



**CITY OF SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO
ENVIRONMENTAL CALENDAR**



THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, THE CITY OF SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO SPONSORS ENVIRONMENTAL EVENTS AND PARTICIPATES IN OTHER EVENTS TO PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY. SOME OF THE EVENTS THAT SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO HOSTS ARE: EARTH DAY, E-WASTE EVENTS, LIGHT BULB EXCHANGE EVENTS, AND THE ANNUAL CREEK CLEANUP. IN ADDITION TO HOSTING EVENTS WE ALSO TAKE PART IN THE CHILDREN'S WATERSHED CONFERENCE, HOSTED BY DANA POINT OCEAN INSTITUTE, AND THE ANNUAL CHILDREN'S WATER FESTIVAL.

THE CITY OF SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO ALSO LEADS THE WAY IN RECYCLING WITH OUR PLASTIC BAG RECYCLING PROGRAM AND OUR HORSESHOE RECYCLING PROGRAM. NEW PROGRAMS THIS YEAR INCLUDE A SHARPS DISPOSAL PROGRAM AND A FLUORESCENT BULB RECYCLING PROGRAM.

IN 2008 THE ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION HOSTED A HOLIDAY LED LIGHT EXCHANGE EVENT AND A LAWNMOWER EXCHANGE EVENT. WITH THE HELP OF A GRANT DISTRIBUTED RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES AND BATTERY CHARGERS TO EMPLOYEES, SENIORS, ALL THE CLASSROOMS IN SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, AND THE CERT PROGRAM.

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK GOODWILL OF ORANGE COUNTY, SDG&E, SAN JUAN PHARMACY, ADAMS STEELE, MERCURY DISPOSAL SYSTEMS FOR BEING OUR PARTNERS IN THESE EVENTS AND PROGRAMS.



CURBSIDE REFUSE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION

CR&R provides wheeled containers for general refuse (black cans), recyclables (blue or brown cans), and green waste (green cans). The curbside containers come in 35, 60, and 90 gallon sizes.

Most green and wood waste can be placed in your green waste container. The exceptions are pet waste, palm branches, diseased plants, and sod/dirt. Please remove items from plastic and paper bags before placing in the bin. Bags should be discarded or recycled in their appropriate place.

Items which can be placed in your recycling container include most empty and clean plastic, glass, and metal containers and paper products. Do not place soiled paper, waxed paper, or waxed milk cartons in the recycling container. For a complete list of items that can be placed in the recycling container, please visit CR&R's website at www.crrwasteservices.com.

On day of service, containers should be placed at the curbside by no later than 6:30AM and removed 12 hours later. Please place containers side-by-side at least 1 foot apart and 3 feet from any obstructions. Containers must be placed with handles and wheels facing away from the street.



E-WASTE

Electronic waste such as computers, TVs, faxes, and printers can be taken to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center (see article above right).

For small appliances, televisions and other e-waste the manned Goodwill truck on the corner of Junipero Serra and Rancho Viejo Road. In addition to these options the City holds bi-annual e-waste collection events in partnership with Goodwill of Orange County. Keep an eye out on our website, your waterbill, newsletters and announcements in local papers for dates and times. Or contact us at environment@sanjuancapistrano.org.

Never Dispose of Batteries, Fluorescent Bulbs or Sharps in the Trash!



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Household Hazardous Waste, or HHW, is unwanted materials that can be harmful to people and the environment if disposed of in trash containers. Typical HHW products include paint, oil, antifreeze, yard chemicals, batteries, pool chemicals, CRTs, TVs, computers, cell phones, printers, and fax machines

The County of Orange offers FREE disposal to its residents at their HHW Collection Facility. One facility is located at 32250 La Pata in San Juan Capistrano and is open Tuesday through Saturday 9am to 3pm; closed on holidays and rainy days.

CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION DEBRIS

During remodeling or construction, a large amount of waste is produced. Some of these materials, such as lumber and concrete can be recycled into new products.



