

# STANISLAUS COUNTY

Department of Environmental Resources



## 2017 ANNUAL REPORT



# 2017

## Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors

Kristin Olsen   Vito Chiesa   Terry Withrow   Dick Monteith   Jim DeMartini  
District 1        District 2        District 3        District 4        District 5

Board of Supervisors' Priority:  
***Delivering Efficient Public Services and  
Community Infrastructure*** to benefit residents  
and businesses

### DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES MISSION STATEMENT:

The Department of Environmental Resources strives to promote a safe and healthy environment and improve the quality of life in our community through a balance of science, education, partnerships and environmental regulation.

# FISCAL SERVICES

Compliance Organization Accountability Leadership Ethics Knowledge Support Budgets Information  
Accuracy Payments Collections Grant Funding and Monitoring Transparency Efficiency Sustainability

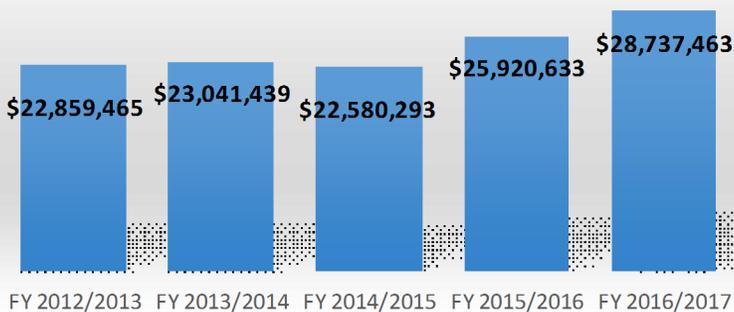
**F**iscal Services is responsible for the diligent and accurate management of 21 budget units and over 40 different departmental funds. The department's financial goals are met through careful analysis and budgeting, grant funding, and fees for services collected.

**DER's Proposed  
FY 17/18  
Total Operating  
Budget is  
\$38,564,436**

**The increase is  
due to several  
large projects  
scheduled for  
completion in  
FY 17/18**

<b>21 Budgets</b>
<b>Manage/Track over 40 Funds</b>
<b>Accounts Payable</b>
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>
<b>Purchase Orders</b>
<b>Vendor Insurance Approval</b>
<b>Contract Functions</b>
<b>Grant Administration</b>
<b>3 Different Payrolls (DER, Parks &amp; Recreation, and the Landfill)</b>
<b>2 Different Billing Systems</b>
<b>Program Billing Reconciliations</b>
<b>Special Projects</b>

**DER Operating Budget FYs 12/13 - 16/17**



**DER Fee Revenue - FY 2016-2017**



**A**ccounting collects payments via mail, online, phone, journal vouchers, and in-person for fines, fees for services, grant claims, change of ownerships, plan reviews, permits, and various State surcharges. All of Environmental Resources' program accounts are maintained, invoiced, and processed through the accounting office.

**Note:** The Fiscal Services Operating Budget and Fee Revenue statistics provided in this DER Annual Report do not reflect the Parks and Recreation Department's Operating Budget, Revenue, or accounting and budget functions that are also performed by the Department's Accounting Division.

# C

Code

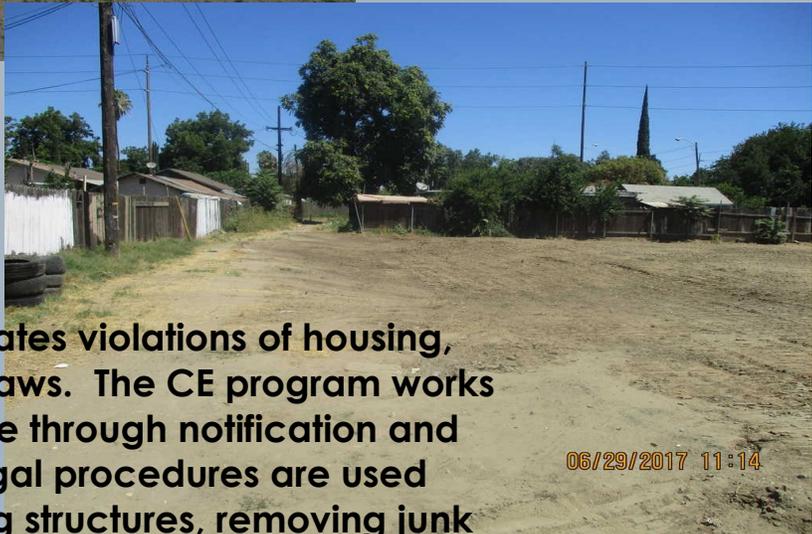
# E

Enforcement



Before

After



**Code Enforcement (CE) investigates violations of housing, zoning and vehicle abatement laws. The CE program works to achieve voluntary compliance through notification and education. When necessary, legal procedures are used including civil citations, boarding structures, removing junk and rubbish, towing abandoned vehicles, and abating other nuisance conditions. The goal is to maintain and improve property values and the quality of life for residents, visitors and business owners.**

In 2017, the Environmental Resources Department maintained code enforcement by investigating **1,306** complaints regarding environmental concerns such as illegal dumping, refuse disposal and nuisances creating health & safety issues as follows:

- ◇ **127** Investigated complaints of improper or illegal use of recreational vehicles being used for permanent occupancy
- ◇ **439** Performed zoning enforcement activities related to non-permitted or illegal land use
- ◇ **69** Investigated complaints associated with vehicle storage yards, junkyards and automobile dismantlers
- ◇ **394** Investigated abandoned vehicles complaints
- ◇ **47** Investigated complaints of vacant structures with uncontrolled access
- ◇ **230** Investigated complaints for unlawful accumulations of junk, refuse and rubbish
- ◇ In addition to investigating these 1,306 environmental complaints, CE also investigated **394** graffiti complaints.

# Code Enforcement Assists to....

- ◆ Help in the fight to reduce crime and improve quality of life.
- ◆ Protect health and safety.
- ◆ Help maintain property values.
- ◆ Prevent the physical and aesthetic deterioration of our community.

