



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

July 5, 2011

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ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
NEWS RELEASE

Please, keep your yard waste clean!

SAN DIEGO, CA — Do you know where your curbside yard waste goes? Ultimately it might end up in someone else's landscaping. So while you are filling up your greenery bin, ask yourself... what would you would want on YOUR yard.

How about bits of plastic? Probably not. Pet poop? No! Glass shards? Toxics treated wood? Disposable diapers? No, No, and **NO WAY!**

Yard waste collected in the City's curbside greenery program is taken to the Miramar Greenery at the Miramar Landfill, where it is turned into compost and mulch, used for gardening, landscaping, and agricultural application. Miramar Greenery compost is certified by the U.S. Compost Council, making it a highly desirable product. This certification requires that the compost be contamination free.

Yet these are things that show up regularly in the City's curbside greenery collection. And they didn't jump in there themselves. People want a good quality product for use at their homes. Contaminated greenery requires additional processing to screen out the undesirable materials. Putting bad things in their greenery also cost the City additional money to sort out and properly dispose of these wastes.

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The City employs a staff of Solid Waste Code Enforcement Officers, whose responsibilities include spot checking trash, recycling, and greenery bins to look for materials that should not be put in these containers. When wrong materials are found, the bins are tagged to educate residents about proper use of their containers. In the case of bad contamination, the bin will be tagged to alert the collection driver not to collect from that container. When a container has been tagged for no collection, the resident responsible for the container will need to remove the bad material before the bin will be emptied.

To prevent others from putting unacceptable materials in your greenery, trash, or recycling containers, store them well on your property, preferably behind a fence, and put them out at the point of collection on your scheduled collection day.

For more information about greenery recycling, visit www.recyclingworks.com or call Environmental Services Department Customer Service at 858-694-7000. For information on mulch, compost and wood chips produced at the Miramar Greenery, contact the Miramar Landfill at 858-492-6100.

The City of San Diego's Environmental Services Department is charged with refuse collection and disposal, recycling and environmentally-sound landfill management to meet the City's long-term disposal needs. For more information on recycling and the programs under the Environmental Services Department, call 858-694-7000 or visit our web site at: www.sandiego.gov/esd.

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