



# Memorandum

## MONTEREY REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Reviewed by Wmm Date 11/11/09  
General Manager

DATE: November 13, 2009  
TO: General Manager  
FROM: Public Education and Recycling Manager  
SUBJECT: Report on Public Education, Recycling and Litter Activities

### Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA) Clean-up a Success

FORA conducted an illegal dumping clean-up effort on October 24, 2009. Organizers expected 35 volunteers and more than 200 showed-up to participate. A wide range of illegally dumped materials, enough to fill 3 drop boxes, were removed including: white goods (appliances), household hazardous waste (hauled separately), and trash. The District helped support the FORA clean-up through advance coordination with the County which allowed FORA to utilize the Disposal Voucher Program so that illegally dumped material could be disposed of free of charge. All told, more than 5 tons of illegally dumped refuse was removed from the former Fort Ord through the clean-up day event.

### Environmentally Acceptable Food Packaging Ordinances Moving Forward

The Del Rey Oaks City Council will consider an ordinance prohibiting the use of polystyrene packaging for take-out food on November 17<sup>th</sup>. A District phone survey has found that a large majority of restaurants in the City have already made the switch to alternative and environmentally friendly food packaging. The proposed City policy would also prohibit the use of polystyrene food service items such as cups and plates at City parks and at City special events. Polystyrene food service items have reportedly contributed to litter problems following parties and events at Del Rey Park.

The County has scheduled three public workshops in early December (announcement attached) to discuss their proposed food packaging ordinance which regulates and limits the use of polystyrene foam food packaging by food providers in the unincorporated area of Monterey County. These regulations allow for reasonable measures to protect the environment and decrease litter throughout the unincorporated county. Currently, there are approximately 2,200 permitted food providers located in Monterey County. Approximately 170 permitted food providers are in the unincorporated areas of Monterey County and of these, approximately 160 food providers may be subject to the requirements of the proposed ordinance. County staff has found that affordably priced non-polystyrene foam food packaging products are locally available. The County ordinance and initial study for public comment are expected to be posted on the [www.co.monterey.ca.us/health](http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/health) website on November 13<sup>th</sup>, and will be heard by the Board of Supervisors in the next 2-3 months.

### **Department Of Conservation Grant Funding Restored**

We have just received word that the state has lifted the stop work order on the multi-family and hospitality recycling grants that Ecology Action had been administering in Monterey County (including the District service area). It has been approximately six months since the state directed that all work on the grants must cease. A meeting with all grant stakeholders to discuss restarting work is scheduled for November 19<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the District Board Room.

### **Litter Abatement Task Force (LATF)**

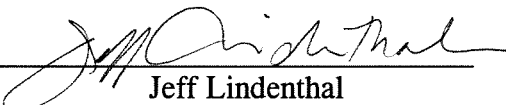
The next meeting of the LATF is November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2 p.m., at Supervisor Potter's office. Among other items, the LATF will hear a report from State Parks staff on the success of the 2009 Coastal Cleanup Day effort.

### **Green Cities California Launches New Website**

California Green Cities has launched a new website that may be of interest locally. According to a Green Cities spokesperson, "The purpose of this first-of-its-kind Web site is to accelerate the implementation of sound environmental policies in cities and counties around the state and, ultimately, across the U.S. It is a storehouse of cutting-edge environmental policy designed to accelerate policy implementation by helping cities avoid pitfalls and save time." Topics include waste reduction, urban design, urban nature, transportation, environmental health, and water. The waste reduction section includes a model Extended Producer Responsibility resolution, zero waste policies and examples of sales ban ordinances, such as the City and County of San Francisco's ban on plastic bags.

### **Strategic Planning Impact**

4b Program focus on public awareness, increased diversion of organics and commercial wastes, proper management of hazardous & prohibited materials, litter abatement, & sustainability.

  
Jeff Lindenthal

Attachment



COUNTY OF MONTEREY  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

# ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP

## Proposed Ordinance Regulating and Limiting the Use of Polystyrene Foam Food Packaging by Food Providers in the Unincorporated Area of Monterey County

### Purpose of the Workshops

These public informational workshops are for any interested parties to learn more about the proposed ordinance. These workshops will provide an opportunity for the public to ask questions, raise concerns, or make suggestions to create a responsible and effective ordinance. County staff will be present at the workshops and available to the public.

### Times and Locations (see back for maps and directions)

<b>Inland Session</b>	Tuesday, December 1, 2009 @ 6PM	Prunedale Grange Hall 17890 Moro Road Prunedale, CA 93907
<b>Peninsula Session</b>	Thursday, December 3, 2009 @ 6PM	Monterey County Courthouse Room 1 (aka Jury Room) 1200 Aguajito Road Monterey, CA 93940
<b>SPANISH Session</b>	Wednesday, December 9, 2009 @ 6PM	Castroville Library 11160 Speegle Street Castroville, CA 95012

### Brief Description of Ordinance

The proposed ordinance regulates and limits the use of polystyrene foam food packaging by food providers in the unincorporated area of Monterey County. These regulations allow for reasonable measures to protect the environment and decrease litter throughout the unincorporated county. Currently, there are approximately two-thousand two-hundred (2,200) permitted Food Providers located in Monterey County. Approximately one-hundred and seventy (170) permitted Food Providers are in the unincorporated areas of Monterey County. Approximately one hundred and sixty (160) Food Providers may be subject to the requirements of this Chapter. Affordably priced non-polystyrene foam food packaging products are available to food providers.

A three hundred and sixty-five (365) day "grace period" has been incorporated to allow food providers adequate time to expend current stocks of non-compliant food packaging.

### Where to Get Additional Information

For more information regarding these workshops, please call (831) 755-4579 during normal business hours Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm. Electronic copies of this announcement, the Initial Study, and the draft ordinance may be found on the Monterey County Health Department website at [www.co.monterey.ca.us/health](http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/health) after November 13, 2009.