ENVIRONMENTAL UTILITIES
CITY OF ROSEVILLE

Today

October 2006

WATER • WASTEWATER • RECYCLED WATER • STORMWATER • SOLID WASTE

Have dead household batteries? Look for the Tube!

Battery disposal tubes have begun appearing in stores throughout Roseville as part of a new program designed to simplify residents' lives. Thanks to the Saxton Family Foundation and participating retailers, residents can simply drop their used batteries into cylinders designed to safely hold the dead batteries. Generally, the in-store tubes are located at the participating store's entrance. Roseville Environmental Utilities staff will empty and maintain the in-store tubes. As of August, there were nine retail locations where you can drop off your dead household batteries. For the most recent list of stores featuring the battery disposal tubes, go to www.roseville.ca.us/batteries.

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Still Accepts Universal Waste—and More!

Items you can't put in the trash such as pesticides, paints, solvents or other chemicals, can still be taken to the Western Placer Waste Management Authority's Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility located at 3195 Athens Road , near the corner of Fiddyment and Athens Roads, and is open Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. These items are accepted FREE of charge from Placer County residents ONLY. Call 543-3960 or visit www.wpwma.com.

New Service!

Curbside Pickup Now Available for Batteries, Electronics and Other Items

If you're among the many residents who have wondered how to dispose of batteries, fluorescent light bulbs and tubes, empty aerosol cans, electronic gear, and mercury containing items, relief is here. Starting in August, the city began a new curbside pickup service for items covered under state universal waste regulations that went into effect last February. The regulations, aimed at keeping heavy metals and other pollutants out of landfills, made it illegal to dispose of many common household items in the trash.

The city's new service provides an almost effortless way for residents to dispose of these types of items. Once a month, residents can request pickup by calling 774-5780. Though it's called "curbside," residents are asked to place items on their doorsteps to prevent children and animals from getting into the hazardous materials.

Items Accepted for Pick-Up Service

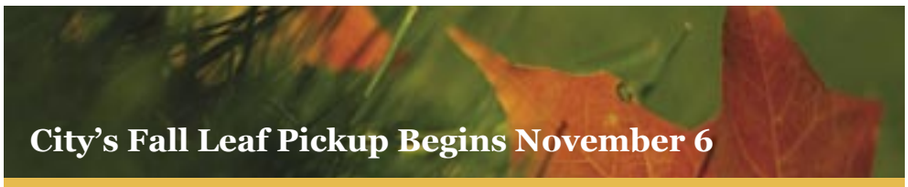
Environmental Utilities new residential pick-up service is available for the following items:

- Common household batteries, including button-shaped batteries
- Fluorescent tubes and bulbs and other mercury-containing lamps
- Thermostats that contain mercury, electrical switches and relays, pilot light sensors, and mercury gauges
- Mercury thermometers
- Mercury-added novelties like greeting cards that play music when opened
- Electronic items, including televisions; computers; computer monitors; printers; VCR, DVD and CD players/recorders; stereo components; cell phones; telephones; radios; and microwave ovens
- Motor oil, oil filters and automotive batteries

Please note—city staff cannot pick up pesticides, paints, chemicals and other items not on this list. Unaccepted items in a pickup may result in all items being left behind.

If you have a question about an item for pickup or need more information about the new program call 774-5780 or visit www.roseville.ca.us/batteries.

To schedule a pick at your home, simply call 774-5780. Pick-ups can occur as often as once a month.



City's Fall Leaf Pickup Begins November 6

Roseville's popular Fall Leaf Pickup Program begins November 6, 2006 and concludes January 12, 2007, weather permitting. The program keeps fallen leaves and debris from clogging stormwater drains and washing into our creeks and streams, disturbing the sensitive ecological balance and threatening plants and wildlife.

Available Throughout the City

Place leaves from **front yard trees only** in a secure bag. Make sure that each bag weighs less than 40 pounds. Set the bags in your driveway near the curb or in the street away from standing water and out of the gutter so you do not impede water flow. Then call the Community Bulletin Board at 774-5842. Specify the number of bags to be picked up and your home telephone number with area code. Unfortunately, crews cannot remove leaves from gated or private communities.

Our crews pick up leaf bags on Tuesdays and Fridays, starting at 6:00 a.m. They can only collect leaves and will not take any bags that contain green waste, branches or limbs, rocks, animal waste or metal.

Available in Certain Areas

First, please look at the map to see if you qualify for our "leaf pile" option. Generally, this is for Roseville's most densely treed areas.