## CE STAFF:

- 1 Code Enforcement Manager
- 4 Zoning Enforcement Officers (ZEO)
- 1 Deputy ZEO
- 1 Graffiti Abatement ZEO
- 1 Park Aide
- 1 Administrative Secretary

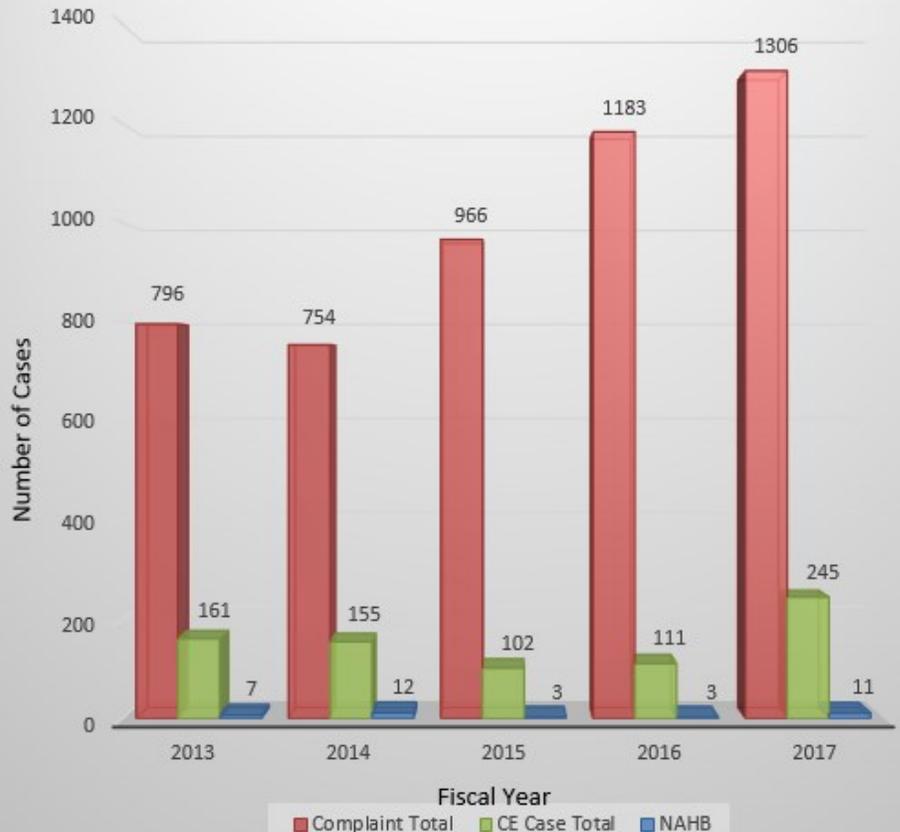
**In 2017, CE responded to 394 abandoned vehicle complaints and verified and abated 106 abandoned vehicles.**



CE strives to achieve voluntary compliance through education and personal contact. A CE case is opened when a zoning violation is confirmed and voluntary compliance is not achieved within a reasonable time; typically 30 days of a complaint received.

If enforcement becomes necessary, a Notice and Order to Abate and subsequent citations are issued. In these instances, staff continue to work with the property owner via compliance inspections to ensure a good faith effort is made to correct violations within a reasonable time; typically 45 days of opening a CE case. If violations remain after staff efforts and citations, then Nuisance Abatement Hearing Board (NAHB) enforcement may be utilized as a last resort. Stanislaus County has seen a steady rise in the number of zoning related complaints. The chart identifies trends over the past 5 years.

Department of Environmental Resources  
Code Enforcement  
Complaints, Cases, and NAHB  
Comparison



# Environmental Health

## Environmental Health (EH) Programs Include:

- Body Art Program
- Food Program
- Liquid Waste / Land Use Program
- Recreational Health Program
- Water Program

**F**ood Program: EH enforces the California Retail Food Code by providing routine and follow-up inspections, conducting food-related complaint investigations, and reviewing plans of food facilities. At this time, there are over 2,100 Permitted Food Facilities and about 350 Mobile Food Facilities in the county.

All EH's food-related inspections can be found on <http://sbtapp1.co.stanislous.ca.us/DERFoodFacilities/>. The site allows users to search by facility name, street name or by city.



### EH Staff:

- 1 Program Manager
- 5 Senior Environmental Health Specialists
- 3 Environmental Health Specialist III's (1 Extra Help)
- 4 Environmental Health Specialist II's
- 7 Environmental Health Specialist I's (2 Extra Help)
- 1 Administrative Secretary

**B**ody Art Program: EH enforces the Safe Body Art Act, which regulates tattooing, permanent cosmetics, branding, and piercing. The Department provides routine and follow-up inspections, conducts body art-related complaint investigations, reviews plans of body art facilities, and processes all body art practitioner registrations annually. At this time, there are over 70 permitted body art facilities and about 155 registered practitioners in the county.

**R**ecreational Health Program: EH enforces the State and Local health codes at all public, commercial and multi-family residence Pools and Spas in Stanislaus County. The Department provides routine and follow-up inspections, conducts recreational health-related complaint investigations, and reviews plans of pools and spas. At this time, there are over 420 public pools and spas in the county.



# Environmental Health

**D**epartment of Environmental Resources is the local primacy agency for the State Waterboards and is responsible for State Small Water Systems and Public Water Systems that have less than 200 connections in Stanislaus County. The Department monitors water quality of these water systems routinely and takes appropriate actions to ensure the water quality meets State standards. At this time, there are over 210 State Small and Public Water Systems in the County. The Department also oversees the construction and destruction of domestic, irrigation, agriculture, and industrial wells in the unincorporated area of the county. Last year, the Department issued over 250 water well installation/destruction permits.



## In 2017:

- Inspected **2,105** Food Facilities and **352** Mobile Food Facilities
- Conducted **353** food-related complaint inspections.
- Inspected **429** pools/spas
- Resolved **279** Housing complaints
- Issued **157** septic repair permits and **251** water well permits

## Stanislaus County Drinking Water Inspections and Enforcement Actions



**E**nvironmental Health is responsible for all onsite wastewater treatment systems in the unincorporated area of the County that produce less than 10,000 gallons of wastewater per day. The Department conducts inspections on the new installations and repairs of these systems. Last year, DER drafted Stanislaus County's Local Agency Management Program Plan, and it was approved by the Regional Water Quality Control Board. The plan will become effective in May 2018. The Department issued over 150 onsite wastewater treatment system repair permits last year.

## During the 2017 Floods, EH responded by:

- ◇ Collaborating with the Agricultural Commissioner and the Office of Emergency Services, in assessing and documenting minor and major flood damage to residential and commercial properties. This documentation was utilized to request assistance from the State and Federal government in declaring an emergency.
- ◇ Reviewing and inspecting prospective locations for possible shelter activation with the Red Cross. This included available space for beds, restroom facilities, number of showers available, duration of location availability for shelter use, and possible pet accommodations.
- ◇ Assessing properties at risk of surfacing sewage, which is septic system damage due to water saturating house and/or farm septic systems.

# Groundwater

## Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (SGMA) changed the landscape of groundwater management in California. SGMA sets the framework for statewide sustainable groundwater management and declares that such authority be given to local public agencies that have either water supply or land use authority, or both. SGMA requires, among other items, the formation of a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) and preparation of Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) focusing on long term groundwater sustainability.

## 2017 Formation of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs)

Environmental Resources completed the formation of the necessary GSAs in 2017. Stanislaus County is a participating member in 5 GSAs. Public and private water agencies and user groups within each of the following groundwater subbasins work together as a GSA to implement SGMA:

### 1. Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Subbasin

Portion of Stanislaus County occurring north of the Stanislaus River commonly referred to as the “northern triangle”

### 2. Modesto Groundwater Subbasin

Area of land located between the Tuolumne and Stanislaus Rivers, occurring west of the Sierra Nevada Foothills and east of the San Joaquin River.