The City has an ordinance that requires that at least 50% of C&D waste be recycled to receive a refund of you C&D deposit. For questions, please contact Ziad Mazboudi at 949-234-4413.

If you project has reusable items, such as doors, windows, and cabinets, consider donating them to the Habitat for Humanity "ReStore". Proceeds are used to build affordable housing for low income families.

HOME-GENERATED SHARPS DISPOSAL

To protect trash and recycling workers sharps can no longer be disposed of in your residential trash cans as of 9/1/08. Take them to San Juan Pharmacy - an Authorized Home-Generated Sharps Consolidation Point or to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center.

To drop at the pharmacy, put your home-generated sharps in a heavy-duty, puncture resistant container with a tight fitting lid and write "Home-Generated Sharps Waste" on the side. Bring the sharps to the pharmacy. This service is for residents of San Juan Capistrano ONLY. No business generated sharps, medications or any other medical waste will be accepted.

San Juan Pharmacy is located at 30901 Camino Capistrano, Ste. 8.

BULKY ITEM COLLECTION



Residents are provided two (2) FREE bulky item collections per calendar year. Additional bulky item pick-ups can be provided at a nominal charge.

Bulky items are objects that can be handled by a two person crew and may include sofas, chairs, washers, dryers, and other large materials.

To make arrangements for a bulky item pick-up on your regular service day please contact CR&R at 877-728-0446

JANUARY 2009



Save Energy This Winter

1. Insulate your house
2. Weather strip doors and windows
3. Set thermostat to 68° during the day and 55° when you leave the house or before you go to bed.
4. Turn down the heater when using the fireplace.
5. Close the damper when not using the fireplace.
6. Use passive solar heating on sunnier days. Open drapes to let in the sun.
7. Keep warm indoors by layering light weight clothing.
8. Check for and plug any gaps around pipes, ducts, fans, and vents that go through to the outside.

Helpful Websites:

www.energy.gov/energysavingtips.htm
www.energysavers.gov
www.energystar.gov
www.sdge.com
www.fypower.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Energy conservation is the foundation of energy independence</i> - Tom Allen				1  City Offices Closed	2 City Offices Closed	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	 19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	 20 Inauguration Day	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY 2009



Helpful Websites:
globalwarming-facts.info
www.fightglobalwarming.com
globalwarming.sdsu.edu
www.climatecrisis.com

Global Warming

Climate change may be a big problem, but there are many little things we can do to make a difference.

- READ - learn about the environment.
- SAVE ELECTRICITY - turn off lights, TVs, and computers when not in use.
- BIKE, BUS AND WALK - leave the car at home and save energy.
- PLANT A TREE - trees absorb carbon dioxide and greenhouse gases from the air.
- RECYCLE - recycle cans, bottles, plastic bags, and newspapers and save natural resources.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Happy Valentine's Day
15	16 President's Day City Offices Closed	17	18	19	20 Taste of San Juan El Adobe Restaurant	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Global warming is not a conqueror to kneel before - but a challenge to rise to. A challenge we must rise to. - Joe Lieberman

MARCH 2009



Kill Your Lawn - Go Native

Making the switch to drought tolerant, native wildlife landscapes saves water, are low maintenance, reduces green house emissions since you don't need all those power landscape tools, and supports local birds, butterflies, and beneficial insects. Having evolved here they are ideally suited to manufacture oxygen and filtering impurities from our water.

Native Plants

- Require minimal trimming and water
- Are naturally fire retardant
- Thrive in local conditions

Helpful Websites:
globalwarming-facts.info
www.fightglobalwarming.com
globalwarming.sdsu.edu
www.climatecrisis.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Kid's Pet Parade						
8 	9	10	11	12	13	14  La Presidenta Ball El Adobe Restaurant
15	16	17 Happy  St. Patricks Day	18  Fiesta Grande Swallows Inn	19	20  Hoos Gow Day Spring Begins	21  Swallows Day Parade and Mercado
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	<i>Despite the gardener's best intentions, Nature will improvise.</i> - Michael P. Garafalo			

APRIL 2009

Solar Power

Also known as photovoltaic (PV) power is the process of turning sunlight into electricity. Even now PV is part of our daily lives - highway call boxes are PV powered as well as many wristwatches and calculators.

