



Additional Information and Resources in Berkeley

There is very complete information about recycling at the City's recycling website, www.CityofBerkeley.info. To find information on used motor oil recycling, and other household hazardous wastes, click on the "Refuse & Recycling" link found on the bottom left side of the home city page.

The city site also links to Berkeley's long-time non-profit recycling organization, the Ecology Center www.ecologycenter.org. In addition to details on curbside recycling, there is a lot of environmental information on this site including upcoming events.

For more information about used oil and other environmental questions in the City of Berkeley, contact Andy Block, Hazardous Materials Specialist II City of Berkeley, Department of Planning and Development **(510) 981-7466**, ABlock@ci.berkeley.ca.us

The City of Berkeley provides six certified oil collection centers for the recycling of your used oil and used oil filters. These used oil collection centers will accept used oil from the public at no charge during regular business hours and even offer a 16 cent per gallon refund.

The Alameda County website www.stopwaste.org has a wealth of additional information about waste reduction and recycling. From the home page, you can use drop-down menus to access information about recycling a wide variety of materials. More general information can be found by clicking on the yellow box for "Residents." The blue box for "Schools" describes free recycling resources and assistance available to schools.

A direct link to the site's section on household hazardous waste is at www.household-hazwaste.org. There are three drop-off locations for toxic materials such as household cleaners, pesticides, fluorescent tubes, paint, and batteries. The locations are in Hayward, Livermore and Oakland, and are open on a limited schedule. The schedule and maps to the locations are on the website. These drop-off locations should be used to dispose of motor oil that has been contaminated with other materials such as gasoline, antifreeze or solvents, and absorbents such as rags or cat litter that have been used to clean up oil spills.

The site also has a section on alternatives to hazardous household products that you and your students may find interesting.

The City of Oakland website www.oaklandrecycles.com also has great information about environmental programs. From the green menu bar at the top of the page, select "Departments" and then "Environmental Services Division." The menu in the yellow box at the left of this page includes several interesting topics: you may find "Creek/Watershed Protection" and "Do in' the Green Thing" particularly relevant to this lesson.

For broader local environmental information, check out the National Resources Defense Council's site called "Green Gate" www.nrdc.org/greengate/, an "Environmental Guide to the San Francisco Bay Area." It is very easy to navigate, has a wide range of information, and has links to other organizations in the "Green Guides and Resources" section.