### 3. Turlock Groundwater Subbasin (East)

Area of land located between the Tuolumne and Merced Rivers, occurring west of the Sierra Nevada Foothills

### 4. Turlock Groundwater Subbasin (West)

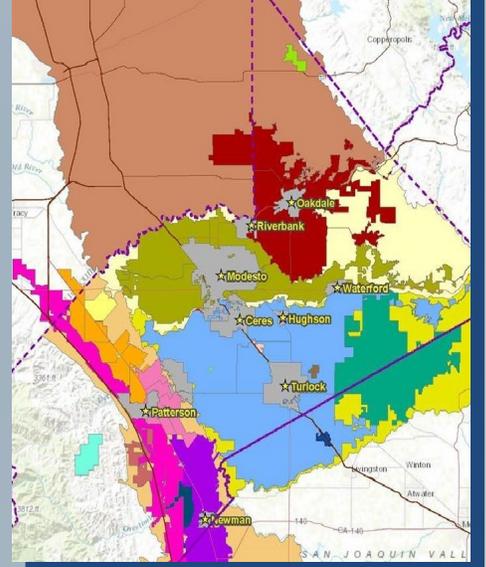
Area of land located between the Tuolumne and Merced Rivers, occurring east of the San Joaquin River

### 5. Delta-Mendota Groundwater Subbasin

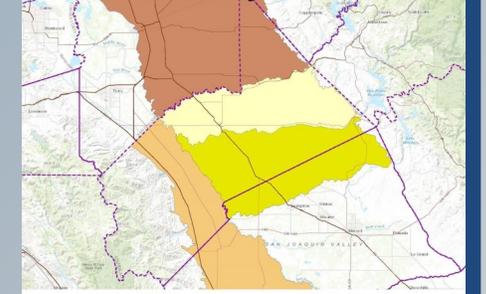
Area of land within Stanislaus County located west of the San Joaquin River and east of the basement rock of the Coast Range

## The formation of the GSAs were completed in 2017

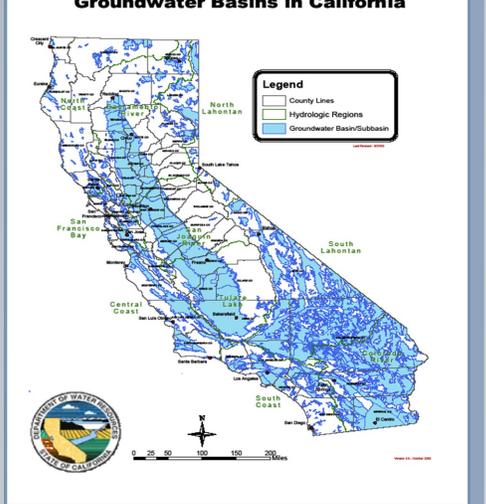
### Stanislaus County Water Agencies



### Stanislaus County Water Basins



### Groundwater Basins in California



# Groundwater

## **Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR)**

The County was awarded a \$250,000 grant from the Department of Water Resources to prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) that facilitates implementation of its Groundwater Ordinance, streamlines the permit application and review process for new wells, and provides a foundation for development of future Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) under SGMA. The PEIR will integrate and evaluate impacts associated with existing water and groundwater management efforts throughout the County in light of forecasted water supply and demand, land use trends, and well permitting activities. In preparing the PEIR, the County engaged stakeholders throughout the County to build on the extensive history of groundwater management planning and related technical studies that have been completed. As such, the objective of the PEIR is not only to benefit the well permitting process, but also to contribute to County-wide collaboration and technical analysis that supports preparation and implementation of GSPs. In 2017, Stanislaus County Environmental Resources continued to prepare the PEIR with local stakeholder input. The goal is to have a certified final PEIR by June 2018, that meets all requirements of CEQA.

## **Groundwater Ordinance (GWO)**

Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors adopted a Groundwater Ordinance (GWO) in 2014 to address sustainable groundwater management and export of groundwater from the County. The GWO codifies requirements, prohibitions, and exemptions that assure sustainable groundwater extraction from new wells. The ordinance framework is structured primarily on the principles of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (SGMA).

## **PEIR Objectives**

- ⇒ Streamline CEQA review and technical evaluation for discretionary well permit applications
- ⇒ Create more robust technical basis for well permitting program
- ⇒ Begin data compilation, model construction and evaluation efforts that will help inform GSAs in groundwater management planning and GSP development
- ⇒ Scheduled for completion in June 2018

# Hazardous Materials

HM Division staff includes a Program Manager, 3 Senior Environmental Health Specialists, 4 Environmental Health Specialist III's, 3 Environmental Health Specialist II's, 2 Environmental Health Specialist I's, 2 Hazardous Materials Technicians, a Part Time Hazardous Materials Technician, 2 Park Aides Extra Help, and an Administrative Secretary.

**Hazardous Materials Division (HazMat)** regulates and inspects **3,615** businesses that handle hazardous materials and medical waste, maintains an emergency response team, operates the Permanent Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility (HHW), and approves permits for installing/constructing and destroying groundwater monitoring wells and soil borings/geotechnical borings.

## CUPA

On January 1, 1997, Stanislaus County was certified by the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal EPA) to be the Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) for all of Stanislaus County. In its capacity as a CUPA, the County, by and through the Hazardous Materials Division of the Department of Environmental Resources, administers the following programs, pursuant to the authorities granted by the California Health and Safety Code §25404:

- Hazardous Materials Business Plan Program (HMBP)
- California Accidental Release Prevention Program (CalARP)
- Hazardous Waste Generator Program
- Tiered Permitting Program
- Underground Storage Tank (UST)

2,144 Inspections



Issued **117** Monitoring Well permits



**145** Complaints    **78** Emergency Responses

## Stanislaus County Area Plan



The HazMat staff are also responsible for the development and update of the Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan which establishes specific emergency management policies and procedures for coordinating Stanislaus County's integrated response to hazardous materials incidents. By developing this plan, both businesses and government agencies are better prepared to respond to hazardous materials incidents, thus minimizing potential risks to life, property and the environment.



## HazMat Emergency Responders

DER Hazardous Materials Emergency Responders are available to respond to all hazardous materials and other environmental health emergencies in Stanislaus County 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. HazMat has 12 CSTI (California Special-

ized Training Institute) certified hazardous materials specialists and two specialists on the Stanislaus Countywide Hazardous Materials Response Level A Team. All team members participate in specialized training, such as the Live Ammonia Release Drill in November 2017.



