

A Quarterly Newsletter Of



The City of Irvine
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Waste Management of Orange County
(949) 642-1191

Summer 2007



Irvine businesses recognized as 2006 WRAP winners

Each year, the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) recognizes businesses for outstanding waste reduction efforts with the Waste Reduction Awards Program (WRAP). Here's a look at 2006 winners with Irvine operations:

Allergan Sales, LLP

Location: 2525 Dupont Drive

Years Awarded: 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999, 1998, 1997, 1996, 1995, 1994

In 2005, Allergan, a pharmaceutical company, recycled approximately 1,654 tons of material, including 157 tons at the cor-

porate headquarters in Irvine, and had a recycling rate of approximately 54 percent worldwide. This represents an average annual savings of approximately \$361,480.

B. Braun Medical Inc.

Location: 2525 McGaw Avenue

Years Awarded: 2006, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999, 1998, 1997, 1996, 1995, 1994, 1993

B. Braun Medical, a manufacturer of intravenous solutions and solution containers, has been recognized for its use of non-PVC plastic. During the past year, B. Braun has recycled 1,414 tons of waste and saved more than \$237,714 by diverting this waste from the landfill. B. Braun also generates 85 percent of the electricity it uses.

CSA International

Location: 2805 Barranca Parkway

Years Awarded: 2006, 2005

The CSA International facility in Irvine is a division of a company that provides certification for manufactured products. Whenever possible, CSA International donates surplus computer equipment to local schools and non-profit organizations. CSA International reduced waste destined to be landfilled in California by approximately 4.6 tons in fiscal year 2005/2006 and saved more than \$1,000 by selling recyclable materials.

Edwards Lifesciences, LLC

Location: 1 Edwards Way

Years Awarded: 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999, 1998, 1997, 1996, 1995, 1994



California Integrated Waste Management Board Chair Margo Reid Brown said of the WRAP award winners, "Every year California reaps the benefits of conscientious and responsible companies that understand their responsibilities to the environment, economy, and community." She is pictured here with a new Toyota hydrogen fuel vehicle.

In 2005, Edwards Lifesciences, a manufacturer of products that treat advanced cardiovascular disease which is headquartered in Irvine, recycled a grand total of 97.4 tons of material, earning an income of \$2,236 and saving \$9,490 on trash hauling and disposal fees.

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School's Out for Summer

Keep your kids safe from garbage trucks & service vehicles in your neighborhood

During the summer, more children are at home on weekdays when delivery or service vehicles come through your neighborhood. As a local service provider in your community, Waste Management of Orange County asks parents to talk with their children about being safe while playing outside and to ensure they watch for the company's waste and recycling trucks from a safe distance.

"We're proud to serve our local communities, and our drivers love to see their customers while they're out on the routes, but we ask that parents and kids greet the drivers from the porch or the front yard," said David Ross, senior district manager of Waste Management of Orange County. "While sometimes it may appear that our trucks are stopped, they have a lot of moving parts that at any point could begin moving again. Our top priority is to provide good service in a safe manner, and our drivers frequently ask that we remind customers to stand a considerable distance away from the trucks so that everyone will be safe."

While many of our trucks, particularly those that service residential neighborhoods, are equipped with cameras to see what is behind the truck, you should not rely on this feature for the driver to be able to see you or any of your possessions. It is always safest to stay away

from the truck and all of its moving parts. Here are a number of ways to be safe around our vehicles:

- Every Waste Management truck is equipped with a back-up alarm. Whether you are walking or driving near one of our trucks, if you hear this sound (a loud beeping) or see the white back-up lights, be sure to move out of the way of the truck.
- Keep your children and pets at a safe distance from the truck. Never get near or climb on the truck—whether it is parked or operating. Do not play or stand in or around trash bins or cans, since you may not know when the truck is coming to empty them. On your collection day, be sure to move toys or cars out of the path of the truck and away from your collection containers.
- Never cut in front of or stop suddenly in front of a Waste Management truck. In a residential neighborhood, it takes a garbage truck about twice as long to stop as a passenger car. Extend the same courtesies as you would to other drivers and keep a proper cushion of space between you and the truck.
- Do not follow the truck on your bike, skates, or skateboard. Our trucks make frequent stops and often back

up. While driving, pass slowly as soon as it is safe.