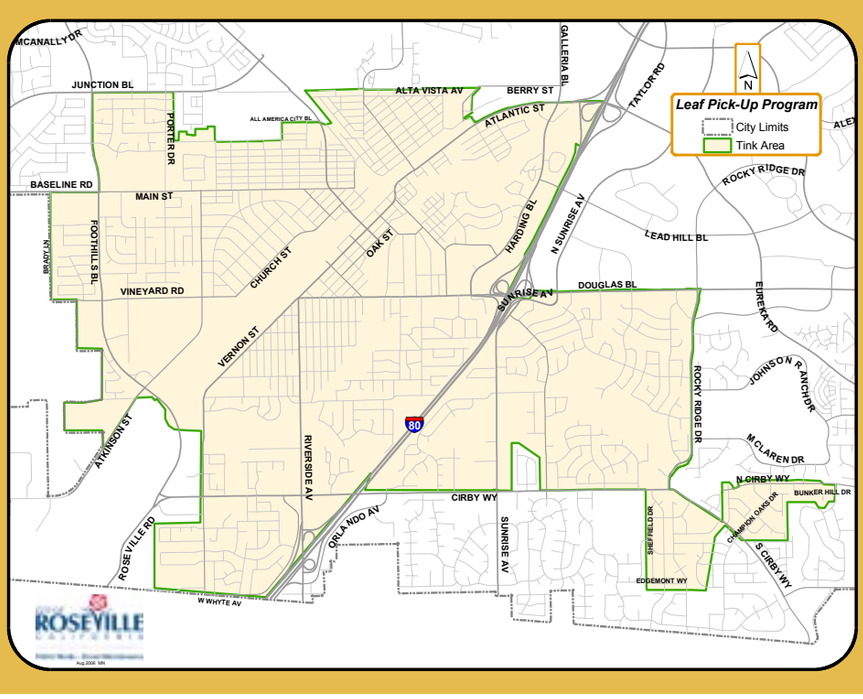
If you qualify, pile loose leaves from **front yard trees only** on the street in front of your house at least three feet from parked cars to avoid obstructing traffic. Make sure you keep leaf piles out of gutters where they could prevent water flow.

Our "Tink" machine will scoop up the leaves and place them into a refuse truck for recycling. It takes our leaf pickup crew about two weeks to make a complete rotation of the mapped area. Weather permitting, they start at the north end of the mapped area and work south.

Remember, crews can only collect leaves and will not take any piles that contain green waste, branches or limbs, rocks, animal waste or metal.

Questions?

If you have any questions about the Leaf Pickup Program, please call 774-5790 or visit www.roseville.ca.us/pw/street_maintenance.



All-Year Green Waste Program

In addition to the Leaf Pickup Program, the city's Green Waste Program provides year-round collection. All green waste, such as small tree branches, leaves and yard clippings, can be placed—without plastic bags—in Green Waste containers for pickup. Thank you for doing your part to keep Roseville clean and beautiful!

For more information, visit www.roseville.ca.us/eu/solid_waste_utility or call 774-5780.

Thanks to Our HEROES

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

Fritz Albrecht

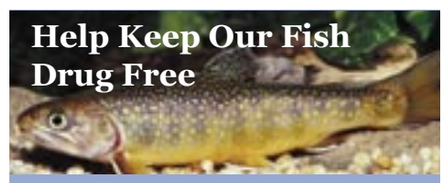
Our June award went to **FRITZ ALBRECHT**, an electronic technician in the Wastewater Division who recently solved problems with the Pleasant Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant's monitoring and control system, allowing the plant to remain in operation.

Vince Neill

VINCE NEILL, wastewater treatment plant operator, earned the July award for assisting the maintenance personnel when they were short staffed by supplying his knowledge and a helping hand in removing and maintaining pumps, aerators and a potable water line.

- ***If there's an Environmental Utilities Department employee who has provided you with outstanding service, we'd love to hear about it—please call us at 774-5770.***

Help Keep Our Fish Drug Free



Fish can't say no to drugs we put in their water, so they need our help to stay drug free. Please, never flush over-the-counter or prescription drugs down the toilet. Properly seal them in a sturdy container and place them in the trash instead or return them to the drugstore that dispensed them.

Wastewater treatment plants are not designed to handle medications such as hormones, antibiotics, mood stabilizers, pain pills, or the countless other drugs found in our medicine cabinets. Increased bacterial resistance is one major concern. Another is the impact on fish, frogs and other aquatic life that is very sensitive to minute amounts of the drugs being found in our rivers and lakes. Effects of exposure can include a gender ratio imbalance, intersex conditions, poor egg hatching success, decreased fertility and growth, and altered behavior.

To find out more, visit www.NoDrugsDownTheDrain.org.

It's Time to Reduce Your Watering Schedule

As the weather starts to cool you can safely turn off your automatic irrigation in late October, or sooner if the rainy season begins early.

- **Only water during extended dry periods**
- **Install a rain sensor on your automatic irrigation controller**
- **Continue routine irrigation system maintenance, checking for freeze damage and leaks**
- **Check your plumbing and irrigation pipe insulation before the winter freeze sets in**
- **Replace your irrigation controller backup batteries**

Keep in mind, irrigation systems left on during the rainy weather wastes water, costs you money and can cause flooding and/or possible property damage. For more information please contact the Water Conservation Division at 774-5761 or visit us at www.roseville.ca.us/savewater.

CITY OF ROSEVILLE CALIFORNIA

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Comments and suggestions are welcome—please send to the attention of Sean Bigley.

www.roseville.ca.us/eu

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