



City of Modesto

CITY PRIDE

March 2001

City Wide

CITY OF MODESTO SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE TO CITY RESIDENTS ONLY

PG&E offers Energy Partners Program to low income customers

PG&E is now registering qualified low-income customers for its Energy Partners Program. This program offers a free home audit and free energy efficiency upgrades that will help customers reduce their monthly bills, increase home comfort, and help the environment.

Qualified applicants may receive free compact fluorescent light bulbs, free weatherization, free insulation, and even free Energy Star-rated appliances.

The acceptance process may take several months, so residents are encouraged to enroll well before the high summer temperatures arrive.

Eligibility Requirements

This program is available for renters and owners. Eligibility is based on the income in relation to household size. There are two classes of eligible customers:

1. Those eligible for CARE rates
2. Seniors or disabled with eligible incomes.

How the Program Works

1. Eligible customers should call PG&E's toll-free Smarter Energy Line at (800) 933-9555 to participate in the Energy Partner Program. The PG&E representative will ask some basic questions (ad-



Modesto resident Betty Oliver is doing her part to conserve energy by hanging her laundry any time the sun shines.

dress, account number, etc.).

2. Within 90 days, PG&E will contact participant to schedule a home audit.

3. PG&E representative does home audit and safety inspection to determine which energy efficiency measures should be done.

4. PG&E gives the audit report to a qualified contractor, who calls the resident to schedule a visit to do the work.

All of the fees are paid for through the Public Goods Charge fund that all PG&E customers pay for every

VISIT THE CITY OF MODESTO ON THE INTERNET!
<http://www.ci.modesto.ca.us>



S P R I N G

Free energy efficiency measures

PG&E's Free Energy Efficiency Measures may include:

- Energy education
- Attic insulation
- Low flow shower heads
- Water heater blanket
- Door weather-stripping
- Caulking
- Minor home repair
- Attic venting
- Attic weather-stripping
- Reusable furnace filter
- Outlet gaskets
- Water heater pipe wrap
- Faucet aerator
- Refrigerator replacement
- Hardwired front porch fluorescent light
- Portable evaporative cooler (swamp cooler)
- Furnace repair/replacement
- Ceiling repair
- Floor repair
- Plumbing repair
- Wall repair
- Door repair/replacement
- Window repair/replacement
- Window glazing
- Window pane replacement

Call PG&E's Smarter Energy line at (800) 933-95 to sign up for the Energy Partners Program.

month on their bill. The program participant pays no additional fees or costs.

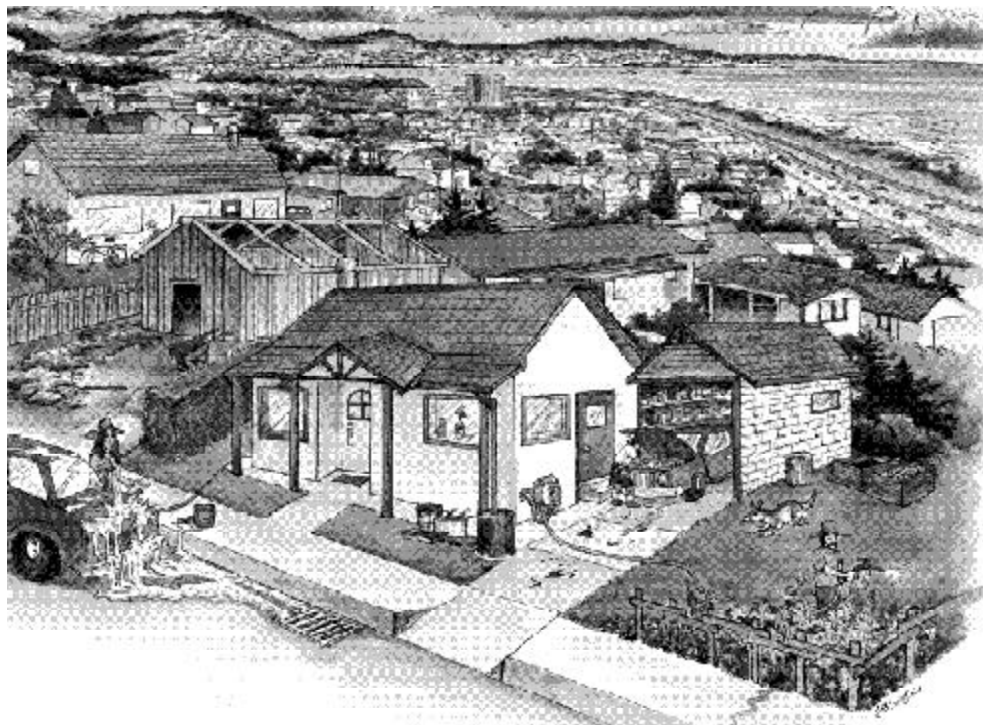
How To Participate

Call PG&E's Smarter Energy line at (800) 933-95 to sign up for the Energy Partners Program.