- All of our trucks are equipped with a radio or some kind of communication device that connects our drivers to our dispatch centers. If you are experiencing some type of emergency and need help, stand at

a safe distance away and wave your arms to motion for help. Do not approach the truck unless the driver tells you it is safe to do so.

Many local Waste Management operations offer tours or community activities. Contact Waste Management of Orange County at 714-558-7761 or 949-642-1191 for additional information about how you and your family might see one of our collection vehicles up close at our facility—while it is safely parked, of course.



10 Tips for summertime shopping

Ahhh...summertime. Family vacations, lounging by the pool, picnics with friends, and back-to-school shopping. Whether you're getting ready for school yourself, getting someone else ready for school, or just taking care of your own summer shopping, there are things that you can do before, during, and after your shopping trip to reduce your waste, improve our environment, and save money, too.

1. Clean out your closets and cabinets. If you are sending a student off to college, you may find that you have plenty of towels and sheets without buying new ones. If you're sending a student back to school, you might discover unused notebooks, pens, and pencils or remember that last year's backpack is in great shape. If you're shopping for housewares, garden supplies, or even food, you may learn that what you need is already sitting on your shelf!
2. Organize what you already own. We've all watched those organization shows on TV. How many times have you watched someone find more than one iced-tea maker or enough white T-shirts or tank tops to clothe everyone on the block? While most of us aren't quite that organization-challenged, we often have some area—a junk drawer, a pantry shelf, or a laundry room

closet—that could use some attention. When you organize what you have, you'll find things you can still use. This is also a great way to find the stuff you no longer want that you could sell or give away.



3. No matter where you are shopping, plan ahead and make a list. Going to the hardware store? Make a list. Going to a clothing store? Make a list. We all know that we make fewer impulse purchases at the grocery store when we shop from a list—the same is true at other kinds of stores, as well.
4. Shop for reused items first. Before you hit the mall, check the neighborhood garage sales or stop by thrift stores or secondhand shops. You can find clothes, shoes, appliances, books, toys, games, office supplies, household goods, and more.
5. Look for recycled-content products. Since it is back-to-school season, paper is a great place to start. The average American uses 660 pounds of paper each year. Recycled-content notebooks, loose-

leaf paper, and printer paper are readily available, high-quality, and cost-competitive. Making new paper from recycled paper creates 74 percent less air pollution and 35 percent less water pollution than making the same paper directly from trees. And don't forget recycled-content tissues and paper towels. These items are often on school supply lists. You'll be teaching a great lesson to the whole class by sending recycled-content tissues or paper towels to school.

6. Paper isn't the only recycled-content product, of course! Look for pens, pencils, scissors, rulers, file folders, binders, storage containers, jewelry, and outerwear, such as fleece pullovers and scarves, to name just a few. If you don't find recycled-content alternatives, tell the store manager that you want them. The store may be able to order them for you now or stock them in the future.
7. Select durable, reusable products that also reduce your waste or energy use at home. For example, if you have a drying rack, you won't need to use your dryer and you might be able to avoid the iron, as well. When you purchase electrical appliances or electronics, look for the Energy Star label, which guarantees you an energy-efficient product. Choose reusables, such as refillable mugs and insulated cold cups. Many stores will refill your mug or cup—sometimes at a slightly discounted price.
8. Shop for food and flowers at Farmers Markets. These markets provide fresh food without extra transportation or excess packaging. Wouldn't it be nice to enjoy fruits and vegetables without throwing away a lot of plastic bags and containers? National Farmers Market Week is August 5-11, so go out and show your support for our



local farmers. For more information about Farmers Markets or to locate them here or as you travel, go to www.ams.usda.gov/farmersmarkets/.

