



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
NEWS RELEASE

Department of Toxic Substances Control

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Cal/EPA Announces Winners from Household Hazardous Waste Conference

SACRAMENTO --- Citing the need to recognize local efforts to reduce hazardous waste from California households, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) Director Ed Lowry commended 15 local agencies and individuals for their excellence, ingenuity and achievement. The local agencies received awards during the 2003 Joint Meeting of the Household Hazardous Waste Information Exchange held in Bakersfield on May 14, 2003. The annual awards are sponsored by DTSC and the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB).

DTSC regulates the management of used oil and household hazardous wastes and provides assistance to local government agencies to establish household hazardous waste programs. The CIWMB provides financial assistance to local agencies through several grant programs and through partnerships with local governments, industry and the public.

Local household hazardous waste programs feature several different collection methods that give residents options for safe disposal of unwanted household items such as old paint, pesticides, used oil, and other household hazardous waste.

This year's award winners are:

Togetherness Award	Santa Clara County Department of Environmental Health "Pesticide Use & Disposal Program"
Outstanding Rural Program Award	Calaveras County Department of Public Works "Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility"
Program Innovation Award	City of Los Angeles "Used Oil Recycling Public Education Program"
Program Innovation Award	Orange County Environmental Health Division "Used Oil Recycling Program"
Program Excellence Award	Central Contra Costa & Mt. View Sanitary Districts "Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility"

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Outstanding Personal Service Award	Donna Skinner City of San Diego
Outstanding Personal Service Award	Danny Thomason Clean Harbors Environmental Services
Outstanding Personal Service Award	Matt McCarron California Integrated Waste Management Board
Best New E-Waste Program Award	Orange County Integrated Waste Management Department "CRT Collection Program"
Most Unique E-Waste Program Award	Contra Costa Electronic Waste Discard Information Program – Lead City of San Ramon "Electronic Waste Discard Information Program"
Honorable Mention Award	West Contra Costa Integrated Waste Management Authority, Contra Costa Environmental Health Department, and West County Resource Recover, Inc. "Sharps Disposal Program"
<u>Lighter Side Awards</u>	
Pickled Skunk Brains Award	San Mateo County Environmental Health "Non-explosion"
Picric Acid Award	Kern County Household Hazardous Waste Program "Clean Cuisine"
Strange Occurrence Award	Ventura County Environmental & Energy Resource Department "Dolly Delivery"
Picturesque Award:	Central Contra Costa Sanitary District "Special Delivery"

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The Department of Toxic Substances Control's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment and ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.

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"The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our Web-site at www.dtsc.ca.gov."