



# Trash Cans in Cyberspace: OneBigBin.com Debuts



#### Water Conservation Still on Tap for Roseville

While late season storms eased fears of an extreme summer drought and ended mandatory water use restrictions in our region, we strongly support Governor Schwarzenegger's call for statewide water use reduction of 20 percent. As we approach the driest months of the year, it's especially important to be mindful of irrigating lawns and landscapes wisely

- Water two or three times a week in the early morning or late evening.
- When you water, water deeply.
   For turf, break up your irrigation cycles, to minimize runoff and allow the water to soak into the root systems. On your watering days, it is best to water for a short time, wait an hour and then water again.
- Place mulch around trees and plants to keep the soil cool and prevent evaporation.
- Install a drip irrigation system instead of sprinklers for trees and landscaping
- Check your irrigation system to make sure all sprinkler heads and drip emitters are working properly and that you're watering your lawn, not the driveway, sidewalk
- Consider replacing unused lawn areas with native or water efficient plants.
- Get more great tips on the state's new Save Our Water program site:
   www.saveour H20.com

Roseville residents and businesses are fortunate to be included in a program that takes care of their recycling. Because the Western Placer Waste Management Authority (WPWMA) Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) doesn't depend on voluntary participation and removes recyclable items from all commercial, residential and public trash, Roseville is keeping almost 70 percent of the city's solid waste out of the landfill.

Despite its success, the MRF's operation remains a mystery to those of us who can't imagine how trash gets sorted and recycled materials are removed. That's why the WPWMA, cities in Placer County and Placer County joined forces to create OneBigBin.com.

The new Web site features short, informative videos that take you through the recycling process from curbside to landfill. It also offers tips on reducing the amount of waste you generate, information about upcoming environmental events, and learning games for kids to play.

Check it out at <a href="https://www.OneBigBin.com">www.OneBigBin.com</a> and make sure you come back often to see the new features we'll be adding in the coming months.

# Simple Tip for Keeping Lawns Healthy—Water Less!

Instead of spending money on pesticides and fertilizers, consider watering deeply and less often. Overwatering promotes weak, shallow roots and attracts insects, fungi and even weeds, which cause us to apply fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides we may not need at all. When we overwater, the excess water our lawns can't absorb flows down the storm drain and into our creeks—carrying those chemicals to fish and other wildlife who call them home. Instead of throwing money away on chemicals that don't belong in our streams, try limiting your watering to two or three days a week for a longer time. Break up your irrigation cycles to let the water absorb into the lawn, preventing waste and runoff. Your lawns will love the chance to stretch their roots down deep, the fish will enjoy swimming in chemical-free water, and the birds and animals will appreciate pure water to drink.





### Recycled Water Use Tops 1 Billion Gallon Mark

You may have noticed that no matter how dry it gets many city parks, golf courses and streetscapes stay  $lush \ and \ green. \ We \ can \ thank \ the \ city's \ recycled \ water \ program \ for \ keeping \ much \ of \ Roseville \ green \ and$ saving millions of gallons of fresh drinking water each year.

Established in 1997, the recycled water program reached a major milestone last year by delivering more than 1 billion gallons to its customers in 2008. The program also added 25 new customers, including apartment complexes, streetscapes, Veteran's Memorial Park North and Mel Hamel Park in the north part of town.

Roseville's recycled water comes from the city's wastewater treatment plants that treat millions of gallons of wastewater to the highest level required by the California Department of Health Services. Delivered through purple pipes and safe for everything except drinking, recycled water is ideal for irrigating lawns and landscape. So next time you see our bright purple pipes, think green!



Roseville residents have made the switch to energy-efficient, long-lasting fluorescent lighting. While that switch brings major energy savings, it's important to remember that fluorescent tubes and compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs) contain hazardous mercury and require careful handling.

#### If a CFL or fluorescent tube breaks, make sure to prevent mercury exposure by following these steps:

- Turn off fans or air conditioning/heating in the room, open a window and leave the area for 15 minutes. This allows the mercury to settle, lowers the risk of mercury spreading to other areas of the house, and helps ventilate the room.
- On hard surfaces, use a piece of cardboard or stiff paper to scoop up larger glass shards and tape to get smaller pieces. A damp paper towel should be used to clean the area after all
- On carpet and rugs, carefully pick up larger glass shards and use tape to get smaller pieces. Vacuum the area.
- Place anything that comes into contact with the glass shards, including vacuum bags, into a plastic bag, seal it and call 774-5780 to schedule a free hazardous waste pick up.
- If you step into the area, wipe off your shoes with a wet paper towel and dispose of the towel in the plastic bag along with other contaminated items.
- If any glass or powder gets on your clothes, bedding or other washable items do not put them in your washing machine. Doing so could contaminate your washer and release  $\,$ harmful toxins into the environment. Instead, place all items into a sealed plastic bag and call 774-5780 to schedule a free hazardous waste pick up.

