



## City of Davis Public Works Department

1717 Fifth Street Davis, CA 95616

530-757-5686 FAX: 530-758-4738

Environmental Column

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By Jennifer Gilbert, Conservation Coordinator for the City of Davis

### POLLUTION PREVENTION WEEK

September 21-27 is National Pollution Prevention Week! Join the City of Davis and the Putah Creek Council to help clean up your local watershed during the California Coast and Creek Cleanup Day. On September 19<sup>th</sup> from 9am to Noon, thousands of volunteers throughout the state will join the cause to rid our creeks, rivers and beaches of environmentally unfriendly litter. Local cleanup sites include Davis storm water ponds and several areas along Putah Creek. To register and find out more information about the local cleanup events visit the Putah Creek Council webpage at <http://www.putahcreekcouncil.org/>.

You can prevent pollution of our local creeks and waterways by following these simple tips:

- Avoid using toxic products outdoors. If you must use pesticides or fertilizers, do so carefully and sparingly. Do not apply them if rain is expected as stormwater will wash them into the ponds and creeks.
- Never sweep or hose yard waste into gutters or storm drains.
- When you change your oil on your car, take the used oil to a free oil collection center in Davis. Visit [www.davisrecycling.org](http://www.davisrecycling.org) or call 757-5686 to find a location near you.
- Take your car to a car wash facility or have the wash water flow into your landscape to prevent soapy water from running off your property and into the storm drain.
- Pick up and dispose of animal wastes in the garbage so that animal waste is not washed into the storm drain.
- Use kitty litter or another absorbent material to clean spills of paint, cleaners, solvents and other toxic products.
- Clean painting tools in the sink rather than outside on the sidewalk or in the street.
- If you have a pool or spa, never clean the filter in the street or near a storm drain. Instead, rinse cartridge filters onto a dirt area and spade filter residue into your soil.

### MOVING IN OR MOVING OUT?

Please help keep our City beautiful. Be responsible as you are moving and do not leave unwanted furniture and other household items in the street or on the sidewalk. It is against the law and it is a safety hazard for bicycles and pedestrians. Please note that it is also a violation of City Code to leave indoor furniture in front of your property in public view (indoor couches in front yard). Such code violations may be reported by calling the

Code Compliance Hotline at 757-5646 or online by using the City request for code investigation form at [www.cityofdavis.org](http://www.cityofdavis.org).

If you are unpacking, please help us reduce waste by recycling and reusing your packing materials. Please do not throw cardboard in the trash. Flatten and stack cardboard boxes next to the recycling carts and Davis Waste Removal will pick it up for recycling. Bring your bubble wrap and packing peanuts to The UPS Store, Pakmail, Postmarks or Parcel Dispatch PDQ for reuse. Always be sure to call ahead to ensure that they are not overloaded and will take your stuff before dropping it off!

#### YARD WASTE ETIQUETTE

Please be courteous and place your yard waste on the street as close to your scheduled pick-up date as possible. If you or your gardener places yard waste in the street the day after pick-up, your yard waste will sit in the street all week long. Also, please park your car off the street on street sweeping day to allow the street sweeping vehicles to clean the gutters. Check [www.davisrecycling.org](http://www.davisrecycling.org) for the yard waste pick-up schedule.

#### FREE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF EVENT

Don't miss this month's free household hazardous waste (HHW) drop-off events, September 12 and 13, from 9:00am to 2:00pm at the Yolo County Central Landfill. Bring in your empty propane canisters, pesticides, fluorescent light bulbs, household cleaners, expired medicines and more for FREE and safe disposal. Mark your calendar for the HHW drop-off dates next month, October 17 and 18, from 9:00am to 2:00pm. Check out the reuse opportunities at the landfill as well. During each HHW drop-off event reusable items are available for FREE. Stop by the landfill during a HHW drop-off event to take your pick of free paints, fertilizers, household cleaners and more.

For more information, visit [www.davisrecycling.org](http://www.davisrecycling.org) or email me at [PWweb@cityofdavis.org](mailto:PWweb@cityofdavis.org).