



Perspectives

Welcome to *PERSPECTIVES*, an email-newsletter designed to give you a window into what is going on here at El Sobrante Landfill. Topics include waste management issues, community involvement, and environmental protection and legislation. We hope you enjoy it.

EL SOBRANTE LANDFILL

El Sobrante Landfill is a Class 3 regional disposal facility permitted to accept up to 10,000 tons per day, seven days per week. It employs approximately 40 full-time employees. Landfill operations are overseen by the California Integrated Waste Management Board, and the Riverside County Department of Environmental Health.

Letter from Damon De Frates District Manager, El Sobrante Landfill

Dear Friends,

Spring has been good to us here at El Sobrante and to our wildlife preserve next door to the landfill. Although it was a short season, the preserve was thriving with beautiful wildflowers and, thanks to the rain we've had, it was a particularly abundant time for the native California Poppies.

This month, we will be busy celebrating Earth Day by hosting tours of the landfill and wildlife preserve. We are especially pleased that we have been assisting local Boy Scout Troops earn points towards their merit badges. Also, for the first time, a local Girl Scout Troop, Daisy Troop 707, visited the landfill to earn their "petal" badge.

Earth Day also is a great time to think about how we can do our part to improve the environment. We all generate approximately five pounds of trash a day, so it is important to start considering how we can Reduce, Re-use and Recycle as much as possible. If you need a little help doing so, come to the local community Earth Day celebrations where we will be hosting a recycling booth with fun educational games.

Finally, I want to introduce you to Craig Mitchell, landfill supervisor at El Sobrante. Craig has worked for Waste Management for more than seven years and plays an integral part of the success of El Sobrante Landfill.

As always, we invite you to tour our operations and answer any questions you may have. Please don't hesitate to contact me or Community Relations Manager Lily Quiroa at 951-277-5112.

Best,

Damon De Frates
District Manager
El Sobrante Landfill



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Earth Day: Reuse, Reduce, and Recycle

It is estimated that the average person produces almost 1,800 pounds of waste a year. If you ever wondered what you could do to reduce waste and help the environment, there's an easy answer -- remember to practice the three "R's": Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle.

The most helpful thing we can do is to reduce the amount of waste we create. You can accomplish this by buying only what you can use and avoiding disposable items whenever possible. Rather than throwing items away, see if you can reuse a product or material, or pass it along to someone who can.

El Sobrante Landfill can help you with the third "R" – recycling! Come to El Sobrante to recycle your electronics, appliances, metal and carton items at no cost to you. This helps divert recyclable materials from the landfill that can be processed into new products we buy and use. Last year, El Sobrante was able to divert close to 300,000 pounds of electronic waste from the landfill.

Here at WM, we are improving our recycling operations in the Inland Empire – and cutting truck traffic at the same time. This month, we centralized all recycled materials collected from residential curbside pick-ups by bringing them to El Sobrante Landfill to be reloaded into transfer trailers and taken to a recycling plant in Pomona to be processed. This change is the equivalent of eliminating two truck routes a day or ten truck routes a week on our local highway, Interstate 15. This is an example of our constant pursuit to improve our operations by making them more efficient and minimizing the impact to the environment.

To help you recycle your electronics, appliances, metal and carton items, El Sobrante Landfill is open to the general public Monday through Saturday from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. For more information, you can contact Lily Quiroa at 951-277-5112.



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Carona Daisy Troop Learns the Importance of Recycling

For the last several months El Sobrante Landfill and Wildlife Preserve has been helping local Boy Scout troops from the Inland Empire earn their patches towards environmental stewardship. This month, we were very pleased to help a Daisy Troop earn a "petal" for their "Using Resources Wisely" project.

In celebration of Earth Day, Daisy Troop 707 from the City of Corona came to El Sobrante to learn the importance of recycling and how trash is managed in the landfill. The Daisy Troop, made up of five- and six-year old girls, was taught about the positive effects of recycling and also took a tour of the landfill. Afterwards, they put their new knowledge into practice as they each converted an empty two-liter soda bottle into a bird feeder. This "re-use" exercise was enjoyed by the girls because they not only learned about becoming good environmentalists, they got a bird feeder to take home to their families.



We still are appreciating the efforts of Chino Boy Scout Troop Pac 201, who came to El Sobrante earlier in the year to help restore our native plant garden that serves as a habitat for the bird and butterfly species of the area. Teaming up with El Sobrante biologists, the Boys Scouts weeded out invasive plant species and replaced them with native plant species. We have enjoyed watching more birds and butterflies visit our native garden than ever before.



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Landfill Supervisor Adds to the Success of El Sobrante Landfill

Craig Mitchell, our landfill supervisor has worked for El Sobrante Landfill for more than seven years and has been employed for more than fifteen years in the engineering industry. Craig brings a wealth of experience to this position.

It's fair to say that Craig is fanatical about cleanliness and orderliness, which are two great qualities we welcome at Waste Management. He is responsible for making sure that all equipment is working properly, that his team is working safely, for building the working phase of the landfill, and, of course, for managing the waste that is brought in everyday.



When not at work, Craig spends his time with his kids - coaching his 12-year old son, Nick, in baseball and his daughter Jennifer, who recently was accepted to Cal State Fullerton. Dad and daughter are working to restore her 1966 Mustang to get it ready for when she begins college this fall.

Originally from Pittsburgh, he grew up in a large Italian family. He and his wife of twenty years, Stacy, decided to move to California nineteen years ago and made Temescal Valley their home.

Thanks, Craig, for everything you do every day that makes El Sobrante Landfill a great place to work – and a safe place for the environment!