**2017 Community & Outreach Training:**

- Ammonia Live Event Response Training
- Central Valley Chemical Safety Day
- CalARP/RMP Workshop Training
- Hazardous Waste Generator Workshop



**Outreach Events:**

- Earth Day
- 6th Annual Chemical Safety Day Stanislaus
- America Recycles Day
- 4 Drop the Drugs events in partnership with Stanislaus County Behavioral Health and Sheriffs Departments

**Committee Participation:**

- Local Emergency Planning Committee (Local Environmental Position)
- CUPA FORUM Board Member
- Central Valley Chemical Safety Committee (Chair)
- Stanislaus County Emergency Response Team (Technical Reference)



**CESQG** The HHW facility is home to a Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator (CESQG) Program. Businesses that generate less than 220 lbs of hazardous waste per month may apply with the Department. Approved CESQG businesses can bring hazardous wastes to the HHW facility on Wednesdays by appointment only.

**2017 Floods and HazMat response:**

HazMat collaborated with the Office of Emergency Services in assessing and documenting any potential hazardous material/hazardous waste entering the rivers from residential and commercial properties. This documentation was utilized to request assistance from the State and Federal government in declaring an emergency. HazMat was part of a team performing inspections along the river assessing impacted areas for potential hazardous material/hazardous waste concerns.

**HHW Facility 2017**

**106**  
CESQG  
Businesses



**8,000**  
Households  
served



**HHWCF**  
Permanent Site  
**749,000 lbs**

**31**  
TEMP EVENTS  
**488,356 lbs**

**Sharps: 8,142 lbs**  
**Universal waste: 47,526 lbs**

**Electronic waste: 251,766 lbs**

**Reuse Program**

The HHW Facility has a reuse program for any items that are received in new or near-new condition. They are set aside and stored in a separate reuse structure opened once a month to the public to take home any products that they can use. This helps residents save money on expensive supplies and diverts those products away from landfills and treatment/disposal facilities.

**The HHW Facility collected over 45,435 pounds of reuse products in 2017.**



[facebook.com/StanislausHHW](https://facebook.com/StanislausHHW)



[stancounty.com/er/hazmat/pdf/household-hazardous-waste.pdf](https://stancounty.com/er/hazmat/pdf/household-hazardous-waste.pdf)

# Landfill

**T**he **Fink Road Sanitary Landfill** is owned by Stanislaus County and is operated by the Department of Environmental Resources. The Landfill has been providing municipal solid waste services to Ceres, Hughson, Modesto, Newman, Oakdale, Patterson, Riverbank, Turlock, Waterford, and the unincorporated areas of Stanislaus County since its opening in 1973. It is open to all private citizens, businesses, school districts and local government agencies.



**Landfill vs. Dump...** A modern landfill is a site engineered to contain solid waste and prevent contamination of air and groundwater. A garbage dump is an unmanaged pile of refuse without control of environmental impacts or scavengers. The Fink Road Sanitary Landfill is a Class III landfill for nonhazardous municipal solid waste.

Landfill staff includes 2 Program Managers, a Lead Worker, 3 Landfill Equipment Operator III's, 3 Landfill Equipment Operator II's, 4 Landfill Equipment Operator I's (2 Extra Help), an Account Technician, 3 Account Clerk III's (1 Extra Help), 4 Park Aides (2 Extra Help), and 2 Staff Services Coordinators (Extra Help).



In 2017, the Landfill purchased a new Caterpillar 623K Wheel Tractor Scraper and a Caterpillar 420F Backhoe. These new pieces of equipment assist in moving dirt to cover the trash daily and maintain storm drains, ponds and organize our recycling area.



# Landfill

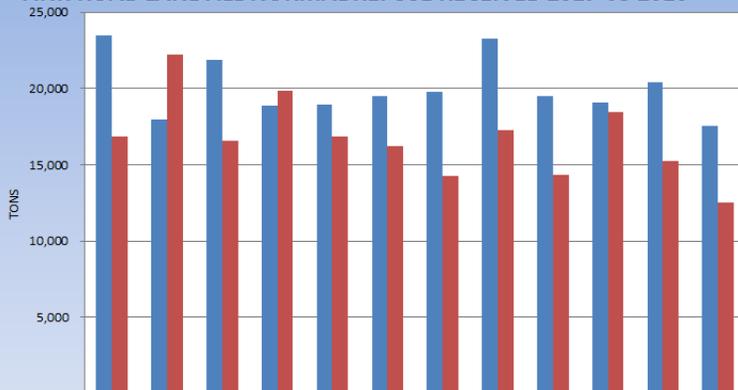
4000 Fink Road  
 P.O. Box 86  
 Crows Landing,  
 California 95313  
 Main: (209) 837-4800  
 Fax: (209) 837-4802  
 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.,  
 Monday - Saturday  
 Closed on Sundays,  
 July 4th, Thanksgiving  
 Day, Christmas Day,  
 New Year's Day, and  
 after 12:00pm on  
 Christmas Eve

**A** **Accepted Waste:** The landfill accepts most industrial, commercial, and residential waste, including: household and commercial garbage, construction debris, roofing materials, non-friable asbestos, animal remains, and concrete/inert materials. Some materials have separate environmental requirements or pricing and you must notify the attendant if you are unloading: televisions, computers, or electronics, appliances (washing machines, dryers, refrigerators, etc.), mattresses, tires, large and/or bulky items or waste that requires special handling.

The landfill does not accept: car bodies, septic tank waste, liquid waste (including but not limited to sludge, paints, thinners, and used oils)\*, cannery waste, closed containers, car and household batteries\*, and fluorescent light bulbs\*.

\* Many of these items not accepted at the landfill may be taken to the Household Hazardous Waste collection center or a mobile event.

**FINK ROAD LANDFILL NORMAL REFUSE RECEIVED 2017 VS 2016**

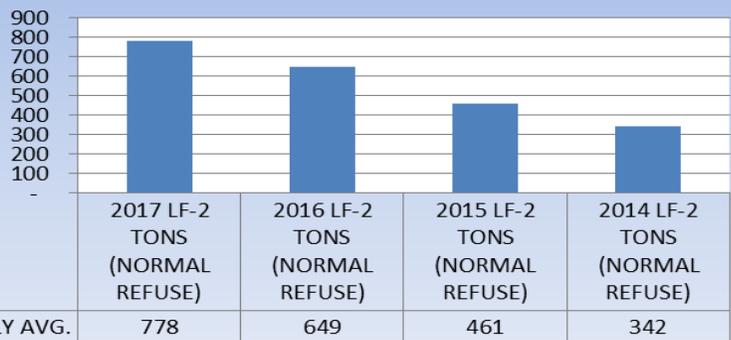


MONTH	2017 LF-2 TONS (NORMAL REFUSE)	2016 LF-2 TONS (NORMAL REFUSE)
JAN	23,500	16,849
FEB	17,974	22,218
MAR	21,844	16,572
APR	18,853	19,853
MAY	18,920	16,849
JUN	19,467	16,252
JUL	19,809	14,234
AUG	23,277	17,254
SEP	19,505	14,343
OCT	19,077	18,440
NOV	20,392	15,259
DEC	17,518	12,545

Landfill crews responded to approximately 1,277 illegal dumpsite reports, an increase of 59% from 2016, and picked up approximately 631 tons of refuse, an increase of 73% from 2016.

