



Additional Information and Resources in Santa Monica and LA County

The Family Car lesson is funded in Santa Monica by the Office of Sustainability and the Environment. For information about used oil recycling and related topics, your direct contact is James Conway, 310/458-8711 or james.conway@smgov.net.

The website for the Office of Sustainability and the Environment is www.smgov.net/environment. There is information there about a variety of environmental topics. To find information on used oil and filter recycling, choose "Hazardous Materials" from the menu at the left of the page or by scrolling the mouse over the picture of old metal drums. From the Hazardous Waste page, you'll see "Oil and Oil Filter Recycling" in the menu at the left.

The Hazardous Waste page also has detailed information on the Household Hazardous Waste Center located at 2500 Michigan Ave. The Center is open Wednesday through Saturday. Hours, a map, and items accepted are all on the site. You can also call (310) 458-8255 for information. Your students may be interested to know that they can pick up a free oil recycling drain pan-container at the Center.

Also note information on the page about alternatives to toxic products and other related topics.

At the top of the menu bar at the left is "OSE Categories" which is a shortcut to the topics on the home page www.smgov.net/environment. One of the topics there that is particularly relevant to this lesson is "Urban Runoff." Your students may not be aware that unlike water that is flushed down the toilet or a sink, anything that is flushed into the storm drains flows to the ocean with little or no treatment.

For information on recycling, choose "Solid Waste." Note that there is information there on recycling cooking oil, a question that often comes up in connection with used motor oil recycling.

If some of your students reside outside the City of Santa Monica, they will need to use one of the other household hazardous waste collection centers in LA County. The link to these S.A.F.E. (Solvents/Automotive/Flammables/Electronics) Centers is www.lacitysan.org, which has other useful information as well. From the home page, select "Solid Resources Program" for information about recycling and household hazardous waste.

The LA County hotline for environmental information is 1-888/253-2652 (888 CLEAN LA), for general recycling questions including locations of used oil collection centers. There is a Spanish option on the phone menu. There is also a Spanish page at the website www.888CleanLA.com. This site has a range of information about environmental programs and activities in the County. Note in the menu bar at the left that there is information on used oil and filter recycling in

multiple languages. At the bottom of the menu bar is “Environmental Links” which includes other government agency sites, and many organizations, organized by topic.

For questions about household hazardous waste, residents may call the City of LA’s hotline 1-800/988-6942 (800-98-TOXIC.) The phone menu is available in English and Spanish, and includes information on hours of operation and other topics related to the S.A.F.E. Centers.

Yet another website with LA County environmental information is <http://green.lacounty.gov>. This site has information on the various policies and programs that the County is using to address global warming and related issues.

The website for Santa Monica College’s recycling program is www.smc.edu/Recycling.

There is an interesting publication available from the Environmental Defense Fund that traces “the history of two movements - Civil Rights and Environmentalism - as they came together in the developing city of Los Angeles to form what we now call Environmental Justice.” From the home page www.edf.org type “Environmental Justice LA” into the search engine to find it. It is available in Spanish as well.