vehicle. If you don’t have one, you can purchase one for a nominal fee at the scale house.
- Absolutely no scavenging allowed. Scavengers pay attention to the trash and not to the movements of the heavy equipment. It is quite difficult to see a scavenger from the cockpit of a compactor; they blend in quite well with the surrounding trash.



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9th Annual Temescal Valley Faire

Thousands of Temescal Valley residents are expected to attend the 9th Annual Temescal Valley Community Faire on Saturday, September 27th to enjoy good food, great music and entertainment. This jam-packed day promises to offer something for everyone of any age.

The faire has become an integral part of the Temescal Valley community, with the continual support of the office of the Board of Supervisor Bob Buster, county agencies and local businesses in the area, the faire has become an opportunity to celebrate everything that the Temescal Valley community has to offer- from great family oriented residential communities to neighborhood businesses that support each other.

There will be a live band, a DJ, performances recruited from the local community, carnival games, arts and crafts, a petting zoo and great door prizes along with over 60 exhibitors booths. Don't forget to visit our booth where we will be putting your recycling knowledge to the test and raffle out great prizes.

If you would like to take a more active role in the faire and would like to volunteer your time, please contact Community Relations Manager Lily Quiroa at 951-277-5112. This is a great opportunity for high school students to earn community service hours.

Temescal Valley Community Faire will be held Saturday, September 27th, 2008 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Temescal Driving Range, 23100 Temescal Canyon Rd.

