



Department of Utilities
Office of the Director

CITY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA

1395 35th Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95822-2911
phone (916) 808-1400
fax (916) 808-1497

News Release

Contact: Jessica Hess, Media and Communications Specialist
916-808-8260, 916-642-2614 Mobile

April 26, 2010
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Sacramento Reminds Residents of Rules Regarding Yard Waste *Residents and City will benefit if Rules of the Program are followed*

The City of Sacramento Department of Utilities is reminding residents of the rules of its Containerized Yard Waste Program.

The Program's rules are:

- Yard waste consists of leaves, fruit and other organic matter commonly found in a yard. It does not include pet waste, concrete, or fencing materials.
- All yard waste must fit in the container for collection.
- Customers may put waste loose-in-the-street for collection eight times per year. These include Christmas tree pick-up, leaf season and pruning season. A calendar of the eight weeks that yard waste may be placed loose-in-the-street for collection can be found at www.cityofsacramento.org/utilities.
- Residents who do not wish to participate in the program need to call 311 to opt out of the program.
- While the Program is voluntary, customers who have a container and who place waste on the street for collection when it is not allowed will be contacted by the Department of Utilities and provided education and an opportunity to continue in the program.

The City is currently picking-up piles of inappropriately discarded yard waste. The City is not picking up newly placed piles from containerized customers. The next loose-in-the-street collection for containerized customers is the last collection day in May, beginning May 25, 2010.

“Unfortunately, we have many residents who still have a hard time understanding this program,” says Edison Hicks, Integrated Waste General Manager for the City of Sacramento Department of Utilities. “When customers participate correctly, it helps to keep the neighborhood neat,

-continued-

provides for more efficient collection of waste and limits clogged storm drains, mosquito growth habitat and storm water pollution; it also helps to keep the City's costs in check.

The City's Containerized Yard Waste program is voluntary and offers residents the ability to utilize a container for the weekly collection of yard waste. Residents who participate in this program currently receive a 23% discount on their monthly yard waste collection bill. If a resident in the program is not participating correctly, Department of Utilities' staff will make contact with the resident to remind them of the rules of the program. Residents who wish to opt-out of the program should call 3-1-1 or email 311@cityofsacramento.org.

###