Roadside cleanup crews collected and recycled over 3,423 illegally dumped tires. 1,300 of those were recycled through the tire amnesty collection program

**NORMAL REFUSE TONS DAILY AVG. 2014 TO 2017**



# Milk and Dairy

## The Environmental Resources Department oversees the Milk & Dairy Industry as follows:

- ◇ Inspects market milk ("Grade A") and manufacturing grade ("Grade B") dairy farms for conformance with quality and sanitation requirements
- ◇ Samples milk at the producer level and conducts an analysis for bacterial content and the presence of contaminants, to ensure safety.
- ◇ Routinely collects water samples and analyzes for compliance with standards.
- ◇ Investigates consumer complaints and follows up with appropriate actions.
- ◇ Condemns milk and milk products that may be unfit or unsafe for human consumption.



### Did you Know:

Stanislaus County produces 1.2 million gallons of milk a day from 160,000 cows.

In the 2017 Statewide Federal Inspections, Stanislaus County ranked #1 in cow dairies, #2 in sheep dairies and #3 in goat dairies. This is a direct reflection of the DER Milk and Dairy Program's quality in inspections and enforcement.

In the 2017 Floods, dairy farms were at risk of flooding from the Tuolumne and San Joaquin Rivers in Stanislaus County. The Department coordinated and developed plans with local dairies to move cows if necessary. 700 dairy cows were moved.



# Milk and Dairy

## A New Robotic Dairy in 2017:

Stanislaus County has received its first Robotic Dairy. This state of the art robotic dairy consists of 10 robotic milkers capable of milking 600 cows, three times per day.

Once the cow walks up to the milking box, their collar sends a signal to the main computer to see if she is ready to be milked. If she is, the process will start. If not the gate will open and the cow will exit.

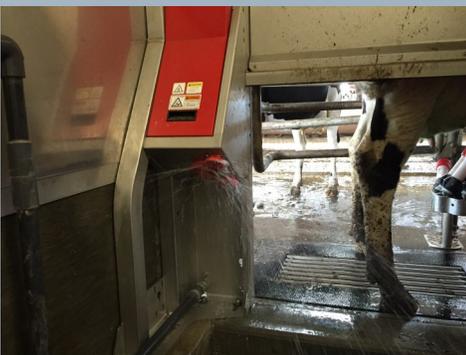
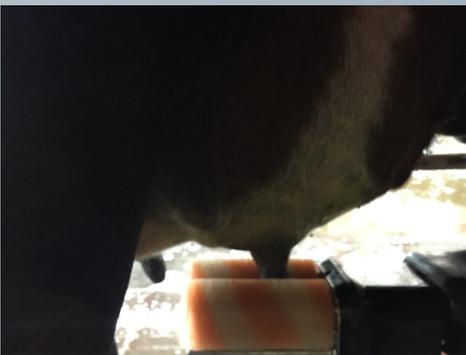
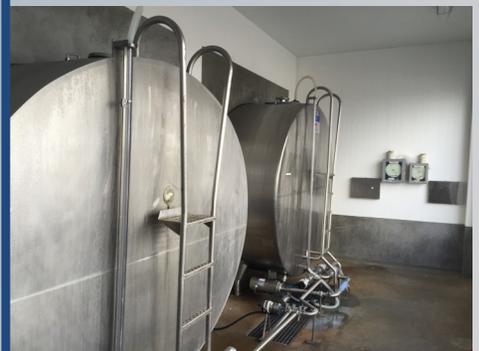
The teat preparation begins and the laser will find the teats and scrub them twice. To entice the cow, grain is fed at a rate equal to the individual cow's average milking time. The computer monitors each quarter time of milking.

The cup holders and floor are rinsed and the milk is pumped to the milkhouse, stored at 45 degrees or less until a milk tanker picks up the milk.



### Did You Know?

Stanislaus County has 1 of 3 robotic milking dairies in the State of California. Stanislaus County's robotic dairy is the largest in California with 10 robots currently operating.



# S Solid W Waste



SW staff includes a Program Manager, Staff Services Coordinator, Staff Services Analyst, Senior Environmental Health Specialist, Senior Resource Management Specialist, 2 Resource Management Specialist III's, 2 Environmental Technicians, a Park Aide and an Administrative Secretary.

The Solid Waste recycling mascot, Willy Recycle, has a Facebook page keeping followers updated on environmental happenings within Stanislaus County. Reuse, repurpose and recycling, along with zero waste sustainability are posts that have been well liked. The page includes public events such as Earth Day, America Recycles Day, the July Filter Exchange Event, Green Night with the Modesto Nuts and Second Chance Week.

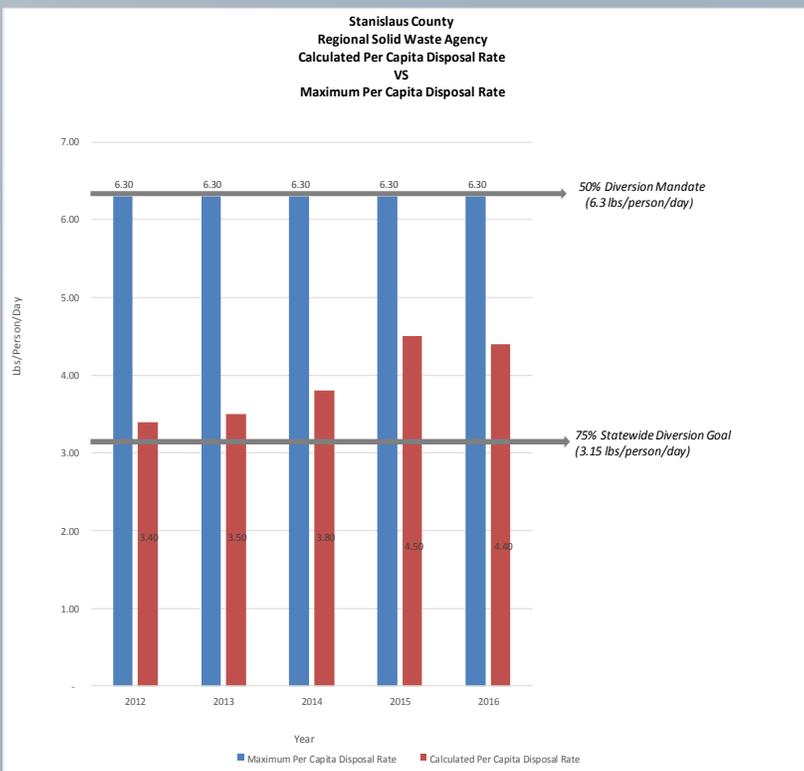
The Stanislaus County Regional Solid Waste Planning Agency consistently meets the State's 50% diversion mandate and continues to work towards the goal of the State that not less than 75% of solid waste generated be source separated, reduced, recycled or composted by the year 2020.

