



City of Modesto

CITY PRIDE

June 1999

City Wide

CITY OF MODESTO SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE TO CITY RESIDENTS ONLY

SUMMER



Photo by Bill Wood

Street maintenance services, such as paving, are supported through general fund revenues.

City of Modesto faces budget challenges

Recently, the City of Modesto and the Howard Jarvis and Stanislaus County taxpayers associations agreed to resolve a legal dispute regarding utility transfers.

As a result, the city will phase out revenue transfers from the city's water and sewer funds to the city's general fund.

What does this mean to citizens of Modesto?

First, it means that an expensive legal showdown that could have cost taxpayers up to \$10 million was avoided.

Second, it means the city can phase-out the transfer in a responsible and orderly way to minimize disruption

of vital public services.

Third, it means the city must eliminate \$3.5 million from its general fund.

The general fund supports services such as fire and police protection, recreation, street repairs, and traffic and park maintenance.

Under the agreement, the city may continue making limited fund transfers until June 30, 2001. The limited fund transfers translate into a \$1.8 million budget cut for the upcoming fiscal year starting July 1 and ending June 30, 2000.

An additional \$1.7 million must be eliminated from the city's general fund by June 30, 2001.

In return, the taxpayers

associations agreed to dismiss litigation against Modesto and agreed not to support local ballot initiatives that would limit the city's remaining fund transfers, require re-transfers back to the water and sewer enterprise funds, or provide retroactive refunds for past fund transfers.

Proposition 218 allows the city to reinstitute the fund transfers at some time in the future if approved by a majority of Modesto voters.

With help from the Modesto City Council-appointed Blue Ribbon Committee and citizen input, city staff is preparing budget options for council review.

Modesto City launches new & improved, interactive website

The City of Modesto recently launched a new and improved version of its city website. The new, interactive site allows surfers to receive updated information from city departments regarding services, programs and upcoming events.

Online residents can read messages and reports from the city manager, email Modesto City Councilmembers with comments, questions, or ideas, and download various information including copies of the council meeting minutes, news releases, and this citizen newsletter, CityPride.

It is important for local government to be as accessible as possible to the citizens it serves. For this reason, citizens also can email city staff with concerns regarding public safety, street, tree, park, traffic and dozens of other issues.

Check out the City of Modesto's new website at: www.ci.modesto.ca.us.

Community



■ Improving curbside oil recycling system

Each year, Modesto residents recycle approximately 22,000 gallons of used motor oil using the city's Curbside Collection Program.

In the past, residents simply placed the oil at the curb on their garbage collection day. However recent improvements to the program are making it more efficient. Please follow the guidelines below when recycling used motor oil.

- **Oil will be collected by appointment only.** Residents must call their garbage company no later than 4:00 p.m. the day before their garbage collection day to confirm an appointment. This should assure residents of a timely collection.

- **Place oil on your driveway near garage/house by 6:00 a.m.** Residents should no longer place oil containers at the curb. This will reduce the possibility of accidental spillage in the street or storm drain system.

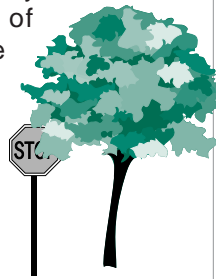
- **Pour oil into 1-gallon plastic containers with screw-top lids.** Up to four gallons may be placed out for recycling each week. This represents an increase from the previous 2-gallon limit.

If you have questions about the program or your garbage company, call the Used Oil Recycling Hotline at 577-5493.

■ Tree pruning near traffic control signs

Public safety is a primary concern of the City of Modesto.

One way of keeping the public safe is by ensuring traffic control signs are visible to motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians alike. Stop signs or other traffic control signs that are blocked by tree growth should be reported to the city's Community Forestry Division so that necessary pruning can be done. To report a tree, call 577-5363.



■ Mo-Gro Magic at a nursery near you

Modesto residents can purchase quality co-compost at many area nurseries. Mo-Gro Magic, produced by the City of Modesto, consists of clean-green waste and biosolids and is packaged in one cubic foot bags.

Mo-Gro Magic is priced at \$3.99 a bag and is available at:

- **Hischier's Nursery**
1520 Standiford Avenue
- **Scenic Nursery**
1313 Scenic Drive
- **Morris Nursery**
1837 Patterson Rd., Riverbank
- **Valley Nursery**
690 N. First Street, Turlock

■ Remember to recycle yard waste

The grass is growing, the flowers are blooming, and the bushes are getting trimmed.

Make sure that you recycle all that yard waste in your green can and place it out for collection on your garbage day.

Acceptable materials for recycling are grass, leaves, weeds, plant clippings, brush, and tree limbs less than four feet long and six inches in diameter.

Please, no extra garbage, plastic bags, recyclables, dirt, rocks, concrete, wood, hazardous materials, dog or cat manure.

By properly recycling your yard waste, you help contribute to the quality compost we make.

We appreciate your recycling efforts!

CHECK OUT THE CITY OF MODESTO'S NEW WEBSITE!

www.ci.modesto.ca.us



To Your Health
...and the health of our community
Make reading summer-time fun

Summer is a great time for children to read for pleasure, which helps them to maintain their current reading level while preparing them for years to come.

The Stanislaus County Library's Summer Reading Club is a great way to encourage children to read for fun while rewarding them with prizes.

For details about the Summer Reading Club or other special children's programs at the Modesto Library call 558-7810.



NEW HOURS!

CLEAN GREEN COMPOST
Buy One Yard, Get a 2nd Yard FREE! **\$10/yd*.**
*Bulk sales only Offer expires 6-30-99

One yard minimum charge.
Sales tax will be charged.
Limit 1 free yard per resident.

Modesto Residents Only.
From Modesto, take Carpenter Rd. south, right on Keyes Rd., left on Jennings Rd.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
MONDAY-FRIDAY
12:30-3:30 P.M.
SATURDAYS
8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

REMINDER: It is the customers' responsibility to cover their loads.

MODESTO COMPOSTING
7007 Jennings Road • Modesto • 538-2557