Blue Toters On The Way!

Joe Rojas, Driver Supervisor for **VSS**, stacks the new blue recyling toters that have arrived. The blue toters will be used by customers when city-wide automated recycling service begins in April.

Blue recycling toters are arriving and **VSS** is getting ready to start the new recycling service to customers in April. The toters will replace the yellow bins that are now used in most of Vacaville. A pilot program using the blue recycling toters was judged a success by the residents who participated in the program.

"We are gearing up now to deliver the new toters in time for the April start date," reports Ed Farewell, General Manager of **Vacaville Sanitary Service**. "Customers in the pilot areas really like the convenience and extra storage of the toters. We are glad we can extend this service to the rest of Vacaville."

Once your toter arrives you will no longer need to sort recyclable materials. The toters provide more secure storage for materials. The covered containers keep the materials dry and safe from winds. The wheeled toters are also easier for residents to set out and are safer for drivers to empty. Automated trucks with robotic arms will be used to empty the blue toters.

Customers in the pilot program areas will continue using their blue toters while the conversion takes place.

"Start using your toter as soon as it arrives," said Farewell. "We expect that all customers will soon enjoy this new service as much as customers do in our pilot areas."

Blue toters like the one pictured above will soon replace the yellow recycling bins used by most Vacaville residents.

Complete details about the blue toters will be published in the April edition of the **Vacaville Sanitary Service** *Trash Talk* newsletter.

Automated trucks will be used throughout Vacaville to empty the blue recycling bins after the program is fully implemented this April.

This newsletter was printed on recycled paper. Please recycle after reading.

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VACAVILLE SANITARY SERVICE

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Trash Talk

The newsletter from Vacaville Sanitary Service

www.vacavillesanitary.com

Vacaville's "Roadeo" Champ!

For over twenty years the affiliated companies of **Norcal Waste Systems, Inc.** have held a "Roadeo" where their best drivers test their extraordinary driving skills. This year Gabriel Jimenez from **Vacaville Sanitary Service** competed in the event. Gabriel is a recycling driver who only had five years on the job and had never tested his skills in the Roadeo challenge. His fellow drivers thought Gabriel was wasting his time by going up against veteran drivers who had competed in the event for many years. At the end of the day, Gabriel seemed the most surprised when he was awarded first place in the Roadeo.

Drivers demonstrated their skills as they maneuvered through tight turns and twists at the Roadeo that was held in Vacaville last Fall.

Gabriel Jimenez, of **Vacaville Sanitary Service**, had the best ride through the Roadeo's obstacle course to earn a first place award.

"I felt good when I finished," said Gabriel. "I knew that I would get a high score, but I was shocked they announced that I had won!"

John Rowe, General Manager of **Auburn Placer Disposal**, has coordinated the competition for 20 years. He explains that the event is designed to promote safety and to let drivers demonstrate their skills to family and friends.

"It is great fun for the kids to watch their moms and dads compete," said John. "These competitions are so close and like all sporting events it all boils down to skill and luck."

Gabriel relates all the backing and tight turns to the skills all drivers use every day. "The only difference," said Gabriel, "is that we often have to perform these skills in the dark when it is raining and there are lots of moving cars all around."

The best part of his first place win was showing off his medal to his fellow drivers who at first kidded him.

"I just tell them," said Gabriel, "to meet me next year if they think they can do better."

Winter 2007

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Trash Talk

Winter Garb Success, Recycling Guide & Winter Tips

Coats and blankets for the annual "Give Winter Garb a Second Chance" drive were sorted by volunteers from Boy Scout Troop 897 who are pictured above. This annual event provides needy Vacaville residents with good quality coats and blankets just in time for the cold winter months.

The generosity of Vacaville residents has once again made the annual "Give Winter Garb a Second Chance" drive a great success. In November route drivers from **VSS** collected coats and blankets that had been set out for collection. The City of Vacaville's recycling staff then coordinated numerous volunteer groups to help sort and distribute the items.

In addition to the City of Vacaville and **Vacaville Sanitary Service** other businesses and organizations contributing to the success of the drive included Boy Scout Troop 897, Christmas Wish, Vacaville Neighborhood Boys and Girls Club, Davis Street Self Storage, Vacaville Youth In Action, Grand Rental Station, Old Navy and Golden West Middle School.

Items were distributed to families just in time for the holiday season. Donations of children's coats were especially appreciated.

The Winter Garb drive helps reduce the amount of materials that go to the landfill while providing a much needed service for families in need.

Stop Thieves!

Recycling bins are often the target of thieves who pilfer through the contents and take valuable items like aluminum cans. The theft of materials threatens to drive up the cost of the program and often leaves an unsightly mess on neighborhood streets. Please report any people pilfering through recycling bins to law enforcement.

Recycling Guidelines

Here is a handy list of the materials that may be set out in your recycling bins or toters. Please do not use plastic bags to secure materials in your recycling containers. Recycling toters do not have to be set out for collection until they are at least half-full. This helps the curbside recycling program work most efficiently.

Newspapers and Magazines:
Magazines, including glossy publications, catalogs, newspaper inserts, brown paper bags.

Junk mail
Junk mail, envelopes, carbonless forms, manila envelopes, Post-It notes, typing/copy paper, fax paper, slick/glossy paper, catalogs, file folders, paper ream wrappers, paperboard egg cartons.

Chipboard
Boxes from cereal, shoes, crackers or gifts.

Corrugated Cardboard
Shipping boxes.

Aluminum and Tin Cans
It is OK to leave labels on cans. Uncrushed cans are OK.

Glass Bottles and Jars
Labels on bottles and jars are OK.

Plastics
All #1 through #7 narrow-neck plastic bottles and jugs typically include bottles for soda, juice, milk and bottled water. Some household products, such as laundry detergent and shampoo, come in these bottles. Check the bottom of the bottles for the recycling symbol and number. Labels on bottles are OK.

Cardboard Box Recycling

Large corrugated cardboard boxes, such as the ones that bicycles and appliances come in, are accepted at the **VSS** Recycling Center at 855 1/2 Davis Street in Vacaville.

Call a customer service representative at 448-2945 for complete information about recycling options.

Careful!

Toter lids can close unexpectedly during high winds or when toters are on an incline. Please be careful with open toters.

Secure loose papers or other lightweight materials into bags before placing in the trash. Do not use plastic bags to secure materials in recycling toters or bins. The wind sometimes blows loose materials out of trash cans causing a mess. Keep garbage and yardwaste containers covered. Tight fitting lids will keep materials from blowing out. Hot ashes from the fireplace or barbeque should never be placed in any of your toters.

Closed lids prevent rain from filling the toters that adds greatly to the weight of the materials.

Pay Bills Automatically

Save time and stamps by signing up for the paperless garbage bill payment option. There are many convenient payment options. Just click on www.vacavillesanitary.com to get started.

Click on the ***VSS*** website for an interactive street sweeping map. Just find your home on the map, and the schedule will tell you what days to expect the sweeper.

The website is: *www.vacavillesanitary.com*