Solar energy is constantly replenished and will not produce harmful pollution unlike fossil fuels. Solar energy can be used passively, such as to heat and light buildings, or technology may be used to harness the sun's energy by collecting it and turning it into general electricity.



Helpful Websites:

- www.ases.org
- www.discoverolarenergy.com
- www.thesolarguide.com
- www.consumerenergycenter.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>The sunshine that strikes American roads each year contains more energy than all the fossil fuels used by the entire world.</i> -Denis Hayes</p>			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	 22 Earth Day	23  SJC's Earth Day Event	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

MAY 2009



Composting - Nature's Recycling

Composting is the process of combining organic matter, such as food waste, yard cuttings in such a way that it breaks down (with help of organisms great and small) into rich, dark, crumbly and extremely fertile soil. Matter is sorted into two categories depending on what they contribute to the process: green (nitrogen) and brown (carbon). When the two combine in a well-ventilated and lightly moistened pile, the ingredients rapidly begin to heat up and break down. According to the US EPA, nearly 25% of municipal waste that ends up in the landfill could be composted and used as organic fertilizer.

Helpful Websites:
www.howtocompost.org
www.mastercomposter.com
www.composting101.com
www.earth911.org/composting

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Earth knows no desolation. She smells regeneration in the moist breath of decay</i> - George Meredith					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
International Compost Awareness Week						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Mother's Day	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	City Offices Closed				

JUNE 2009



Preventing Urban Runoff

Urban runoff occurs when water flows over or through land, carrying with it all the pollutants it picks up along the way straight to our creeks, rivers, and the ocean. Prevent urban runoff by:

- Sweeping driveways and sidewalks instead of hosing them down.
- Pick up after you pets.
- Maintain your car to prevent leaks.
- Store and dispose of chemicals properly.
- Absorb spills with kitty litter, sweep up and dispose of in the trash.
- Plant natives that use less water.
- Don't litter!

Helpful Websites:
www.projectcleanwater.org
www.coastal.ca.gov
www.sanjuancapistrano.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5 World Environment Day	6
7	8 World Ocean Day	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 BUS SCHOOL Last Day of School	19	20
21 Happy Father's Day	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	<p><i>If you could tomorrow morning make water clean in the world, you would have done, in one fell swoop, the best thing you could have done for improving human health by improving environmental quality.</i> - William C. Clark</p>			

JULY 2009



Water Conservation

California's main water sources have been severely impacted by record dry conditions. And we're already using our reserves to supply our everyday water. Our water situation is serious, but here is how you can help:

- Save 3 gallons a day by turning off the sink when brushing your teeth.
- Save 5 gallons per day by shortening your shower by 2-3 minutes.
- Save 20 gallons a day by fixing leaky faucets.
- Save 15-50 gallons per load when you wash only full loads of laundry.

Talk to your friends and family about saving water. Saving a little benefits a lot.

Helpful Websites:
www.energy.gov/energysavingtips.htm
www.energysavers.gov
www.energystar.gov
www.sdge.com
www.fypower.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>All the water that will ever be is, right now.</i> - National Geographic			1	2	3 4th of July Holiday City Office Closed	4 Independence Day
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

AUGUST 2009



Stop Junk Mail!

- 5.6 million tons of catalogs and other junk mail end up in landfills.
- The average American household receives unsolicited junk mail equal to 1.5 trees every year-more than 100 million trees for all U.S. household.
- 44 percent of all junk mail is thrown away unopened, but only 1/ 2 that much junk mail is (22%) is recycled.
- Americans pay \$370 million annually to dispose of junk mail that doesn't get recycled.
- On the average, Americans spend 8 months opening junk mail over the course of their lives.

Go to the websites to find out ways to stop the junk mail.