9. Avoid non-recyclable packaging. Know what to recycle so that you can select products packaged in locally recyclable containers as you shop. Remember—the word “recyclable” on a package doesn't necessarily mean that we accept the item in our local recycling program.
10. Say “no thanks” to overly packaged items. Ask yourself, “If I buy this item, how many layers of packaging are going to go straight into my trash or recycling?” If your answer is more than two, see whether an alternative product is available that has less packaging.



Learn more! Do more!

Buy Wisely, a program of the Center for the New American Dream
www.NewDream.org/buy

Greener Choices: Products for a Better Planet, a project of Consumer Reports
www.greenerchoices.org

The Green Guide, a service of National Geographic
www.thegreenguide.com



Get Reel

A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken.

James Dent

A gas-powered lawn mower, with its noise and noxious fumes, can certainly take the shine off a perfect summer day. However, there is a mower that will keep your lawn trimmed and still allow you to enjoy the birds and the breeze—a reel mower.

A reel mower is a manual lawn mower. Unlike the reel mowers of 50 years ago, today's reel mowers are lightweight and easy to push. Here are just a few of the great reasons to use a reel mower:

- Reel mowers leave behind healthier grass plants because they “snip” the

grass, cutting it in the same way that a pair of scissors would. (Powered rotary mowers actually tear the grass blades.)

- Reel mowers don't need gasoline, so an empty gas can will never change your plans.
- Reel mowers produce no harmful emissions and emit no exhaust into your face and your neighborhood's air.
- It goes without saying that reel mowers are whisper quiet, allowing you to hear your children playing and enjoy the birds chirping. You can still listen to your MP3 player, but you won't have to!
- Users get to enjoy a brisk walk and some resistance training.
- Reel mowers are virtually maintenance-free. Occasionally, the bearings and cutting edges may need a little lubricant and a slight adjustment. The cutters will need to be sharpened every couple of years.

You'll never struggle with the pull cord on a reel mower. Simply start walking and the mower starts, too. Reel mowers take less space in the garage or shed and take less of a bite out of your budget.

A reel mower isn't right for every yard. The mowers are best suited to smaller yards, such as those that are 10,000 square feet (about one-quarter acre) or less. Many of today's yards are no bigger than this.

As yards have gotten smaller, reel mowers have begun to make a comeback. An estimated 350,000 reel mowers were sold in the U.S. last year—up from about 100,000 five years ago. About two-thirds of the customers purchasing reel mowers are women.

If you'd like more information about reel mowers, ask at your hardware store, garden center, or home supply store. You can also learn more at www.cleanairgardening.com/reellawnmower.html, www.planetnatural.com, www.reelin.com, or www.reelmowerguide.com/.



NO IMPACT MAN

A New York man and his family are in the middle of a year-long experiment. Their goal is to find ways to create no net environmental impact. This means giving up most activities and habits that create negative impacts and offsetting the ones they can't give up with positive changes, such as cleaning out closets and giving away reusable clothes and books, volunteering for beach cleanups, and planting trees.

Having dubbed himself "No Impact Man," Colin Beavan, his wife, small daughter, and dog began their adventure last November in stages. Stage 1 was to eliminate garbage by avoiding disposable products and giving up everything that had packaging. Stage 2 added a twist, creating the least amount of environmental impact in selecting and preparing food for baby, dog, and parents. Stage 3 takes the next step, finding ways to reduce consumption to only what is absolutely necessary and then learning how to make or

acquire those things most sustainably. At each stage, the challenges increase.

Friends have questioned whether No Impact Man and his family have any hope of accomplishing their goal while living in New York City. They claim he'd be better off living in a rural area where gardening and composting are more convenient. However, Beavan responds, "The fact is that if city dwellers can't learn to live without reducing their ecological footprint, then we're in deep trouble because most of the world's population now lives in cities." In the United States, more than 68 percent of Americans live in cities with populations greater than 50,000.

No Impact Man records his trials and errors in a blog, inviting dialogue with people from around the world. In his blog, he muses on everything from plastics to finding a garden plot to composting toilets. Beavan is writing a book, which will be published in 2009, about his fam-



ily's year-long experiment. A documentary is also being produced. Read more about this family's adventures in no-impact living at www.noimpactman.com.

If you're interested in the experiments of other families trying to create a more positive impact, visit www.pathtofreedom.com. This website is devoted to the Dervaes family's "urban homestead" on a 1/5-acre urban lot in Pasadena, California.

QUOTES REQUOTED

My mind is conditioned to believe that if I can't have it right now—RIGHT NOW!—then I'm deprived. [But] is being able to have something at a moment's notice real progress?

Colin Beavan
Author and "No Impact Man"

Books for a better world

Take a couple of college friends, piles of textbooks, and a need for cash, and what do you get? In the case of roommates Xavier Helgesen and Christopher "Kreece" Fuchs, the answer was to sell the books online and to begin selling books for others. Within a year, they had organized a campus-wide book drive, collecting over 2,000 books for reuse and raising \$8,000 for an after-school reading program sponsored by the University of Notre Dame.

With help from a third former roommate, Jeff Kurtzman, Helgesen and Fuchs decided to take the good idea and turn it into a business, which is how Better World Books was born. The business, founded in 2003, assists colleges and universities, as well as libraries, in organizing book drives, selling reusable books, and donating a portion of the proceeds to literacy organizations.

To date, more than 900 colleges and universities and 500 libraries have taken part, collecting over 3 million books

weighing more than 8 million pounds. Many of the books would have otherwise ended up in landfills, but not with Better World Books in charge. Some of the books are sold through the company's

Room to Read, National Center for Family Literacy, and Worldfund. All of the books that cannot be sold or reused are recycled.

Describing itself as a "for-profit social venture," Better World Books earns money by the sale of reusable books. However, financial profit isn't the only motive; the company also strives to generate a "social profit" by contributing to improvements in literacy in the U.S. and around the world. Since its

inception, Better World Books has donated \$1.3 million to 70 non-profits that promote literacy and education. The non-profits are usually selected by the organizations running the local book drives. More than 450,000 books have been donated to Books for Africa and the National Center for Family Literacy. In addition, over \$475,000 has gone back to the college and university service clubs and library volunteer organizations that have run the book drives.

For more information about Better World Books, visit www.betterworldbooks.com or e-mail info@betterworldbooks.com.



website, www.betterworld.com, and others are sold through other online book-sellers, such as Amazon.com. Reusable books go directly to the partner literacy organizations, including Books for Africa,



BetterWorld
BOOKS

Want to learn how you can help protect the environment?

The City of Irvine's Environmental Programs launched a new section of the City's website in late May. It features four program areas: recycling, water quality, energy conservation, and green building. Each program has its own subsection providing information and tips on how Irvine residents and businesses can help protect the environment. For more information, please visit www.cityofirvine.org/environmentalprograms.

At this new site, you will also find information about Waste Management's new programs for Irvine:

Beginning July 1:

- Residents with curbside service may participate in the senior discount or low-volume program to receive a discount on the standard residential waste bill. For more information, please contact Waste Management at 949-642-1191 or visit www.wmorangecounty.com/cities/irvine.asp.
- Residents with curbside service may schedule a pickup for

their electronic waste, including TVs, computers, VCRs, and other electronic devices, and universal waste, such as batteries and fluorescent tubes and bulbs. These items will be collected along with other bulky items by Waste Management. You must call 949-642-1191 to schedule your pickup. Residents with curbside service are allowed two bulky item collections per year. Up to four large items or 20 bags will be accepted per pickup.

- Residents with curbside service may request additional recycling carts or green waste carts at no charge by calling 949-642-1191.
- Residents may place plastic bags in the recycling cart. Please bag all of your plastic bags inside a plastic bag and tie it shut before putting your bags in the recycling cart. The bags should NOT be loose in the cart. Loose bags can create problems during the sorting process.

Mark your calendar!

