



### **NEWS RELEASE November 13, 2013**

#### **Utilities Department to Celebrate “America Recycles Day” November 14<sup>th</sup>**

“America Recycles Day”, a nationwide initiative by Keep America Beautiful, Inc., is celebrated every November 15<sup>th</sup>. This year, the City of Santa Maria Utilities Department will observe “America Recycles Day” on Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. Participation in America Recycles Day is another way to raise awareness about the need to reduce waste by reusing, recycling and purchasing recycled products.

Since 1997, communities across the country have come together to celebrate America Recycles Day. More than a celebration, “America Recycles Day” is the only nationally-recognized day dedicated to the promotion of recycling programs in the United States. It is an entire day dedicated to inform and educate, to get our neighbors, friends and community leaders excited about what can be accomplished when we all work together, and to make recycling bigger and better all year long.

Each year, Americans generate nearly 230 million tons of municipal solid waste. That’s more than 4.5 pounds per person, per day. While the nation has reached an overall recycling rate of 33 percent, much more can still be done.

Due to the MTO day on Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, City staff will promote “America Recycles Day” on Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., at the Regional Landfill Scalehouse. Staff will distribute (while supplies last) post-consumer recycled promotional items, including motor shop towels, used oil filter bags, pencils, pens, and magnets.

To learn more about the Utilities Department Recycling Programs, please call 925-0951 ext. 7270.

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