Helpful Websites:
www.dmachoice.org
www.optoutprescreen.com
www.junkbusters.com
www.obviously.com/junkmail
www.ecocycle.org/junkmail

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Discourse is fleeting, but junk mail is forever.</i> - Joe Bob Briggs			1	2		1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SEPTEMBER 2009

Eco-Friendly Back to School

Want to make less of an impact when shopping for back to school supplies? Try the following:

- Eco Friendly Pencils and Crayons: Pencils made from recycled newspaper and crayons made from soy.
- Green notebooks and paper: Tree Free Notebooks and Elephant Poop paper (to appeal to the boys).
- Eco Friendly Backpacks: Solar powered backpacks, and backpacks made from recycled soda bottles.

Miscellaneous: Recycled Post-Its, recycled stainless steel scissors, and recycled cardboard binders



Helpful Websites:

- www.dixonusa.com
- store.gxonlinestore.org/bokubooks.html
- store.gxonlinestore.org/pooh.html
- www.ebags.com
- www.amazon.com
- www.sustainablegroup.net/rebinder

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day City Offices Closed	8 USSD 1st Day of School 	9	10	11  Patriot Day	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 San Juan Capistrano Creek Cleanup Day
20	21  Intl Day of Peace	22	23	24	25	26
National Pollution Prevention Week						
27	28	29	30	<i>You can tell how high a society is by how much of its garbage is recycled.</i> - Dhyani Ywahoo		

OCTOBER 2009



Household Hazardous Waste

Take your HHW to the collection center located at the landfill. Accepted items:

- Paint
- Batteries
- Cleaning products
- Fluorescent lamp tubes
- Aerosols
- Televisions
- Cell phones
- Computers
- Mercury
- Motor oil
- Fertilizers
- Pesticides
- Degreasers

Helpful Websites:

www.oclandfills.com
www.epa.gov/osw/conservation/materials/hhw
www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hazardous_waste
www.sanjuancapistrano.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>We have found the sources of hazardous waste and they are us.</i> - US EPA				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 

NOVEMBER 2009



Save Time, Save Money

Almost everyone knows the feeling of being stuck in traffic and watching the cars and buses zooming by in the carpool lane. Taking public transportation and carpooling saves time, money, and the environment by cutting down on CO2 emissions. Even if protecting the environment isn't top on your list here are some other advantages:

- Cutting down on commute time.
- Time to eat, read, sleep, catch up on work.
- Less stress.
- Significant monetary savings.
- Some employers offer incentives for carpooling or use of public transportation.

Helpful Websites:

www.rideshare-directory.com
www.mycarpoolstation.com
www.octa.net
www.octa.net/metrolink_rail.aspx
www.amtrakcalifornia.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Veterans Day City Offices Closed	12	13	14
15 	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving City Offices Closed	27 City Offices Closed	28
29	30	<i>The bicycle is the most efficient machine ever created: Converting calories into gas, a bicycle gets the equivalent of three thousand miles per gallon.</i> - Bill Strickland				

DECEMBER 2009



Celebrate a “Green” Christmas
Be kinder to the environment this holiday season. Here are a few ideas:

- Use LED lights and save energy.
- Cut up old cards and use as gift tags.
- Give an herb garden kit to a gardener.
- Use rechargeable batteries.
- Put together an organic fruit basket.
- Use newspaper comics for gift wrap.
- Buy items with little packaging.
- Give gift certificates.
- Bake for co-workers and neighbors.
- Frame a child’s drawing for grandma.
- Make a photo album for relatives.
- Create a cookbook with favorite family recipes for grown children.

Helpful Websites:

www.earth911.com
www.greenlivingideas.com
www.recyclenow.com
ciwmb.ca.gov/publiced/holidays/open.htm
www.pioneerthinking.com/recycle.htm

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>To perceive Christmas through it's wrapping becomes more difficult with every year.</i> - E.B. White		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 
13	14	15	16	 A Day Without a Bag	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 City Offices Closed	25  City Offices Closed	26
27	28	29	30	 New Year's Eve City Offices Closed	31	