### Mandatory Commercial Recycling

On October 6, 2011, Governor Brown signed Assembly Bill (AB) 341 into law. AB 341 provides authority for the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to implement a mandatory commercial recycling program statewide. This law went into effect July 1, 2012.

With the passage of AB 341, State law requires all businesses that generate 4 or more cubic yards of waste weekly and all multi-family complexes of 5 or more units to recycle. The purpose of this law is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by diverting commercial solid waste from landfills and expand opportunities for recycling in California.

Solid Waste is identifying these qualifying business and multi-family units and providing the education and outreach in order for them to achieve compliance. Since the implementation of AB 341, we currently realize a 92% compliance for qualifying businesses and a 60% compliance rate for multi-family complexes. Outreach and education efforts will continue through 2018 and beyond.



# Solid Waste

DER sponsored five "Crazy Bottles and Cans" shows focusing on the importance of reuse, recycling and preserving natural resources. The show was presented to three elementary schools within the unincorporated area reaching over 1,000 students .

Staff conducted 27 recycling/stormwater school presentations reaching over 700 K-8 students. A preschool litter library program was conducted at 10 County libraries engaging over 100 children.



## [www.stancounty.com/er/solidwaste](http://www.stancounty.com/er/solidwaste)

The Solid Waste Management Division's website, includes information on the Department's various programs and services offered, including: the Refuse Control Ordinance, permit applications for the Food Processing By-products Program, links to franchise hauler information, mattress recycling, used oil and used oil filter recycling, holiday recycling, tire recycling, curbside recycling and composting. The site provides information on upcoming events and available programs such as: school and library recycling presentations, school recycling poster calendar contest, the July Filter Exchange Event, Second Chance Week, Green Night with the Modesto Nuts, Earth Day, and America Recycles Day. The site also includes resources for low interest loans available to certain recycling businesses through the Stanislaus County Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) program. Additionally, the site includes information on the residential Bulky Item Collection Program and current recycling regulations such as Mandatory Commercial Recycling and Mandatory Organics Recycling. You can also find the Stanislaus County Recycling Guide which is a comprehensive guide to available diversion programs, recycling and reuse services and a listing of fun and informative web sites for children and adults.

### The Solid Waste Stormwater Program outreach efforts include:

- Conducting over 600 stormwater surveys
- Creating a stormwater brochure which was directly mailed to over 20,000 County residents.
- Creating a postcard and mailed out to over 450 businesses which have the potential for water runoff
- Created a brochure addressing the elimination of green waste entering the storm drains and lastly
- Created a "Cover Your Load" card which is distributed at the landfill and three county transfer stations to vehicles entering without a tarp covering the material to be disposed.

[www.stanislausrecycles.org](http://www.stanislausrecycles.org) The Solid Waste Division developed and maintains a separate web site dedicated to recycling. It allows county residents to enter their address and the material they want to recycle and/or properly dispose of and the site will show the locations closest to them. The site includes information on events, garbage hauler information and the various programs available to county residents.

**1,735 households participated in the Bulky Item Collection Program and over 385 tons of bulky refuse was collected.**

**Mandatory Organics Recycling** Assembly Bill 1826 (AB 1826) known as the Mandatory Organics Recycling was implemented in April 2016 and requires businesses that generate four cubic yards of organic waste per week and multi-family residential housing units of 5 or more to recycle their organic waste. Outreach, education and monitoring efforts regarding AB 1826 include direct mailing of a letter, brochure and submission of a survey, it is then determined if the business qualifies under the regulations. The businesses are kept track of in a database. The direct mailings are conducted annually to keep the database current. AB 1826 information can be found on the County and recycling websites. In 2017, 130 applicable businesses and multi-family residential housing units were mailed the outreach information along with the survey. The Department will begin to roll out organics recycling in the County schools.

# Contracts and Special Projects

2017

**Fink Road Landfill Infill Project-**  
The Fink Landfill is currently in the process of developing their last Solid Waste Cells to dispose of refuse at the landfill before they will convert the access road to fill area and expand vertically. This project extends the life of the landfill and prolongs the need to expand offsite.

**Geer Road Landfill Groundwater Extraction and Treatment System (GWETS)**  
DER bid, contracted for, and is finishing construction of a new state-of-the-art GWETS as required by the Regional Water Board. Construction included installing new groundwater extraction wells, conveyance lines, a new groundwater treatment system, infiltration gallery, and associated electrical components.

**Heavy Equipment Maintenance-**  
DER contracted for the preventative routine maintenance of the landfill's heavy equipment and any necessary repairs to the heavy equipment.

## **Fink Road Landfill Class II LF-3 Cell 4 Base Liner and Leachate Collection System**

DER bid, contracted for, and just finished construction of an ash disposal cell with a liner and a leachate collection system to prevent groundwater contamination. The ash comes from the Waste to Energy Facility located on site, which incinerates refuse, converting it to energy to help reduce the amount of waste buried at the landfill.

DER contracted with a Consultant to prepare detailed design plans and specifications for building Cells 6 and 7 at the Landfill for the disposal of solid waste.

**DER also contracted for construction quality assurance and management services for the project. This included lab testing of materials, overseeing leak detection of the liner, and detailed daily logs of the work performed on site.**

DER completed 2 different contracts for the pick up, transportation and proper disposal or recycling of: batteries and medical waste needles (sharps). DER also monitors 6 additional contracts for the pick up, transportation and proper disposal or recycling of: fluorescent lamps and tubes, electronic waste, paint, household hazardous waste, mattresses, and tires. The Landfill is reimbursed for each mattress collected and some electronic waste products. The HHW facility is reimbursed for some paint, batteries, and electronic waste products.

**H**azardous Materials contracted to install a sewer and water line at the Household Hazardous Waste Facility. This project included cutting the existing asphalt, trenching 232' from Morgan Road to the building, tying in to the water line between buildings, back filling, a soil compaction test, replacing a Christy box, and a leak investigation.

# Department Expansion



## **New Tuolumne Building Lease**

Environmental Resources leased the Agriculture Center- Suite D in the Tuolumne Building. The space is located right across from our main office and has been converted into much needed offices, cubicles, and meeting room space.



## **New Storage Room**

A block structure located behind our main building has been converted into an enclosed storage space to hold confiscated items by our Environmental Health and Code Enforcement Teams.



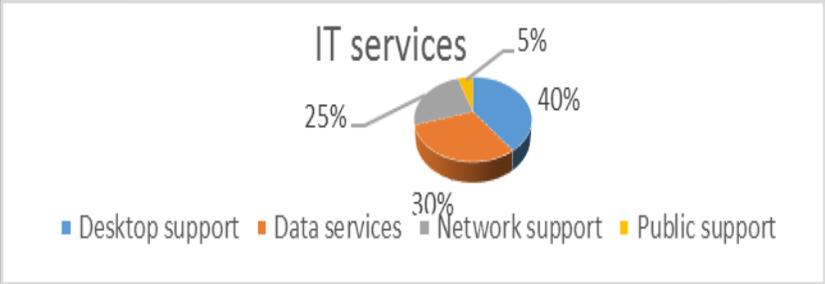
## **New IT Room with 5 cubicles**

A former supply room has been cleared out and converted into five extra cubicle spaces for the Department.



**Information Technology  
Team 2017:**  
**1 Systems Engineer**  
**1 Application Specialist**  
**1 Software Developer**  
**1 Software Developer, Part  
Time, Extra Help**

**The DER Information Technology  
Team handled approximately  
6000 requests in 2017**



### 2017 Environmental Resources IT Accomplishments:

- Installed new network infrastructure in the newly leased Tuolumne Building for internet, VOIP, and wireless connectivity back to Environmental Resources headquarters and connections to the County network.
- Installed point to point wireless system at Woodward Reservoir to improve connectivity between two remote parts of their network.
- Began deploying Window 10 systems to Department staff to provide users with the latest computer operating systems.
- Installed new email filtering gateway to enhance Departmental security. The gateway has blocked over 300,000 spam messages (around 800 messages a day). It has blocked over 230 viruses and blocked 194,000 malicious connections.
- Began the process of updating our DERONLINE.com page to better serve our water lab customers.
- Planned the migration to Office 365 along with several other agencies.



# CLERICAL UNIT

## Office CLERICAL:

1 Admin Supervisor  
4 Admin Clerk III's  
1 Extra Help  
Community Aide

## Environmental Resources and Parks and Recreation RECEPTION

3800 Cornucopia Way Suite C  
Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

## Administrative CLERICAL:

4 Admin Secretaries

The Clerical Unit covers 7 Divisions in the Department of Environmental Resources and for the Parks and Recreation Department

The Clerical Unit Manager oversees both the Clerical Unit and the Milk and Dairy Program.

## Clerical Unit

*Provides support to Environmental Health Inspectors, Hazardous Materials Inspectors, Code Enforcement Officers, Milk & Dairy Inspectors, Solid Waste Inspectors, Parks & Recreation, and to all Customers who come in to our reception.*

## Administrative Secretaries

provide extensive, in depth administrative support to the Divisions of:

- ◇ Environmental Health
- ◇ Hazardous Materials
- ◇ Solid Waste
- ◇ Code Enforcement

## The Clerical Unit

processes many Permits for Stanislaus County residents and businesses, including:

- ◆ Well Permits
- ◆ Septic Permits
- ◆ Body Art Permits
- ◆ Underground Storage Tank Permits
- ◆ Milk & Dairy Grade A Permits
- ◆ Mobile Food Facilities Permits
- ◆ Cottage Food permits



In 2017, Clerical Staff processed, tracked and recorded approximately:

**3,300** Complaints and  
**16,800** Phone Calls

**H**uman Resources is staffed by one Manager, and partially utilizes five Confidential Assistants for recruiting efforts that support 13 uniquely different divisions within DER and Parks & Recreation with multiple/various program responsibilities. Year-round recruitment efforts keep the staff consistently busy with screening applications, coordinating interviews, pre-employment background processes, onboarding of new hires, evaluation tracking, processing a variety of routine/required HR documentation, and completing and routing Personnel Action Forms for annual evaluations, promotions, separations, etc.

- Recruitments and Onboarding
- Pre-employment Background Process
- Personnel
- Personnel Action Forms (PAFS)
- Benefits Management
- HR Investigations
- Discipline
- ADA/Civil Rights Complaints
- Interactive Process and Medical Work Restriction Agreements
- Leaves of Absences
- EEO & ADA Compliance
- Required Trainings Compliance
- Records
- County/Department Policies & Procedures Compliance



**H**uman Resources is committed to recruiting, screening, and hiring the highest quality candidates. Applicants for Environmental Resources and Parks & Recreation must pass a pre-employment background process.

**2017 Stats:**

<b>Applications</b>	<b>711</b>
<b>Recruitments</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Hired (FT &amp; PT)</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>Promoted</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Volunteers</b>	<b>15</b>

Note: The HR statistics and information provided in this DER Annual Report also include the Parks & Recreation shared functions and efforts in Personnel and Recruitments.

**T**he Human Resources staff strive to provide the department with skilled, knowledgeable, ethical, and capable personnel. Careful recruitment efforts and screening helps build and strengthen the department from the newest hire to our most senior staff member to ensure excellent/quality services are provided to our customers. Retention of employees, our most valuable resource, and succession planning is vital to the longevity of an organization. Succession planning helps identify future leaders and ensures key positions remain filled with competent performers while also saving time and money by promoting from within and avoiding time consuming, costly external recruitments.

# Service & Safety Statistics

**2017**

**184**  
EMPLOYEES

**11**  
OVER 25  
YEARS

## SERVICE YEAR MILESTONES

### 0-4 YEARS

EMPLOYEES:  
**110**  
**60%**

### 5-9 YEARS

EMPLOYEES:  
**10**  
**5%**

### 10-14 YEARS

EMPLOYEES:  
**23**  
**12.5%**

### 15-19 YEARS

EMPLOYEES:  
**23**  
**12.5%**

### 20-24 YEARS

EMPLOYEES:  
**5**  
**3%**

### 25+ YEARS

EMPLOYEES:  
**13**  
**7%**

### Did You Know?

In 2017 there were  
**36** separations of  
employment  
and  
**4** retirements

## YEARS BY CLASSIFICATION STATS RECAP

**65%**

of Staff were hired in  
the last 9 years.

**25%**

of Staff have been  
with the county  
between 10 & 19  
years

**10%**

of Staff have been  
with the county more  
than 20 years.

**1,263**

Combined years of  
service as of  
December 2017

## Safety Stats

**166**

Active Drivers

**92%**

Driver Training  
Compliance

**89%**

Ergonomic Training  
Compliance

**88%**

HazCom Training  
Compliance

**57**

First Aid CPR and  
AED Trained

**71**

Bloodborne  
Pathogens Trained

# Awards and Staff Accomplishments



**2017 Mentor of the Year - Ali Arshad**

## 30 Years of Service



**Jay Martinez  
Lillie Farriester  
Randy Brooks**



**2017 Dale Butler Award  
Merry Mayhew**



**2017 Dionicio Cruz Award  
Presented by the Stanislaus  
County Equal Rights  
Commission  
Cultural Diversity Week**



# DER IN THE NEWS & ON THE WEB

# 2017

Willy Recycle added 3 new photos.  
January 9, 2017

Our 2017 #StanCounty Recycling Awareness Calendars are here! The first 25 people to like & follow Willy's page will get a free calendar! If you already follow Willy and would like a calendar, message us and let us know!



Willy Recycle is at Westport Elementary.  
February 1, 2017

Ms. Ortiz's kindergarten class from Westport Elementary right after our Recycling and Stormwater presentation. Here they are captured in mid-declaration to RECYCLE!



Willy Recycle  
February 22, 2017

This Friday & Saturday from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm (February 24th & 25th) the Stanislaus County Hazardous Waste Division will hold a mobile event in Patterson at the Patterson Aquatic Center (1025 W. Las Palmas Avenue).



Check out the new facility video!



Stanislaus County DER  
(209) 525-6700

Willy Recycle  
July 27, 2017

This year for the July Filter Exchange Event Stanislaus County recycled 683 used oil filters! Thank you to all the residents that participated and helped to keep our planet clean!

Willy Recycle  
April 20, 2017

Stop by and celebrate Earth Day with Willy's crew this Saturday April 19th at Graceland Park! Spin the wheel, answer a couple of questions related to the 3Rs, and win a prize! We'll be there from 10 am - 4 pm.



## Facebook 2017

Willy Recycle added 18 new photos from April 22, 2017 to the album: Earth Day 2017 — at Graceland Park.  
April 22, 2017



Willy Recycle is at Stanislaus County Household Hazardous Waste Facility.  
May 11, 2017

Our Hazardous Waste Facility @ 1710 Morgan Rd in Modesto can help you get in tune with summer! The Reuse Room is open on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 8a - 12p and hand out freebies such as cleaning products, pool supplies, yard products, and more.



Willy Recycle  
September 25, 2017

It's time to clean out those files and dispose of all that paper!!! Take advantage of our FREE Shredding event taking place at all of the locations on the flyer! Hope to see you there!!!

FREE

### PAPER SHREDDING

**SATURDAY, October 14, 2017**  
8am-12pm (or until full)

**SHREDDING LOCATIONS:**

- Denair High School**  
3431 Lester Rd.
- Salida Library**  
4835 Sisk Rd.
- City of Newman**  
City Corporation Yard  
712 Fresno St.
- City of Turlock**  
Water Quality Control  
901 S. Walnut Ave.

**PROGRAM GUIDELINES:**

- NO Businesses
- Up to 3 bags/boxes ONLY
- NO Binders
- NO Plastic

For more information contact:  
Janice McClendon, 209-525-4778

Willy Recycle  
October 17, 2017

One more week to donate gently used baby clothes. Below is a location near you.

### 2nd Chance Week

October 9-23, 2017

Donate new or gently used baby clothes!

All clothes collected will be donated to:

- Designer for Human Services
- Modesto Pregnancy Center
- Salvation Army
- Old Baby
- Modesto Gospel Mission

Look for donation bins at: **Yerkes River Plaza**, and these locations:

<b>Libraries:</b>	<b>City of Turlock:</b>
1300 E St., Modesto	4180 Dale Rd., Modesto
138 E. St., Turlock	8025 Oldham Rd., Modesto
4480 Main Ave., Turlock	805 W. Bushong Ave., Modesto
6000 Bay St., Turlock	1000 N. 1st St., Modesto
5800 Madeline Dr., Turlock	<b>State Theatre of Modesto:</b>
4802 Sutter Rd., Turlock	1207 J Street, Modesto
1414 David Rd., Turlock	
1300 S. St., Turlock	
1118 E. 1st St., Turlock	
48 S. 1st St., Turlock	
1442 Sutter Ave., Turlock	
1800 Stewart Ave., Turlock	
514 S. St., Turlock	

Willy Recycle  
November 15, 2017

Don't have any plans today... need something to do tonight? Check out "A Plastic Ocean" playing at the State Theater!

IN HONOR OF

## AMERICA RECYCLES DAY

THE CITY OF MODesto  
STANISLAUS COUNTY  
PRESENTS  
**FREE ADMISSION**

10:30AM - 6:00PM

# A PLASTIC OCEAN

8 MILLION TONS OF PLASTIC ARE DUMPED INTO OUR OCEANS EVERY YEAR... WE NEED A WAVE OF CHANGE

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH AT 10:30AM AND 6:00PM**

**STATE THEATRE**  
1307 J ST., DOWNTOWN MODesto

FOOD, BEVERAGES, EXPRESSO DRINKS AND REVENUES AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE  
PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR LARGE GROUPS

Willy Recycle added 2 new photos.  
November 11, 2017

Come by the Salmon Festival in Knights Ferry and stop by our booth for a chance to spin the wheel and win a fabulous prize!!!



Willy Recycle added 4 new photos.  
November 11, 2017

Visitors spinning the wheel and answering trivia questions for a prize. We'll be here until 5pm!



REDUCE • REUSE • RECYCLE

When and Where to Dispose Household Hazardous Waste

Only Run Down the Drain!

TEMPORARY EVENTS

<p><b>Location:</b> 1710 Morgan Rd., Modesto</p> <p><b>Hours:</b> 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM</p> <p><b>Accepted:</b> Antifreeze, Car Batteries, Oil, Paint, Stoves, Lawn Mowers, A/C Units, and more!</p>	<p><b>Location:</b> 1710 Morgan Rd., Modesto</p> <p><b>Hours:</b> 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM</p> <p><b>Accepted:</b> Antifreeze, Car Batteries, Oil, Paint, Stoves, Lawn Mowers, A/C Units, and more!</p>
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NO Electronic or Light Bulbs Accepted!

### Stanislaus County Unincorporated Residents Waste Tire Recycling Voucher Program

April 1st - April 15th, 2017

Nine (9) car or pickup truck tires accepted at no charge with voucher

Recycle up to 9 Waste Tires. Free tire disposal with a Voucher!

How to Get a Voucher?

Call 525-6791 or come to the Department of Environmental Resources at 3800 Conception Way, Suite C, Modesto

Take the voucher and waste tires to your garage hauler:

- Waste Management 525-2744
- California Disposal 525-2744
- DeWolfski Disposal 525-2744
- Truck Transfer 525-2744

Program Requirements:

- Stanislaus County Unincorporated Residents Only
- Groves Landing, Denair, Grayson, Empire, Hickman, Keyes, Knights Ferry, La Grange, Salina and Westley.
- Limited to 3 tires per voucher; one voucher per household
- No tires from businesses accepted
- ONLY passenger car or pickup truck tires will be accepted
- Tires with studs are okay
- Do not mix tires with other wastes
- Funded by a grant from CalRecycle

Willy Recycle  
March 21, 2017

The Waste Tire Recycling program will help you recycle up to 9 tires! See the information below. Call 525-6791 for your free voucher today! This will be going on from April 1st through April 15, 2017.