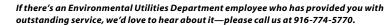
Also remember that fluorescent bulbs and tubes cannot be thrown into the trash. The city provides free pickup that includes fluorescent bulbs and tubes, as well as batteries, electronics. motor oil and filters, and other household hazardous materials. To schedule a pickup, call 774-5780. For a list of items eligible for free pick-up, visit www.roseville.ca.us/batteries.

### Honoring Excellence and Rewarding Outstanding Employees (HEROE) Award Thanks to Our Heroes!

Each month, an employee is selected to receive the department's Honoring Excellence and Rewarding Outstanding Employees (HEROE) award.

For our April HEROE, **DAVID BOISA** was nominated for his outstanding customer service in the field, and for going above and beyond the normal scope of his duties. David was a  $tremendous\ help\ to\ the\ contractors\ during\ the\ construction\ stages\ of\ the\ West\ Plan\ area.$ His patience and knowledge of the water distribution system was an asset to the contractors as they learned the city specifications on installing water boxes for their pre-final inspections. Also, while testing the meter backflows, David was very helpful in explaining to the customers what the test is, and how long their water will be shut off.

**MATT TENNELL** is our May HEROES recipient. Matt was nominated for his proficiency in working with the weekend probation crew for the Solid Waste Division. Matt is responsible for managing 8-15 work project participants per day on the weekends completing the Placer County Probation Department paperwork for each person and tracking their time. Matt's abilities to effectively manage this no-cost labor force is helping to save our ratepayers money, keep utility rates low and provide a high level of service to our customers.





David Boisa



#### **Kits Available for Fundraising Car Washes**

To prevent grease, dirt, soap and metals from washing into our creeks, new environmental regulations prohibit charity fundraising events from letting runoff from car washes flow into the storm drain. To help organizations stay within the law and keep pollution out of our creeks, the city loans environmentally-friendly car wash kits free of charge. A deposit is required when the kit is picked-up and a full refund is issued when the undamaged kit is returned.

Call 774-5751 to make your reservation.

## Greener Homes and Gardens

Sept 5	Composting Vermicomposting	10:00 to 11:00 am 11:00 am to Noon
Sept 12	Lighting Basics	11:00 am to Noon
Sept 19	Sustainable Lawn Care Choosing Native Plants	10:00 to 11:30 am
	for Your Garden	2:00 to 4:00 pm
Sept 26	Green Shopping Tips	11:00 to Noon
Oct 3	Landscape Design	9:30 am to 2:00 pm
Oct 17	Composting Drip Irrigation Basics	10:00 to 11:00 am Noon to 2:00 pm
	Composting Selecting & Growing Shade Trees	10:00 to 11:00 am Noon to 1:30
Nov 21	Selecting and Growing Fruit Trees	2:00 to 3:30 pm
Nov 28	Green Shopping Tips for the Holidays	11:00 am to Noon
Dec 5	Gift Ideas for the Green Gardener	1:00 to 2:00 pm

#### **Student Art Calendar Falls Victim to Budget Cuts**

The city is facing the same economic stress many of its residents and businesses are feeling and has taken many steps to reduce expenses and adjust service levels. Unfortunately, the Student Art Calendar is among the unpleasant budget cuts the Roseville City Council was forced to make.

All of us at Roseville Electric and Environmental Utilities want to thank the teachers who encouraged their students to participate and the students who contributed the ideas and creativity that made the calendar such a well-loved success.



Many thanks to the volunteers for the 4th Annual Great Roseville Clean-Up who spent their Saturday morning picking up litter in Historic Old Town and Downtown Roseville in May 2009.

74 bags of litter were collected during the event by 32 volunteers.



#### **ENVIRONMENTAL UTILITIES**

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by the Environmental Utilities Department of the City of Roseville. ©2009. Comments and suggestions

TODAY is published

for Roseville's residents

