

## FALL E-NEWSLETTER

### Know When to Go Pro

#### *Advice for Hiring Landscape & Pest Control Professionals*

Don't have the time or equipment to safely manage your pest problem yourself? Then it's time to hire a pest control service to do the job for you! To effectively manage large or ongoing pest problems, licensed professionals have specialized equipment, pesticides, and technical training to get the job done. A landscape or pest control professional who practices Integrated Pest Management (IPM) methods and stays up to date on the latest information can provide you with the safest and most effective management strategies.



Here's what to do before you hire a landscape or pest control professional:

- **Consider your options** – Inquire with pest control companies about their methods and policies to see what option best suits your needs and pest problem.
- **Check certifications** – Make sure the company has the required licenses, registration, certificates, and insurance. Verify the status of a pest control company's license at <https://www.pestboard.ca.gov/license.shtml>.
- **Ask about Integrated Pest Management (IPM)** – IPM is an eco-friendly and effective method of pest control. Before hiring, check if your pest control or landscaping professional practices IPM. Three programs that certify and list pest control companies that provide IPM services are EcoWise at [https://www.ecowisecertified.com/ecowise\\_index.html](https://www.ecowisecertified.com/ecowise_index.html), GreenPro at <https://www.npmaqualitypro.org/available-credentials/greenpro/>, and Green Shield at <https://greenshieldcertified.org/>



### LEARN MORE!

Visit Our Water, Our World at <https://ourwaterourworld.org/hiring-a-pest-control-company/> or the UC Integrated Pest Management Program at <https://ipm.ucanr.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn74125.html> for more information about hiring a professional pest control or landscaping company.

### Dispose of Pesticides Like a Pro

Do you have any unused pesticides (liquid or solid) around your home that you no longer need? These items must be disposed of properly so that they do not harm you or the environment. Any leftover pesticides must be taken to your local household hazardous waste facility. You may only dispose of empty, unrinsed pesticide containers in the trash.



Your local household hazardous waste facility is

Stanislaus County Household Hazardous Waste Program on 1710 Morgan Road, Modesto

The Stanislaus County Household Hazardous Waste Facility is open to households on Friday and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. from September through May.



## **Go Green with Green Waste**

Whether you decide to maintain your own yard or choose to hire a landscaper, it's important to know how to properly dispose of yard waste to prevent plant material (e.g., leaves, branches, and trimmings) from clogging local storm drain systems.

Wondering what to do with your leaves and other yard waste this fall? The City of Turlock's Public Facilities Maintenance Division will begin the annual Leaf Pickup Program on November 1<sup>st</sup> and end on February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Turlock residents are encouraged to use their green waste containers for leaves and garden refuse. Any leaves that will not fit in to the green container may be placed in the street 18" from the curb side in loose piles, not bagged. Limbs are not to be placed in leaf piles. Do not park vehicles in front of your residence in locations which will prevent access to leaf collection prior to your scheduled day, on the scheduled day and the day after your scheduled day. This will allow for more flexibility within the schedule.

For more information about how the City of Turlock is working toward improving local water quality, visit the City's website at:

[www.cityofturlock.org/watersewergarbage/service/waterquality/stormwaterpollutionprevention.asp](http://www.cityofturlock.org/watersewergarbage/service/waterquality/stormwaterpollutionprevention.asp)