

## **CONSERVATION CORNER**

### **AB 341: State Mandated Commercial/Multi Family Recycling**

Businesses statewide account for about half the solid waste produced and about 75% of that is recyclable. La Verne businesses currently recycle about 4% of their waste stream on average, but can make significant improvements in organic, paper, metal, and plastic recycling. California State Assembly Bill 341 (AB 341) mandates that multi-family complexes with 5 or more units and businesses disposing of four cubic yards or more of solid waste per week, must recycle. This became effective in 2016, to help reach the states goal of 75% waste reduction by 2020. Over the coming years recycling will become mandatory for businesses generating less solid waste, using a phased in approach. Businesses like department stores and large offices tend to produce significant volumes of recyclables like cardboard, plastic, and paper. Disposing of recyclables properly has the potential to save businesses money due to the lower disposal rates of recyclables. Capturing these waste streams in a recycling program will increase the sustainability of La Verne and decrease manufacturing costs through reusing products instead of creating new ones. The cost of transporting and dumping trash at landfills will also be reduced by moving these recyclables out of landfills to reuse.

As AB 341 implementation continues, businesses should be transitioning more of their waste streams to recycling. Businesses will also be increasingly required to report diversion rates to local and state authorities in order to track performance and prevent enforcement actions. These actions, mandated by state agencies, will help increase local sustainability and prevent degradation of our natural resources.

### **Claremont and Covina Beginner Smart Gardening Workshops**

In Claremont, LA County is offering a Beginner Gardening Workshop. Beginner workshops teach students about water wise gardening, composting, and grasscycling. The workshop is on 2/11/2017 from 9:30 am – 11:00 am at the Hughes Community Center, 1700 Danbury Rd, Claremont, CA, 91711

In Covina, LA County is offering a Beginner Gardening Workshop. Beginner workshops teach students about water wise gardening, composting, and grasscycling. The workshop is on 2/25/2017 from 9:30 am – 11:00 am at Charter Oak Park, 20261 E Covina Blvd, Covina, CA 91724

### **Claremont and Diamond Bar Household Hazardous Waste Events**

Please gather your hazardous waste (pesticides, old batteries, used automotive fluids, used cleaning products, etc.) and electronic waste products (computers, old televisions, and broken cell phones) for two FREE collection events.

- 1) Saturday, 2/11/17 from 9am-3pm at Claremont Corporate Yard, 1616 Monte Vista Ave., Claremont, CA, 91711
- 2) Saturday, 2/25/17 from 9am-3pm at City Streets Gateway Corporate Center, 1300 block of Bridge Gate Drive, Diamond Bar, CA, 91756.

All L.A. County residents are welcome to participate. If you can't make it to these events, there is a roundup nearly every weekend in L.A. County. The entire schedule and more details are posted at [www.888cleanla.com](http://www.888cleanla.com).

