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SEP 14 2011

City Manager's Office  
*Memorandum*

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR  
AND CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Kerrie Romanow

**SUBJECT:** POLLUTION PREVENTION WEEK

**DATE:** September 12, 2011

Approved

Date

9/13/11

**INFORMATION**

For the fifth year in a row, the City will recognize National Pollution Prevention (P2) Week, September 19-24, with a series of education and outreach activities. This annual National P2 Week celebration, which began in 1993 with proclamations and resolutions from the California Governor and the Legislature, is now celebrated nationally during the third week of September.

The purpose of P2 Week is to increase public awareness and highlight simple actions that individuals can take to prevent pollution and protect the environment. Pollution prevention promotes the development and implementation of programs and activities that avoid, eliminate, or reduce waste and pollutants released to air, land, and water.

Once again this year, the Environmental Services Department (ESD) will host resource fairs to educate participants on a variety of pollution prevention tips for earth friendly gardens, less-toxic homes, litter free and healthy creeks, and safe disposal for household hazardous waste. The fairs will provide the opportunity for residents to safely dispose of unused medications, exchange old-fashioned mercury thermometers for a free digital one, and receive a free reusable bag. Events will be held at the Roosevelt Community Center, Kaiser Permanente San Jose, Barbara Lee Senior Center, and Cupertino Senior Center.

In addition, ESD will host a clean-up site for Coastal Cleanup Day on Saturday, September 17 at the New Chicago Marsh, Don Edwards Environmental Education Center in San Jose, and participate in World Water Monitoring Day on Sunday, September 18. Individuals will learn about water quality and test for dissolved oxygen, temperature, pH, and turbidity in two locations along the Guadalupe River!

Please see the attachment for a complete list of event times and locations.

/s/

KERRIE ROMANOW

Acting Director, Environmental Services

For questions please contact Sharon Newton, Environmental Services Program Manager, at (408) 793-5351.



# National Pollution Prevention Week September 19-25, 2011

*Be Part of the Green Solution!*



Come learn about simple actions you can take to help prevent pollution.

- ▶ **Drop off your expired or unwanted medications** for safe and proper disposal.
- ▶ **Get a free digital thermometer** in exchange for your glass mercury thermometer.  
*Limit one per household.*
- ▶ **Get a free reusable shopping bag** and help reduce plastic pollution.  
*Limit one per household. While supplies last.*

## ▶ **Event Locations**

**September 17 • 10a.m. – 12:30p.m.**

**Barbara Lee Senior Center**

40 North Milpitas Boulevard, Milpitas

**September 20 • 1p.m. – 3p.m.**

**Cupertino Senior Center**

21251 Stevens Creek Boulevard, Cupertino

**September 21 • 11a.m. – 2p.m.**

**Roosevelt Community Center**

901 East Santa Clara Street, San José

**September 24 • 9a.m. – 12:30p.m.**

**Kaiser Permanente San José Medical Center**

Camino Verde & Santa Teresa Boulevard, San José

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SANTA CLARA  
WATER POLLUTION  
CONTROL PLANT

Serving the cities of San José,  
Santa Clara, Milpitas, Cupertino,  
Campbell, Los Gatos,  
Monte Sereno, and Saratoga.

**For additional information visit**  
[www.sanjoseca.gov/esd/calendar.asp](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/esd/calendar.asp)  
or call (408) 945-3000.

*Over for more activities and information ▶*



# National Pollution Prevention Week September 19-25, 2011

*Be Part of the Green Solution!*

## Start Shopping with Reusable Bags Now!

A new San José ordinance goes into effect January 1, 2012 that prohibits San José retailers from distributing free carryout plastic bags and requires them to charge a fee for paper bags.

### Avoid a paper bag charge with these tips:

- Keep reusable bags by the door, in the car, or near car keys.
- Place foldable bags in pockets, backpacks, or purses.
- Give reusable bags as a gift and encourage friends and family to start shopping with them today.



*Plastic bags wind up in our creeks and Bay, posing a danger to creatures that live there. Using one reusable bag can replace more than 600 plastic bags over its lifetime! Paper bags also pose resource problems; in the United States, it takes 14 million trees each year to produce a year's supply for retail use. Help reduce litter and conserve natural resources by shopping with reusable bags.*

For additional information, visit: [www.sjrecycles.org/bags](http://www.sjrecycles.org/bags) or call (408) 534-BYOB (2962)

## Activities

### Coastal Cleanup Day

Be the solution to creek pollution!

September 17, 2011

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Come with friends, family, and lots of energy to help clean up litter. Wear long pants, sturdy shoes, gloves, and sunscreen!

Visit [www.cleanacreek.org](http://www.cleanacreek.org) for a creek cleanup site near you, or call (408) 265-2607 ext 2739.

### World Water Monitoring Day

Give your  
local waterway  
a check-up!

September 18, 2011

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Join volunteers around the world in monitoring local water bodies! Learn about water quality tests and try them on the Guadalupe River in two locations:

- **Alviso Marina County Park**  
1195 Hope Street, Alviso
- **Guadalupe River Park Conservancy**  
Visitor's Center, 438 Coleman Avenue, San José

To RSVP or for more information, contact Ella Samonsky at (408) 945-3000.

**Over for more activities ▶**

To request an accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act, call 408-535-3500. Spanish, Vietnamese, and Chinese-language services are available upon request. City of San José — committed to open and honest government.



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