



GOING GREEN

in Turlock...

Volume 2, Issue 1 ~ May, 2009



Green Business Spotlight



This edition of our Green Business Spotlight shines brightly on "JKB Homes". A locally owned, home building company, JKB Homes features eco-friendly residential communities with a solar roofing option in Stanislaus County under "JKB Green". By combining a host of high energy efficient features as standard and the option of Solar Roofing, JKB produces homes that are not only smart for the planet, but smart for your pocketbook.

Energy efficiency features included in the price of the home include:

- SunPower Solar Power Panels
- Solar control low E glass windows and Patio doors
- Automatic Set-Back Thermostat
- Radiant Barrier
- Tight Ducts
- High Efficiency Furnace and A/C
- Water Saving Devices
- Energy Efficient Florescent Lighting
- Third Party Testing
- Tankless Water Heater
- Certified Insulation
- Living Green Certified by T.I.D.

For more information on JKB "Green" Homes visit their website at:
www.jkbhomes.com

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Turlock, Ca 95382
(209) 678-2372
Is Your Business Green?

Be sure to check out the next *Green Business Spotlight's* featured company
RAPID REFILL!

If your business or another business that you may be aware of, practices exemplary greening procedures and you feel should be featured in the Green Business Spotlight, contact the City of Turlock, Municipal Services Department at 209.668.5590 today!

*The "Green Business Spotlight" does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement by the City of Turlock of related goods or services of the featured business. The City of Turlock does not endorse and makes no representations, explicit or otherwise concerning any individual business in Turlock. Businesses featured in the "Green Business Spotlight" shall not be considered an endorsement of the advertiser, or of the product or service involved.

Go Green Week diverts 11,200 lbs. of material from the landfill!

As part of our efforts to encourage environmental stewardship, the City of Turlock offers various activities and programs to students to teach earth-friendly behaviors. The cornerstone of our school-age public education campaign is the City of Turlock's "Go Green Week".

Last year, Sandra Tovar Medeiros Elementary School participated in the first-ever "Go Green Week" on April 21st-25th, 2009. With the success of last year's program, this year's event was expanded to include 7 elementary schools in the Turlock Unified School District. The event was held from April 27th-May 1st, 2009 and entailed a variety of presentations, assemblies and activities which were provided by a conglomerate of local community organizations and the City of Turlock staff.

An on campus tree planting at Cunningham school, a lady-bug release at Walnut Elementary Education Center and a district-wide recycling contest that generated an enormous 11,200 pounds of recycled material, were amongst a few of the week's highlights. School site visits by local business representatives, recycling contests, and a "Wear Green Day" were also included, as well as green awareness bracelets that were distributed to every student to wear throughout the entire week.

The week is coordinated annually, in conjunction with National Earth Day and coincides with the City of Turlock's annual "Arbor Day" Tree Planting Celebration. Presenters and participating businesses were provided by representatives from local entities such as: California State University, Stanislaus, Turlock Irrigation District, Stanislaus County Department of Education and Department of Environmental

Resources as well as Turlock Recycling Company, The Greenery Nursery, EEK (Environmental Education for Kids), Python Ron's Reptile Kingdom, and The City of Turlock Municipal Services Department. The presentation topics were selected by the teachers to reinforce learning that was already taking place in their classrooms.

Response from school site coordinators and administrators has been overwhelmingly positive. Bret Sutterley, the Go Green Week school liaison at Walnut Elementary Education Center commented "Thank you so much for all your organization and preparations to make Go Green (Week) a success not only at Walnut, but for our entire district. You are to be commended for creating a wonderfully important opportunity for children. We at Walnut are so fortunate to have

you in our community. I appreciate your taking on such an enormous task, and for making it all go so smoothly. Our children are now more than ever aware of the importance of caring not only for our resources in Turlock, but also as citizens of our Planet Earth."

For approximately \$1.61 per child and \$1.47 per participant, Go Green week helped to engage youth citizens of Turlock in individual and collective activities to improve their health, to improve their schools and to inspire participation in building solutions for a sustainable future. By recognizing that our future success is tied to their understanding and acceptance of socially just endeavors, Go Green Week aimed to educate the children in the community in order to instill a sense of responsibility for the quality of living in Turlock in the future.



Students from Julien Elementary enjoy lunch during a tour of the Turlock Regional Water Quality Control Facility, one of the many educational opportunities offered during "Go Green Week".

30 Tips for Summertime Water Use Outdoors

1. Choose shrubs and groundcovers instead of turf for hard-to-water areas such as steep slopes and isolated strips.
2. Plant in the fall when conditions are cooler and rainfall is more plentiful.
3. Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street.
4. Water your lawn and garden in the morning or evening when temperatures are cooler to minimize evaporation.
5. Spreading a layer of organic mulch around plants retains moisture and saves water, time and money.
6. If water runs off your lawn easily, split your watering time into shorter periods to allow for better absorption.
7. Rather than following a set watering schedule, check the root zone of your lawn or garden for moisture before watering using a spade or trowel. If it's still moist two inches under the soil surface, you still have enough water.
8. If you have an automatic refilling device, check your pool periodically for leaks.
9. Adjust your lawn mower to a higher setting. A taller lawn shades roots and holds soil moisture better than if it is closely clipped.
10. Use sprinklers for large areas of grass. Water small patches by hand to avoid waste.
11. Consider a mulching mower that chops grass and leaves it on the lawn as natural fertilizer.
12. Use drip irrigation for shrubs and trees to apply water directly to the roots where it's needed.
13. Reduce the amount of lawn in your yard by planting shrubs and ground covers appropriate to your site and region.
14. Remember to check your sprinkler system valves periodically for leaks and keep the sprinkler heads in good shape.
15. Don't water your lawn on windy days when most of the water blows away or evaporates.
16. Water your plants deeply but less frequently to encourage deep root growth and drought tolerance.
17. Group plants with the same watering needs together to avoid overwatering some while under-watering others.
18. Set a kitchen timer when watering your lawn or garden to remind you when to stop. A running hose can discharge up to 10 gallons a minute.
19. Next time you add or replace a flower or shrub, choose a low water use plant for year-round color and save up to 550 gallons each year.
20. If installing a lawn, select a turf mix or blend that matches your climate and site conditions.
21. Make sure your swimming pools, fountains, and ponds are equipped with re-circulating pumps.
22. Consult with your local nursery for information on plant selection and placement for optimum outdoor water savings.
23. Direct water from rain gutters and HVAC systems toward water-loving plants in the landscape for automatic water savings.
24. Leave lower branches on trees and shrubs and allow leaf litter to accumulate on the soil. This keeps the soil cooler and reduces evaporation.
25. Let your lawn go dormant during the summer. Dormant grass only needs to be watered every three weeks or less if it rains.
26. Plant with finished compost to add water-holding and nutrient-rich organic matter to the soil.
27. Use sprinklers that deliver big drops of water close to the ground. Smaller water drops and mist often evaporate before they hit the ground.
28. Aerate your lawn at least once a year so water can reach the roots rather than run off the surface.
29. When back-flushing your pool, consider using the water on your landscaping.
30. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it.



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