July 2012

In This Issue

- Request Free <u>Drought</u> Resources
- New TV
 Recycling
 Rules in Effect
- It's Hurricane Season: Be Prepared
- Don't forget...
- Get Involved ...
 Learn about
 the Texas Mexico Border
- Highlighted <u>TCEQ</u> Publications

Request FREE Drought Resources

Much of Texas still faces drought conditions, and this will only intensify as we head into the summer months. Use these **free resources** to remind your residents, employees, or students to conserve water!



Bill Stuffer (GI-400)

(www.tceq.state.tx.us/publications/gi/gi-400.html/view)

Use in your mailouts or as a stand-alone handout.

Mirror Cling (M-38)

(www.tceq.state.tx.us/publications/m/m-038.html/view)

Place on public-restroom mirrors. Leaves no sticky residue.



Conserve water. Every drop counts.

www.takecareoftexas.org



Bumper Sticker (M-36)

(www.tceq.state.tx.us/publications/m/m-036.html/view)

Place on your personal vehicle or an entire fleet.

Order your free copies while supplies last! E-mail <<u>educate@tceq.texas.gov</u>>. Please include the publication number (ex.: M-38), the quantity requested, and a street mailing address, we cannot mail to P.O. Boxes.

Find more resources and information on the drought at www.tceq.texas.gov/response/drought>.

Take Care of **Texas Tips**

At Home:

Adjust Your Thermostat

Using a programmable air-conditioning thermostat or simply adjusting your thermostat during overnight hours or when no one is at home can reduce your cooling and heating costs. To reduce energy consumption, set the thermostat at 78 degrees or higher in the summer, and at 68 degrees or lower in the winter. When used properly, a programmable thermostat with four temperature settings can save the average household up to \$180 per year in energy costs. If all Texas households reduced their energy consumption by using a programmable thermostat, Texans could collectively save over \$1.5 billion annually while reducing energy consumption and air emissions.

New TV Recycling Rules in Effect

If you buy a new TV after July 1, retailers are required to:

- Provide you with information about the legal disposal and recycling options for your television
- Make sure the television is labeled with the manufacturer's brand

Find more information about television recycling by visiting < TexasRecyclesTVs.org > or calling 512-239-3143.

Find information about the computer equipment recycling program at <TexasRecyclesComputers.org>.



It's Hurricane Season: Be Prepared

Stretching some 350 miles from South Padre Island and the Rio Grande Valley, all the way to Beaumont and the Louisiana border, the Texas coastline can be a great place to get away this summer. However, make sure you know what to do in the event of a hurricane or tropical storm:

- Preparing for a storm-High winds and flooding are serious business. Find out how to protect yourself if a hurricane strikes at http://emergency.portal.texas.gov/en/Pages/Hurricane.aspx>.
- Information for public water systems at <www.tceg.texas.gov/drinkingwater/homeland security/disasterprep/disasterprep.h</p> tml>.
- Information for marinas at http://155.82.160.101/USHESdata/FEMA/Marinas/Marinasframe.htm>.

Don't forget...

TCEQ 2012 Public Drinking Water Conference (www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/conference.html)

This FREE two-day seminar will bring you up to date on all you need to know about operating a public drinking water system or water utility in Texas.

August 7-8. Austin

Advanced Air Permitting Seminar

(www.tceq.texas.gov/p2/events/advancedairpermittingoilandgasfacilitiesseminar)

This seminar is designed to provide you with updates on air permitting rules, requirements, and issues for a variety of industries.

September 9-10, Austin

Water Quality/Storm Water Seminar

(www.tceg.texas.gov/p2/events/stormwater.html)

This seminar will offer updates on permitting rules and regulations to an ever-changing customer base in the regulated community.

September 13-14. Austin

Around the Office: Recycle Paper Products

Recycling paper products-including newspapers, paperboard boxes (like cereal and cracker boxes), cardboard boxes, junk mail, and office paper-saves money. That's because recycling paper fiber is cheaper than growing, harvesting, and processing trees. Texans dispose of enough trash every two weeks to fill the Astrodome. Recycling 1 ton of paper saves the equivalent of up to 17 trees and uses 50% less water.

Get Involved ... Learn about the Texas- Mexico Border



Learn about environmental issues along the Texas-Mexico border at www.tceq.texas.gov/border/borderindex.html. The TCEQ has three regional offices along the border, as well as a Border Affairs team that focuses on cross-border, binational efforts and other activities related to environmental conditions in areas near the border.

Highlighted TCEQ Publications



Plug Into Computer Recycling, GI-408

(www.tceq.texas.gov/publications/gi/gi-408.html/view)
Tells consumers how to recycle computers and peripherals.

Publication Holder, M-043

Display the Plug into Computer Recycling brochure using this publication holder.

You can also order TCEQ publications at www.tceq.texas.gov/publications.



The Take Care of Texas program is on Facebook.

Connect with Take Care of Texas to find out about environmental events, tips, and interesting tidbits from fellow Texans at http://www.facebook.com/TakeCareOfTexas>.

Take the Survey!

The TCEQ values your opinion on how we are doing and how we can improve—fill out a survey today. Go online at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/customersurvey or request a paper copy by calling 800-687-4040.

(PD-025/12-7)