Pollution Prevention Week

September 17-23
Many events are planned!
www.cityofirvine.org

Irvine Global Village Festival

Saturday, September 29
10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Bill Barber Park, 4 Civic Center Plaza, corner of Alton and Harvard
Free Admission
Come celebrate Irvine's cultural diversity!
www.IrvineFestival.org



We want your suggestions, questions and comments!

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The views and statements of environmental organizations referenced in this publication do not necessarily represent those of the City of Irvine.



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Event brings in nearly 14 tons of electronics

At our electronic waste (e-waste) recycling event in April, we received 27,600 pounds of used electronics from residents.

If you didn't make it to the e-waste collection event, please remember that you cannot place e-waste or universal waste in your household trash. These items are banned from landfill disposal. E-waste includes TVs, computer monitors, and electronic devices, such as printers, computers, VCRs, cell phones, and radios. Universal waste consists of household batteries (AA, AAA, C, D) and fluorescent tubes and bulbs.

You may dispose of e-waste and universal waste at no charge at the County of Orange Household Hazardous Waste Collection Centers. One of these centers is located in Irvine at 6411 Oak Canyon, off of Sand Canyon. The center is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.



The center is closed on holidays and rainy days. For more information, check the website, www.oclandfills.com, or call the HHW hotline at 714-834-6752.

Beginning July 1, residents who receive curbside pickup of e-waste and universal waste items, along with other bulky items. Residents are eligible for two bulky item pickups per year at no charge. To schedule a pickup, call Waste Management's customer service center at 949-642-1191.

Irvine businesses...

(Continued from Page 1)

Orthodyne Electronics

Location: 16700 Red Hill Avenue

Year Awarded: 2006

Over the past year, Orthodyne Electronics, a manufacturer of ultrasonic wire bonders for the electronics industry, recycled 63 tons of paper, cardboard, aluminum, scrap metals, plastic, glass, and universal waste. Orthodyne has saved an estimated \$25,000.

RICOH Electronics, Inc.

Six locations in Orange County, including one in Irvine: 17482 Pullman Street

Years Awarded: 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999, 1995

Ricoh Electronics, Inc., a division of Ricoh Company Ltd., is a supplier of advanced office automation equipment. REI has been a Zero-Waste-to-Landfill company since 2001. In fiscal year 2005, over 8,000 metric tons of waste were diverted from landfills through "5R" activities. REI employees saved an estimated \$3 million by these efforts.

Safeway Inc.

35 locations in Orange County, including one in Irvine: Vons Store #2166, 4800 Irvine Boulevard

Years Awarded: 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999

Safeway operates 584 California stores in its Vons and Northern California Divisions. Vons has an ongoing composting program for green waste at its stores. In addition, Safeway in California diverted 139,598 tons of other materials, including corrugated cardboard, plastic, meat waste, metal, paper, and glass, from landfills through recycling programs.

Shur-Lok Company, SPS Fasteners Division, A PCC Company

Location: 2541 White Road

Years Awarded: 2006

Shur-Lok Company, a world leader in the manufacture of fasteners for the aerospace industry, diverts 168 tons from the landfill and saves an estimated \$350,000 annually through recycling and energy conservation programs.

Southern California Edison

10 locations in Orange County, including two in Irvine: Irvine Operations Center, 23 Parker Street, and Saddleback Service Center, 14155 Bake Parkway

Years Awarded: 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999

In 2005, through its "Waste-Not" program, Southern California Edison recycled over 80 percent of the 55,000 tons of waste materials generated. SCE saved \$10 million in solid waste hauling fees at 79 California facilities through recycling.

Target

23 locations in Orange County, including two in Irvine: Target Store #1238, 13200 Jamboree Road, and Target Store #0336, 3750 Barranca Parkway

Years Awarded: 2006, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999, 1997

Target has been able to reuse, recycle, or rethink the end-of-life use for more than 70 percent of its waste. Last year, Target diverted more than 200 million pounds of material, including corrugated cardboard, office paper, shopping carts, shrink wrap, and metal fixtures, from disposal in California landfills, saving more than \$8 million. Target also donates overstocked groceries to local food pantries.