



NEWS RELEASE

COUNCILMEMBER MARTI EMERALD

Seventh District

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For Immediate Release

RECYCLING CHRISTMAS TREES SAVES TAXPAYERS MONEY NOW AND IN THE FUTURE

Councilmember Marti Emerald is joining with the City of San Diego's Environmental Services Department in hosting the 37th Annual Christmas Tree Recycling Program which runs through January 23, 2011. This year's program offers 16 drop-off locations, available to City residents, as well as curbside pickup for customers with curbside yard waste collection.

"This is a great program for everyone," said Emerald. "Easy recycling for residents, we keep greenery out of the landfill extending its life, and recycle the trees to provide free mulch for your yard. It's a win-win all around."

The City of San Diego is required to manage the landfill even after it's full. By recycling Christmas trees and other yard waste, we save up to 20-percent of landfill space annually and that can add years to the life of the landfill.

Residents who currently receive curbside yard waste recycling can leave trees at the curb on regular yard waste recycling days. All tree stands, lights, ornaments and other tree decorations must be removed. If the tree is taller than 4 feet, it should be cut in half.

Residents who prefer to drop their trees off can do so during daylight hours at any of 16 locations citywide. Both green and flocked (fake snow) trees are accepted. Remember to remove all tree stands, lights, ornaments and other decorations. **No artificial trees.** Please do not dump any other items at the drop-off locations.

Trees from commercial tree lots or fundraising projects will not be accepted at the drop-off locations. Instead, these trees can be delivered free of charge at The Greenery, located in the Miramar Landfill.

All trees will be recycled into high quality mulch and compost, which is available throughout the year to city residents at The Greenery.

For more information, call the Environmental Services Department at 858-694-7000 or visit their web site at: <http://www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services>

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