

March 2018



GO GREEN!!



Make March the Month of Going Green

Secure Your Load



When we think of litter, we typically think of someone purposely throwing trash on the ground or out of their car window, but that's only part of the story. A less obvious source of litter is from people who fail to tarp or secure their load before transporting it. In fact, uncovered loads are the #1 cause of roadside litter and according to Malcolm Dougherty, the Director of Caltrans, this is a safety, environmental, economic, and aesthetic issue that is 100% preventable. To learn more about why it's so important to always secure and tarp your loads, check out our [website](#) and read our [blog](#). For a local look at how litter affects the Salinas Valley, check out Caltrans' "[News Flash](#)" video.

Trashion Show Update



We had a great time last month at the South County Trashion Show! Big thank you to our model Linda who looked fabulous in her "*Plastic is Drastic*" gown! It was a great event supporting the Alliance on Aging organization that provides senior services in Monterey County. Here are some photos of the other recycled designs that adorned the runway.



Recycle Right!



A study by [Popular Science](#) revealed that

Upcoming Events

Composting Workshop

Date: March 24, 2018

Time: 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Location: Jardin El Sol
139 Sun St., Salinas

Pajaro Spring Clean Up

Date: March 10, 2018

Time: 8 am - 12 pm

Location: 416 Salinas Road,

79% of plastics end up in landfills or the environment. Considering approximately 9.1 billion tons of plastic has been produced since the 1950s, that's nearly 7.1 billion tons of plastic wasted! Clearly, we need to reduce our dependence on plastic. Another way to help is to recycle right, so that plastic container you thought was clean doesn't contaminate the whole recycling cart. Mislacing materials will also harm the recycling process. A good example is how loose plastic bags damage recycling equipment and can even shut down an entire recycling plant. These are just a few eye-opening facts about waste and contaminated recycling that illustrate why it is very important to recycle right. Check out this [Grist video](#) to get a better idea of how and why so much of our recyclables end up in the landfill.

For tips on how you can do your part to recycle right, check out this blog from [Recycle Bank](#). To learn what goes in the recycling bin, visit [I Want To Be Recycled's website](#) and play their [Super Sorter](#) recycling game to test your knowledge about how recyclables are sorted at the recycling facility.



FORESTS AND SUSTAINABLE CITIES
Let's make our cities greener, healthier, happier places to live!

March 21st is International Day of Forests. Forests are an integral part of earth's environment. They provide homes for animals and organisms, cool our surrounding areas, filter our air and provide plenty of other benefits. You can help the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) celebrate International Forests Day by planting a tree, joining events that celebrate forests, initiating a discussion through social media or a symposium, or simply going out and hugging a tree! This year's theme is Forests and Sustainable Cities. What will you do to celebrate International Forests day? For more information check out [FAO's](#) website.

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