



Main Menu Recording
(209) 577-5200
TTD
(209) 526-9211
Web site
www.modestogov.com

GIVE THE GIFT OF GREEN... *deck the halls with less waste this year*

It is estimated that between Thanksgiving and the New Year an extra one million tons of waste is generated nationwide each week. In fact, 38,000 miles of ribbon is thrown out each year--enough to tie a bow around the Earth!

No-Waste Decorating Ideas

- Sprinkle real fall leaves or holly berries across the table for color. Gather from your neighborhood, just rinse off and pat dry.
- Use washable linens, dishes, glassware and silverware when hosting parties.

No-Waste Gift-Giving Ideas

- Not sure what to get someone? How about a gift certificate?
- Make gifts. Everyone appreciates a home-cooked meal or baked goodies.
- Tickets to a sporting event, movie, play or concert are a real treat!
- Make a charitable donation in someone's name.
- Take your own reusable bags when you go shopping.
- Think durable! Consider how long an item will last before you make a purchase. Often a less expensive item will wear out long before its more durable equivalent.
- Always remember to look for items made with recycled content.

Waste Reduction with Wrapping, Packaging and Greeting Cards

- Creative wrapping paper substitutes include used blueprint paper, the Sunday comics or even the sports section for a sports enthusiast. Design your own wrapping paper using paper shopping bags. Decorate them with paints, crayons or markers.
- Replace tissue paper with old lace or strips of paper shopping bags or used gift wrap.
- For large, hard to wrap gifts, just add a large fancy bow.
- Reuse sturdy decorative gift bags.
- Hide a large, unwieldy gift somewhere in the house or yard, and give the person a clue, or a series of clue cards, to lead them to the present.
- Make gift tags from last year's holiday cards.
- Shipping a gift? Reuse the foam peanuts from another package, or use un-buttered popcorn for packing.

Expanded Green Waste Program

The City of Modesto has expanded its green waste program to allow for collection of the organic items listed below:

- | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|
| • Food scraps | • Junk Mail | • Magazines | • Plants |
| • Fruits | • Paper Napkins | • Phone Books | • Weeds |
| • Vegetables | • Paper Towels | • Grass | • Clippings |
| • Newspaper | • Cardboard | • Leaves | • Brush |

Questions?
Call the Solid
Waste Division at
(209) 577-5494.

** Due to the cyclic nature of mailing the City Beat with the water/sewer/garbage bills, some of the events/programs may have already occurred.*

Watch Your Car... Thieves Are!

Make sure your car windows are closed, take the keys, lock the car and **DO NOT** leave anything in plain sight. Park your vehicle inside your garage.

DO NOT leave your vehicle running and unattended!

If you see anything suspicious, call (209) 552-2470 or 911. For more information, call the Modesto Police Department Crime Prevention Unit (209) 572-9500.

Waste Tire Recycling Program

City of Modesto residents can recycle their waste tires for free! To take advantage of this great program there are two things you must do:

1. Call your garbage company and request a coupon be mailed to you:
 - Gilton Solid Waste: (209) 527-3781
 - Bertolotti Disposal: (209) 537-8000
2. Take the coupon and your waste tires to your garbage company for free disposal on the following dates:
 - December 7-13, 2008
 - January 4-10, 2009
 - February 2-7, 2009

The program has a few guidelines:

- City of Modesto residents only; no businesses.
- Tires with rims and tires of all sizes are okay.

Questions? Call the Solid Waste Division at (209) 577-5494.

This program was made possible by a grant from the California Integrated Waste Management Board.

Year-round watering schedule for City of Modesto customers.

	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
IF YOUR ADDRESS IS...	ODD	DO NOT WATER	EVEN	ODD	EVEN	ODD	EVEN
MIDNIGHT TO NOON	WATER		WATER	WATER	WATER	WATER	WATER
NOON - 7:00 PM			DO NOT WATER				
7:00 PM - MIDNIGHT	WATER		WATER	WATER	WATER	WATER	WATER

ODD NUMBERED ADDRESSES END IN 1, 3, 5, 7, 9
EVEN NUMBERED ADDRESSES END IN 0, 2, 4, 6, 8

For more information,
or to report water waste call 209.342.4580



WINTER FIRE SAFETY TIPS

It's winter! The days are shorter and the temperature is lower. Winter brings a change in season and a time to think about home-heating safety.

Home heating equipment causes more than 60,000 home fires and hundreds of deaths each year. By taking a few simple precautions, most heating-related fires can be prevented.

The **National Fire Protection Association** has developed the following safety tips to help you stay warm and safe this winter:

- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet from heating equipment (furnace, wood stove or portable heater).
- **Do not use your oven to heat your home.**
- Portable space heaters should be turned off every time you leave the room and before going to bed.
- When buying a portable heater, choose a device with automatic shut-off features.
- Make sure your fireplace has a sturdy screen to prevent sparks from flying into the room.
- Allow fireplace and wood stove ashes to cool before disposing in a metal container.
- Have heating equipment and chimneys inspected and cleaned every year.
- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home. Test smoke alarms monthly.
- Install carbon monoxide alarms to avoid the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Have a multi-purpose ABC fire extinguisher readily available and know how to use it.

Remember... homes are replaceable, lives are not.

HOLIDAY GARBAGE ROUTE CHANGES

Garbage service will run one day late for all Thursday and Friday route customers for the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's holidays. No other routes will be affected. **Thursday routes will be picked up on Friday and Friday routes will be picked up on Saturday.**

Remember, Modesto's garbage companies take only four holidays per year; New Years Day, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas.