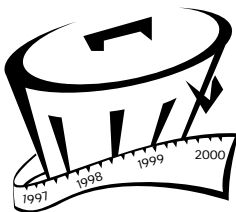


THE WASTE WATCHER



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Board report recommends sweeping changes in tire program

Allows for cleanup of state's 15 million tires

The California Integrated Waste Management Board has unanimously approved recommendations for sweeping changes in the way California manages 30 million scrap tires discarded in the state every year.

The changes, outlined in a comprehensive report on the Board's waste tire management program, are designed to quickly clean up the estimated 15 million waste tires now stockpiled around the state, as well as develop additional uses for old tires.

The recommendations are currently being considered by Governor Davis and the Legislature.

"I welcome the opportunity to provide the Governor and Legislature with this update on California's waste tire landscape," said Waste Board Chairman Dan Eaton. "With this report, the Governor and Legislature share the necessary information to determine what direction to take in resolving California's long-standing environmental question of what to do with millions of old tires."

The report is the Board's most recent and complete documentation of California's waste tire scenario, where 15 million old tires lie stockpiled in legal and illegal collections around the state and 30 million more come off vehicles each year. Since 1990, the Waste Board has spent \$34.1 million to clean up, enforce, market, and administer old tires in California. The money has been used to eliminate unlawful accumulations of tires and develop secondary uses for tires. California recycles 18 million tires yearly through such uses as rubberized asphalt concrete for roads, molded rubber prod-

ucts such as playground safety mats, and combustion to generate electricity and manufacture cement.

In June, for example, the Waste Board cleaned up two illegal tire piles in Oroville and used many of the tires as part of an innovative new project that incorporates tire shreds in levee wall reconstruction.

The Board developed the final recommendations outlined in the report after significant discussions with the tire industry and the general public.

The report recommends increasing California's 25-cent per unit tire fee, changing the fee's collection point to provide more funding, creating permanent programs to help local governments control waste tire generators, and developing more and better scrap tire markets.

California currently collects 25 cents on each new tire sold to the public in the state, resulting in a \$5 million annual tire program budget. By comparison, states with similar scrap tire numbers, like Florida and Illinois, charge more and collect \$12 million and \$8 million a year, respectively.

The report recommends raising the fee to \$2 per tire, levied at the wholesale level or original point of ownership in California.

In addition to a call for cleaning up stockpiled



The Oxford Tire Pile in Central California is home for nearly half of the state's 15 million stockpiled waste tires.

tires statewide, the report also recommends changes to the State waste tire hauler manifest system and permanent programs to assist local governments to regulate businesses responsible for generating waste tires. Moreover, the tire report calls for exercising significant flexibility in developing uses for old tires to establish sustainable markets for waste tires.

State Waste Board studies 21st century solid waste management

By Steven R. Jones
Board Member

Too often, government agencies across the United States are accused of reacting to problems instead of anticipating issues and moving to address them before they become crises.

In California however, the end of the 20th century has brought about a change in this philosophy as the Waste Board has embarked on an innovative process to address the solid waste management issues that will affect California in the 21st century.

With the help of a hired consultant, the Board began a process last fall to bring together stake-

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17 cities, counties ordered to comply with recycling mandates or face penalties

Seventeen cities and counties have been ordered by the State to comply with strict new orders to implement programs to increase their recycling rates. This action is the result of the jurisdictions' inability to implement recycling programs or demonstrate a "good faith effort" to meet the State-mandated 25 percent recycling rate in 1995. Failure to meet the requirements could mean penalties of up to \$10,000 per day.

The orders have been handed down during the first half of 1999 as the Waste Board finishes its reviews of city and county success in meeting the diversion mandates of AB 939 (1989). The 17 local governments (see side bar) have been given specific deadlines next year at which time they must imple-

Local Governments ordered to comply with AB 939

Kings County

Kings County (Unin.)
Avenal
Corcoran
Hanford
Lemoore
Los Angeles County
Hawaiian Gardens
Hawthorne
La Habra Heights

Riverside County

Coachella
San Bernardino County
Ontario
Yuba/Sutter Counties
Sutter County (Unin.)
Yuba County (Unin.)
Gridley
Live Oak
Marysville
Wheatland
Yuba City

ment all waste diversion programs in their respective recycling plans. The jurisdictions must also submit quarterly reports on their progress and work with the Board's staff to develop local assistance plans for reaching the waste diversion mandates.

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21st Century, continued from page 1

holders from the environmental community, the solid waste industry, the business sector, and local government to identify issues and trends, and develop the most likely scenarios for the future of solid waste management in the next 10 to 15 years.

In January, more than 130 stakeholders at a one-day Waste Board-sponsored conference in Southern California identified some 400 issues and trends. Among the trends that emerged were the increasing size, age, and cultural diversity of the population, which is expected to bring about such changes as possible increases in the amount of waste generated by taking care of elderly baby boomers at home. It was also noted that increased consolidation of the waste industry could impact waste reduction and recycling programs.

In March, the IWMB held the second stakeholder event, a Future Search Conference in Sacramento to take the issues and trends identified in the first conference and determine scenarios that would be desired outcomes in the next 10 to 15 years. The scenarios included increasing the emphasis on source reduction and reuse and developing sustainable markets for recycled materials.

The IWMB Board Members will now work to analyze and formulate the specific proposals for managing the 21st century's solid waste. These proposals will more than likely include a redirection of IWMB resources so that it can play a significant role at the key trigger points in the process. In addition, other proposals will likely be forwarded on to Governor Gray Davis and the State Legislature for consideration. The IWMB hopes to approve specific proposals by fall 1999.

Penalties, continued from page 1

Next year, the Board will conduct a public hearing to determine if the communities have complied with the various orders. The Board also has the discretion to conduct earlier hearings if it deems that the jurisdictions are not complying with the conditions of the orders. Likewise, a hearing could be held earlier if any jurisdiction complies with an order ahead of schedule.

Once the biennial review is complete, the Board either finds the city or county in compliance, or enacts a compliance schedule to assist the jurisdiction in meeting the goal. Failure to meet the compliance schedule can mean the city or county could face fines of up to \$10,000 per day.

With the passage of AB 939, cities and counties were required to keep 25 percent of their waste out of landfills by 1995, and 50 percent by the year 2000. To date, the Board has approved the diversion rates calculated by 329 cities and counties. Of those, 69 had already met or surpassed the 50 percent goal by the end of 1996.

Waste Board's "Green Building" effort launched

In a move that will change commercial and residential building in the 21st century, the Waste Board has launched an ambitious plan that targets the "greening" of state and local government facilities as well as private sector buildings in the years to come.

The Board recently adopted a "sustainable building plan" and allocated \$500,000 in funding to lay the groundwork for increased sustainable or "green" building construction throughout California.

At the same time, Waste Board Chairman Dan Eaton and staff have been working closely with top Davis Administration officials and the State's Department of General Services to incorporate "green" building into a new \$392 million State office project scheduled for Sacramento. The East End Project will be the State's first all green-building and will incorporate recycled-content materials and energy efficient and environmentally safe materials into the project's design.

"East End is an opportunity for the State to showcase the green building approach and it's bene-

fits," said Eaton.

Sustainable buildings are designed to be resource efficient, improve indoor air quality, use recycled-content and environmentally sensitive building materials, and preserve the outdoor environment.

The \$500,000 in approved funding will allow the Board to (1) create a sustainable building committee, composed of State executives, sustainable building experts and private sector representatives, (2) design a grant program to fund building design efforts, as well as workshops and education forums on sustainable building, and (3) develop a sustainable building "tool kit," with guidelines to assist local governments in communicating their green building goals and requirements to design and construction bidders.

Through the increasing emphasis on sustainable building and design, the Board is working to improve the market for reused and recycled content building and landscape materials and use resources more efficiently.

1995, 1996 waste diversion rates by county approved since February at Waste Board meetings

County	'95 Rate	'96 Rate	County	'95 Rate	'96 Rate
Contra Costa County			☆Upper Valley Waste Management Agency	53	57
Pleasant Hill	16	29	Nevada County		
El Dorado County			Nevada City	51	34
El Dorado County (Unin.)	34	37	Truckee	38	35
Placerville	27	28	Orange County		
South Lake Tahoe	37	38	Costa Mesa	28	26
Fresno County			Irvine	20	24
☆Clovis	57	58	Stanton	27	11
☆Fowler	82	83	Riverside County		
Fresno	25	24	Riverside (Unin.)	36	48
Huron	52	27	Beaumont	22	26
Mendota	25	22	San Jacinto	33	34
☆Orange Cove	88	88	Sacramento County		
☆Parlier	66	69	Sacramento (Unin.)	25	28
San Joaquin	22	31	Sacramento	45	45
Selma	12	23	San Bernardino County		
Glenn County			Barstow	25	33
Glenn Regional Agency	32	38	Needles	24	24
Humboldt County			San Bernardino	23	35
Blue Lake	88	21	Twentynine Palms	40	39
Imperial County			Yucaipa	38	31
☆Imperial (Unin.)	80	81	☆Yucca Valley	58	64
Brawley	39	40	San Diego County		
Calexico	37	35	El Cajon	43	51
☆Calipatria	55	59	Encinitas	46	49
El Centro	39	48	National City	34	48
☆Imperial	47	63	San Diego (Unin.)	48	45
Kern County			☆Santee	39	52
Maricopa	60	35	Santa Barbara County		
McFarland	32	47	Guadalupe	44	45
Lake County			☆Lompoc	48	56
Lake (Unin.)	47	44	Santa Cruz County		
Los Angeles County			☆Scotts Valley	59	62
Calabasas	29	45	Siskiyou County		
Carson	43	43	Siskiyou County Integrated		
Covina	1997 Rate - 28		Solid Waste Management		
El Monte	14	28	Regional Agency	22	24
☆El Segundo	59	58	Solano County		
Hermosa Beach	45	24	Fairfield	22	19
Industry	36	38	Dixon	12	28
Irwindale	48	26	Sonoma County		
Los Angeles	45	46	Sonoma Regional Agency	39	39
Santa Monica	15	24	Stanislaus County		
Sierra Madre	25	40	Modesto	19	21
South Pasadena	26	26	Trinity County		
Westlake Village	30	23	☆Trinity County (Unin.)	56	64
Madera County			Ventura County		
☆Chowchilla	61	60	Camarillo	31	34
Madera	26	22	Fillmore	30	33
Mariposa County			Ojai	40	44
Mariposa (Unin.)	28	30	Yolo County		
Mendocino County			Yolo County (Unin.)	21	16
Point Arena	42	46	☆Indicates city or county has met or exceeded 2000 goal of keeping 50 percent of trash out of landfills		
Napa County					
American Canyon	24	42			
Napa	27	31			

Funds approved for burning, illegal dump in Southland

The Waste Board has agreed to pay up to \$750,000 to help fund the cleanup of an illegal dump in Cajon Pass that has been burning underground since New Year's Eve.

The Waste Board's action comes after months of negotiations with county officials over how to best solve the problem and who should pay for it. To receive the grant, San Bernardino County must have the remaining funding available by February 1, 2000. One option the county is expected to pursue is seeking cleanup funds from waste haulers who illegally dumped 200,000 cubic yards of materials along Cajon Wash near the town of Devore.

Waste Board Chairman Dan Eaton said he was

pleased that an agreement has been reached that shares the cost between the State and county, while attempting to recover as much of the cost as possible from those responsible for creating the problem in the first place.

For at least three years the property owners had allowed illegal dumping to extend their property into the wash and protect it from erosion. Approximately 70 haulers have been identified so far as having dumped waste onto the property.

An estimated 200,000 cubic yards was dumped, filling an area about 60 feet high and 450 feet long. Most of the waste consists of rubble, telephone poles, railroad ties, whole trees, shrubs, and large

stumps. An estimated 60,000 tons is organic waste, some of which spontaneously caught fire due to heat given off by decomposition.

The smoldering fire poses a significant risk to nearby residences, wild lands, power lines, and railroad tracks, and also poses a threat to water quality and endangered species in the area as organic waste sloughs off into the wash.

Under the proposed agreement, the Board will pay a portion of the costs to temporarily divert Cajon Wash and grade the site for cleanup work, remove the organic wastes for recycling or disposal, and restore the slopes and creek bed.

The total cost is estimated at \$2.1 million.

Retreading old levees



Members of the media watch as shredded waste tires are used in a levee restoration project.

Levee repairs underway with old tires

GRIDLEY—An innovative project that could eventually use millions of waste tires to help shore up California's aging levees was unveiled in June by the Waste Board.

The demonstration project is in the levee of an irrigation canal alongside the Feather River. A 1,400-foot-long, 20-foot-deep reinforcing wall is being added to the levee, using 2-inch rubber chips made from 45,000 old waste tires in the flood protection experiment designed by California State University, Chico.

Coincidentally, the levee where the project is being conducted forms the western flood control levee of the Feather River, which caused significant flooding between Oroville and Sacramento in the winter of 1997 when several sections of levee broke, sending floodwaters into low-lying communities.

The \$380,000 construction project, managed by the Chico State College of Engineering's

Construction Management Department, consists of trenching a 1,400-foot section of levee where seepage has been reported. The trench is being filled with a slurry mixture of soil, cement, bentonite, and 450 tons of 2-inch tire chips. The mixture forms an underground curtain that seals off leakage along the entire length of the affected section and anchors the levee against the tremendous stresses exerted by river floodwaters.

In the summer of 1996, Chico State completed a \$36,500 Waste Board feasibility study on the benefits of using waste tires for levee repair and flood protection. Besides reporting widespread multi-governmental agency support for such an effort, the study concluded that a 25-mile section of 20-foot tall levees could potentially use as much as 4.5 million waste tires for levee stabilization and repair work.

Recycling hotline switched to Earth's 911 at 1-800-CLEANUP

The Waste Board announced in July that it has discontinued its own toll-free recycling hotline and is asking the State's residents to now call "Earth's 911" at 1-800-CLEANUP, 24 hours a day, to get important recycling information.

During a recent testing period of "Earth's 911," the Waste Board found that the state-of-the-art automated recycling hotline and mirrored web site (www.1800CLEANUP.ORG) successfully provided important environmental information to nearly 4,000 Californians a month, including where to recycle used motor oil.

"Earth's 911," also known as the California Environmental Hotline, is a zip-code driven hotline providing information tailored to each caller, including where their closest recycling centers are, and a wide range of other environmental information.



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Getting the Job Done

A feature that highlights the efforts of local governments and businesses that are *Getting the Job Done* by working to cut their trash in half by 2000.



Hollywood movie sets, L.A. recycler: A perfect match

When the last director's "cut" is called out and Hollywood's movie sets are torn down, what becomes of all that wood, metal, plastic, and other salvageable material? A lot of it used to be hauled off to landfills. But that was before companies like Looney Bins of Sun Valley made it their business to reclaim those reusable materials, doing a good turn for the bottom line and the environment.

As a result, the Waste Board recently honored the reuse and recycling efforts of Looney Bins by presenting owner Myan Spaccarelli with the seventh annual CalMAX Connection of the Year award.

Looney Bins, a recycling and studio services company, collects wood, cardboard, metal, plastic, and other salvageable items generated at various Hollywood studios. Once the movie sets are torn down, the materials are sorted by type and either sold or donated to businesses throughout California and Mexico. Some of those uses promoted by Looney Bins have included providing wood to a company that makes reconstituted pallets; reusing Warner

Bros. Studios' telephone poles for the Special Olympics; shipping reclaimed nails, screws and other building materials to hospitals overseas; and helping a Southern California nursery to reuse wood scrap for planter boxes. Looney Bins has also found reuses for more than 200 cubic yards of polystyrene and over 3,000 tons of drywall. Owner Spaccarelli also estimates he has recovered and marketed over 600 tons of wood from Sony Pictures Studios alone by using the Waste Board's CalMAX program.

Published by the Waste Board in catalog form and on the Internet (www.ciwmb.ca.gov/CalMAX/), CalMAX is a directory that lists surplus equipment or materials that businesses and organizations from throughout the state want to get rid of. The directory also offers listings of organizations seeking specific surplus materials. The CalMAX motto is "Don't trash it, trade it!"



Looney Bins owner Myan Spaccarelli (far left) is joined by Waste Board Member Senator David Roberti (second from left) and Sony Studios representatives at the award ceremony. Above, workers sort and recycle a Hollywood set.