

# CalRECYCLE

News from the California Integrated Waste Management Board

fall 2009



The California Integrated Waste Management Board is the state's leading authority on recycling and waste reduction. It promotes reducing waste whenever possible, managing all materials to their highest and best use, and protecting public health and safety and the environment.

## ***Major changes ahead***

The California Integrated Waste Management Board will be eliminated as of January 1, 2010, but nearly all of its authority and resources will transfer to a new recycling department. *Read more...*

## ***Discarding less***

State's new waste measurement formula shows continued progress by California jurisdictions toward California's zero waste goal.

*Read more...*

## ***New waste technologies on horizon***

Conversion technologies, processes for converting municipal solid waste into energy, are aiding California's battle against global warming. *Read more...*

## ***Commercial recycling***

Rulemaking under way for upcoming mandatory commercial and multifamily recycling program in California. *Read more...*

## ***Recycling success story***

The City of San Jose has become a national leader with its recycling program for multifamily housing. *Read more...*

## ***Transition to DTV***

The summer switchover from analog to digital television signals did not send a wave of older television sets to recycle bins. *Read more...*

## ***Curriculum review***

The Education and the Environment Initiative moves closer to bringing comprehensive environmental instruction to California classrooms. *Read more...*

## ***Don't throw it away***

A global product reuse network gains millions of new devotees thanks to a two-year support program from the California Integrated Waste Management Board. *Read more...*



## Multi-Family Recycling Program: San Jose Sets Example

Since July 2008, waste from multifamily complexes has been delivered to a new, state-of-the-art, 300-kilowatt solar-powered processing facility operated by GreenWaste Recovery in central San Jose.

Recyclables are sorted and the remaining organic waste, including food, is then composted at the Z-Best facility in Gilroy.

After 10 months of operation, data shows that multifamily properties are now diverting nearly 80 percent of their waste from local landfills (54,000 tons annually), giving San Jose the best performing municipal multifamily recycling program in the nation. This equates to an annual greenhouse gas reduction of almost 50,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide – equivalent to removing 9,000 vehicles from the road.

The City of San Jose partnered with the local division of the California Apartment Association (CAA Tri-County), representing over 3,000 members.

“This is a win-win approach,” said Joshua Howard, CAA Tri-County Executive Director. “Rather than imposing mandates on local housing providers and residents, it taps ingenuity for a cleaner and greener solution. Of course, we will continue to work with rental property owners, managers, and their residents to encourage residential recycling so that it simply becomes part of the San Jose lifestyle.”

This addition to the city’s “Recycle Plus” program represents a major step towards achieving Zero Waste, one of the 10 ambitious goals of San Jose’s Green Vision, a comprehensive plan approved by the San Jose City Council in October 2007 and aimed at transforming the city into a leader in environmental innovation and sustainability.

In addition to the 65 employees at the GreenWaste facility, the new program is also assisting the City of San Jose in achieving its Green Vision goal of 25,000 “clean-tech” jobs by 2022 – an accomplishment of particular note given the current economic climate.

—Donna Perala is Residential Program Manager and Jeff Anderson is Residential Program Supervisor for San Jose’s multifamily housing recycling program.