This information was provided by the Center for Resource Solutions in San Francisco. This program is offered to low income PG&E customers and is paid for by public goods charge funds which PG&E is obligated to spend on low income, energy efficient and renewable energy projects.

Who is responsible for Urban Runoff? ANSWER: U R

Before you pour anything on the ground, in a gutter or down a storm drain, stop and think about what you are doing!



URBAN RUNOFF otherwise known as storm drain pollution, is caused by motor oil, antifreeze, paints, fertilizers, pesticides, trash, and household chemicals that are poured or washed down neighborhood storm drains or rockwells. Everything that goes down a rockwell or storm drain flows into the groundwater system or directly into our creeks and rivers.

Eventually, the runoff reaches the San Joaquin Delta and San Francisco Bay.

Unlike the water that goes down the drains in kitchens and bathrooms, storm drain water is NOT cleansed at the city's sewage treatment facility.

Storm drains are not connected to household sewer systems. Storm drain pollutants flow directly into waterways and the ocean without treatment.

Dumping one quart of motor oil down a storm drain can pollute 250,000 gallons of water.

On a rainy day have you ever wondered what happens to...

- Motor oil on roads, highways, parking lots, driveways, and in storm drains?
- Old antifreeze discarded in storm gutters?
- Detergent from washing cars?
- Trash and grime from parking lots, sidewalks and streets?
- Fertilizers and pesticides from lawns and gardens?
- Bare soil on hillsides?
- Pet waste from lawns, streets, and sidewalks?

Pollution prevention tips to know

RECYCLE used motor oil. When changing your car's oil, prevent spills by placing cardboard under the oil pan. Use absorbent material such as kitty litter to clean up spills. Never pour used motor oil down storm drains, on the ground, or on driveways.



The City of Modesto offers several FREE programs to recycle used oil including Curbside Collection, Certified Collection Centers, and the City-County Hazardous Waste Facility. Do not mix used motor oil with antifreeze, transmission fluid, gasoline, or other contaminants. For more details, call the Used Oil Recy-

cling Hotline at 577-5493.

RECYCLE cars antifreeze. Never drain antifreeze directly onto the ground or street. It is poisonous to pets and wildlife which are attracted to its sweet smell and taste. Call 525-4123 for details.

INSPECT and maintain your car regularly to prevent leakage of oil, antifreeze, and other toxic fluids. Use a drip tray to catch leaks where your car is parked, or kitty litter to clean up existing spills.



WASH cars on unpaved surfaces or at a commercial car wash. Leftover soapy water should be poured down a household sink or toilet.

More tips for preventing pollution and protecting our waterways



RECYCLE unwanted chemicals such as paint, pesticides and toxic cleaners at the City-County Hazardous Waste Facility. Whenever possible, use non-toxic household products. Use toxic products sparingly and follow directions carefully. Always store chemicals out of children's reach. Never pour chemicals down storm drains, gutters or waterways. Call 525-4123 for details.



RINSE paint brushes in the sink when using water-based latex paint. Whenever possible, avoid using oil-based paint. Recycle unused paint, varnishes and solvents at the City-County Hazardous Waste Facility. Call 525-4123 for details.



CONTROL erosion at construction sites by preventing dirt and debris from entering gutters and storm drains. Use hay bales as a silt fence to prevent runoff. When pouring concrete, keep runoff out of storm drains and waterways as it clogs rockwells, pollutes groundwater, and hurts pets and wildlife.



USE non-toxic alternatives to pesticides and organic gardening techniques when possible. Plant native California species which need less water than imported varieties. Use herbicides, pesticides and fertilizers sparingly. Follow label instructions carefully. Do not apply products if rain is forecast. Never dump chemicals in gutters, storm drains or waterways. Never use motor oil to kill weeds, it can contaminate groundwater. Recycle unwanted toxic products at the City-County Hazardous Waste Facility. Call 525-4123 for more details.



SWEEP driveways, patios, and sidewalks rather than hosing them off into gutters and storm drains. Put lawn clippings and leaves in a compost pile or in your green waste garbage container.

WATER only your garden and lawn, not your driveways and sidewalks. Divert garden hoses and rain spouts away from paved surfaces to reduce the amount of water runoff entering storm drains. Use a rain barrel to collect water for watering flower beds and lawns.

PICK UP animal wastes regularly and dispose of in the toilet or black garbage container, not down the storm drain.



FREE BACKYARD COMPOSTING CLASSES

The City of Modesto is offering free backyard composting classes to Modesto residents.

Wednesday Classes

April 25, September 12, and October 24
Modesto Junior College • 6:30-8:30 p.m.
To register call 575-6063

BACKYARD COMPOST BINS - \$48.50 each
To order call the Solid Waste Office at 577-5495.



DID YOU KNOW...?

Californians buy more than 12 billion carbonated drinks in aluminum, glass, plastic and bimetal containers each year. Nearly 8 out of 10 of these beverage containers are recycled, saving natural resources, conserving energy and extending the life of our landfills.

Effective January 1, 2001 the California Redemption Value (CRV) has expanded to include non-carbonated soft drinks and vegetable juice cans (up to 16oz). CRV remains 2.5 cents on containers less than 24oz and 5 cents on containers 24oz or larger. There are more than 2,000 convenient recycling centers in California. For a center near you, call 1-800-RECYCLE.



Utility users tax refund available

Utility users refunds are available to households with an annual income of less than \$8,700.

If you have been a resident of Modesto (within the city limits) for the past year, have qualified annual income, and have utility bills issued in your name for electric, gas, telephone and/or water service, you may qualify for a refund of up to \$30 in Utility Users' Taxes.

Claim forms are available in the city's Finance Department, 1010 Tenth Street on the second floor. These forms must be completed and filed with the city between January 2 and April 15, 2001.

To qualify for a refund, you must be the person whose name appears on the utility bills. For more information about this refund, contact the City of Modesto Finance Department at 577-5207.



GOT TIRES?



The City of Modesto is hosting a **FREE TIRE COLLECTION EVENT**

where residents are invited to drop off waste tires.

Tires create a dangerous and unsightly blight throughout the City as they provide convenient shelter for unwanted rodents and insects, and provide a breeding ground for mosquitoes. Help Keep Modesto clean and blight free!

TIRE COLLECTION EVENT

- Date:** Saturday, May 12, 2001
Place: Modesto High School Parking Lot
 Corner of 1st & H Streets
Time: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Limits: Four (4) tires per coupon -- no size limit
 One (1) coupon per household
 Tires with or without rims OK
 Four (4) tires per vehicle

Limits will be STRICTLY enforced.

NO tires will be accepted without this coupon.

This event is for CITY OF MODESTO RESIDENTS ONLY!
Proof of residency is required
NO BUSINESSES OR DEALERS ALLOWED

Questions? Call the City of Modesto Solid Waste Office at 577-5494
 Funded by the California Integrated Waste Management Board

Mark your calendars for Earth Day 2001

Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 21, 2001, as Earth Day in the Park Festival 2001 comes to Modesto's Graceada Park! This fun filled and fast growing event promises to be a great day for all. Area schools are invited to join in the aluminum can recycling contest, while individuals can enter the "Spyglass Search" and earn fun prizes while learning to **"Focus on the Future."** Everyone will enjoy the great entertainment and delicious food.

Interested sponsors and vendors are encouraged to contact the Solid Waste Management Office at 577-5494. We would love to have you! See you at the Earth Day in the Park Festival, 2001!

Applications available for Recycling Awards

Applications for City of Modesto Business Recycling Awards 2001 are now available to any commercial business, organization, or non-profit group located or operating within the City of Modesto. Last year's winners included Memorial Hospitals Association, Modesto Disposal/Waste Management, Prime Shine Express Car Wash, Save Mart Supermarkets, Target #0273, Target #0838 and Mervyn's.

Applications are available at the city's Solid Waste Office, 1010 Tenth Street, Suite 4100, at the Modesto Chamber of Commerce at 1114 J Street, or by calling 577-5495. Winners will be publicly recognized by the city.



Buy one regular priced flat of flowers and get one bag of Mo-Gro Magic FREE or Buy 2 bags at regular price and receive third bag FREE
MUST PRESENT COUPON AT TIME OF PURCHASE
LIMIT 2 FLAT - BAGS PER COUPON
OFFER EXPIRES 4/15/2001

Available at these local nurseries:
Hischier's Nursery -- 1520 Standiford Avenue
Scenic Nursery -- 1313 Scenic Drive
Westurf -- 1612 Claus Road