

The Green Page



County Green Committee

Green Committee News

In an effort to keep our County moving towards long-term sustainability, the County Green Committee voted to partner with the Stockton Chamber of Commerce's REACON Green Sustainable Business Program. This is a program where individual County Departments work towards REACON (Recycling Energy Air CONservation) "Certification." This process helps departments plan for and realize enhanced sustainability practices. Departments housed in the new Administration Building volunteered to be the first to go through this process. We'll be tracking their progress here and sharing their successes. Look for your department to start your own committee soon.

Janice Oldemeyer, of Onsite Electronics Recycling in Stockton, shared the importance of responsible electronics recycling. Improperly disposed of electronics equipment damages the environment and taints water supplies, either domestically or overseas. Insure you are disposing of e-waste properly, either through the County directly, or through County Solid Waste facilities and County-sponsored collection events.

If you have surplus equipment that you no longer need, contact the Purchasing Department (468-3240). Your equipment may be placed on the Surplus Equipment website to determine if another department may need it. Unwanted equipment is turned over to Onsite Electronics Recycling for proper recycling and disposal.

Find agenda, minutes, news brief, implementation plans, and more at www.sigov.org/green.

ELECTRONICS

Featured Products:

Ecostrip: (www.ecostrip.com) the power strip with a green attitude. Turn off your computer, and your peripherals.



off your computer, and your peripherals magically shut off, too. Turn on the computer in the morning, and the rest comes back on with it.

FaxCore: (www.faxcore.com) a fax server application that replaces your fax machine. Employees in the new Admin Building currently use this program to send and receive faxes right from their desktop computers. Documents in print form can be scanned. A fax uses a high amount of energy, plus paper and toner, making programs like FaxCore very eco-friendly.

Dept News.....

Public Works: Instead of printing copies (too much paper) or even emailing large pdf files (too much room on the server), an email went out to all PW employees announcing that "A copy of the Proposed 2010-11 Budget Book has been placed in the Announcements Folder on the server. To view the document click the link below and open the file titled, 2010-11 PROPOSED BUDGET.pdf."

Sheriff: Large documents are now put on CDs for review and approval in lieu of printing multiple copies. Printers default to double-sided printing. Reminders posted on copiers and other electronics remind users to place equipment in sleep mode when not in use.

DA, HSA, and Public Defender recycle used toner cartridges through IKON, HP, or school fundraiser programs.





E-waste at home? Your County-owned waste facilities take them for free from residents of the County. Take them to North County Landfill near Lodi, Foothill Landfill near Linden, Lovelace Transfer Station near Manteca, or the HHW facility near the Stockton Airport.

Find times and locations at www.BeGreenSanJoaquin.org.

Enviro Tip:

Turn off what you aren't using. Sounds easy, doesn't it? When you leave for the day, turn off your computer, monitor, speakers, printer, and calculator. In the morning don't turn it on until you need it. Save even more by turning off the power strip or by using an Eco Strip (see featured products) to stop vampire energy use.

Vampire energy: the power drained by your appliances and electronics when turned *off*, about 10% of your total consumption. What a waste!



CALL FOR ACTION: We need your help! Sub-committees have been formed for website, communication, goals, and electronics/technology. Bring ideas and/or talents. If interested, email David Louis at dlouis@sigov.org.