

City Beat

www.modestogov.com

(209) 577-5200

TDD (209) 526-9211

CITY OFFICES TO CLOSE

City of Modesto offices, located at 1010 Tenth Street, will be closed due to holidays and work furloughs during the following times:

November 22-November 26, 2010

December 24-December 31, 2010

February 14, 2011

Utility payments can be made by phone or online
24 hours-a-day/7 days-a-week.



Customer Service
(209) 577-5395



Pay by Phone
(209) 577-5395
Option 4



Pay Online at
www.modestogov.com

For more information, including utility-related emergencies, visit
www.modestogov.com

Halloween Safety Tips from the Modesto Police Department

- Trick-or-treaters should wear reflective clothing on Halloween night.
- Be sure to cross the street cautiously at the corners of intersections.
- Motorists, please use extra caution during this time.
- Parents are encouraged to accompany younger trick-or-treaters.

Preapproved Water Rate Increase

The City of Modesto understands the impact the current economy is having on everyone and is sensitive to increases in utility rates. In order to ensure the integrity of the City's drinking water system, City of Modesto water customers will see a slight rate increase on their bill beginning November 1, 2010.

In 2004, the Modesto City Council approved a series of rate increases to fund improvements to the water system and expand the Regional Water Treatment Plant; the last increase implemented in this series came in July 2008. With the increase beginning in November, residential customers will see an average increase of 89 cents per month. Metered customers may experience a slightly different amount based on the amount of water they use in a given month.

Water rates pay for the cost of delivering water to the customers of the City of Modesto's water system. This rate increase is based on a combined two year Consumer Price Index change of 2.1% and is necessary to pay for routine inflationary cost increases that have occurred over the last two years since our last rate increase. Any rate increase put off now would result in a larger increase in the future; this small increase helps smooth rate increases over time.

In addition, cost increases have been mitigated by staff efforts to reduce costs. The Water Operations Division has taken several steps to help reduce costs:

- Capital Improvement Program was adjusted to focus only on critical project
- Operations were streamlined
- Employees began participating in a furlough program

For more information, contact Customer Service at (209) 577-5395.

Let's Talk Trash & Recycling!

If you live within the city limits of Modesto, your trash and recycling are collected by one of two private garbage companies: Gilton Solid Waste or Bertolotti Disposal. Each company services specific areas of the city.

The Cans:

The green can is for organic waste, which includes yard waste, food waste, paper, and cardboard. This material is delivered to the City's compost facility where it is recycled into compost.

The black can is for all other household trash. The trash is delivered to a Waste-to-Energy facility where it is recycled to create electricity.

Your Garbage Companies and Collection Systems:

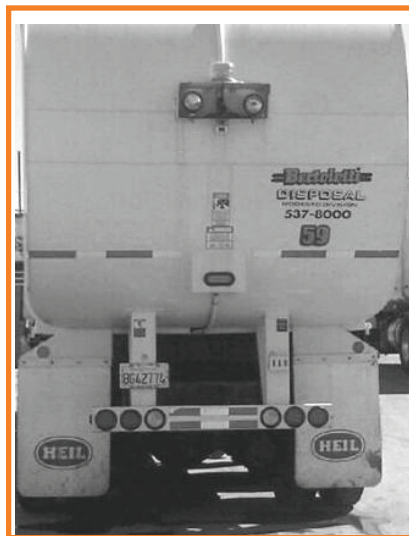
Gilton Solid Waste uses one specialized truck to collect both cans. Their "one-pass" truck is divided into two compartments and keeps the materials separate from each other. The driver controls the direction of the materials with the flip of a switch.

Bertolotti Disposal uses separate trucks to collect the cans. One truck services only the black cans, and the other services only the green cans.

Both garbage companies operate from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. Place your cans out for collection no later than 6 a.m. on your service day.

For more information about trash and recycling services, please contact:

City of Modesto.....(209) 577-5494
Bertolotti Disposal.....(209) 537-8000
Gilton Solid Waste.....(209) 527-3781



Correction to "Keep Storm Drains Clear of Pollutants and Debris"

In the July "City Beat", the article "Keep Storm Drains Clear of Pollutants and Debris" stated it is illegal to wash vehicles in driveways or gutters. The City would like to clarify that it is only illegal to wash commercial vehicles in your driveway or gutter.

However, it is recommended that all vehicles be washed on a non-paved area of your yard to prevent the discharge of soapy water and other contaminants from entering storm drains.

For more information, please contact Michele Beck at (209) 577-5493 or mbeck@modestogov.com.

****IMPORTANT INFORMATION****

HOLIDAY GARBAGE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Garbage collection will run one day late due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

There will be no garbage collection on Thursday, November 25.

If your collection day is Thursday or Friday, garbage collection will run one day late. Thursday routes will be picked up on Friday, and Friday routes will be picked up on Saturday.

No other routes will be affected.