

IS YOUR DEPARTMENT GREEN?

Happy New (Fiscal) Year! Your County Green Committee spent their first meeting of the year celebrating their many accomplishments. Each department representative boasted about the progress being made to improve our environmental stewardship while reducing costs. Only half of the department representatives present had a chance to speak. We will continue updates at our next meeting on September 17.

You made this happen. We want to take this opportunity to share with you some of what you and your fellow County employees have achieved. If you don't see your department here, watch for it in the next issue.

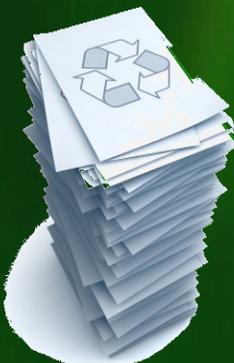
We still have more to do, and we invite you to assist your department's green team.



Assessor/Recorder/County Clerk (Mary Calderon): The committee, comprised of representatives from various sections of the department, meets quarterly. Tips are emailed to all staff monthly. They have undertaken the huge task of digitizing forms and scanning old paperwork.

Human Resources (Pat Dalesandro and Tanya Hong-Moreno): HR has focused on green purchasing, electronic applications and employee files, duplexing, and recycling CRV, batteries, and pens. (If you want to recycle pens in your office, contact [Michelle Koenig](#) at Purchasing for shipping labels and boxes.)

District Attorney (Lisa Schmidt): The DA's office is doing more electronic reports and reducing paper. They use the Big Green Box to collect batteries from staff and the public. (Contact [Elisa](#) at Solid Waste if you would like one for your office.) They recycle paper, CRV, and toners.



Public Defender (Maria Montalvo): The Public Defender's office collects CRV and toner. They recently created a cereal bar in their lunchroom, complete with real plates and utensils, which has greatly reduced their waste.

Child Support (Jose Daroy): Jose wanted to know how they could recycle more. Elisa advised them to contact their waste hauler and ask them to provide an outside container for recycling. Someone needs to monitor the waste and recycling that is picked up by the haulers; as recycling increases, you can adjust the frequency of the pickups and possibly reduce the cost.

Human Services Agency (Lauri McQuaid): The committee meets bi-monthly. They have a green page on their internal employee website, where they list past and future goals. Their ISD team has been working with PG&E on a program to reduce energy consumed by their computers, and they will convert to a virtual server upon completion. They recycle batteries, toner, metal, paper, and CRV. Department of Aging is testing green cleaning products.



Sheriff (Dina Jose): They recycle paper, ink, CRV, and batteries. They are reducing paper consumption by emailing more. They use greener cleaning products. The food service for the jail is now being outsourced and is delivered on reusable plastic trays.

San Joaquin Regional Conservation Corps (Nick Mueller): Nick explained the role of the local Conservation Corps and how they employ and train "at risk" youth. Their primary funding is through CalRecycle's CRV program. They provide recycling of CRV, paper, and cardboard for businesses and residents. Small departments that don't need shredding and don't have enough paper and cardboard for Records Management could contract with the Corps.



Register for the 2012 Smart Gardening Conference hosted by the San Joaquin UC Master Gardeners. Space is limited, so reserve your spot now! For more information and to register [click here](#).