

# Conservation News

*Environmental News and Information from the City of Melbourne  
Public Works & Utilities Department ~ Environmental Community Outreach Division*

## Household hazardous waste and electronic collection roundup scheduled in October at PBHS

Many household chemical products and electronics found at home contain hazardous ingredients that need special care when used and disposed. Americans throw away a lot of these products. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, Americans generate 1.6 million tons of household hazardous waste per year, or as much as 100 pounds per average home.

"Most of this eventually makes its way into municipal landfills, incinerators, sewers, and septic tanks," explained Rita Perini, a Brevard County hazardous waste supervisor. "Consequently, this poses a serious health and safety risk to not only users of these products but also sanitation workers."

These materials also can pollute water resources if they are carelessly thrown into the trash or poured onto the ground. For example, it takes only one quart of motor oil to contaminate up to 250,000 gallons of water.

You can help reduce the amount of these toxic materials from entering the landfill or our water resources. Take the time

to sort through your garage, shed, and under bathroom and kitchen sinks for these household chemicals and home electronics. Use them up properly or dispose of them safely through the county's upcoming **Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics Roundup. It will be held October 8 at Palm Bay High School, 101 Pirate Lane, Melbourne. The event will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

At the roundup, homeowners will have the opportunity to turn in any unwanted or leftover household chemical products including automotive fluids, lawn and garden chemicals, pesticides, insecticides, pool chemicals, fluorescent lamps, thermometers, thermostats, automotive batteries, rechargeable nickel cadmium batteries, paints, and solvents.

Homeowners will also have the opportunity to turn in as many as five home electronics items including computers, monitors, laptops, printers, scanners, desktop fax/copiers and televisions.

A fully licensed hazardous waste management company, EQ Industrial Services Inc., will be on site to package and transport these wastes to an appropriate facility for recycling, treatment, or incineration. Recycled items will include automotive and Ni-Cad batteries, latex paint, oil, antifreeze, fluorescent lamps and electronic equipment brought into the roundup.

The roundup is free to homeowners. Businesses must contact EQ Industrial Services by calling 1-800-624-5302, Ext. 231 for participation and disposal cost information.



*Material is collected at the roundup held in West Melbourne last year.*

The City of  
Melbourne



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### City of Melbourne Public Works & Utilities Customer Help Numbers

• Water Billing/Account Information	953-6390
• New Water Hook-up or Account Changes	953-6390
• Request for Pool Filling/Leak Sewer Credit (inside City)	953-6390
• Request for Pool Filling/Leak Sewer Credit (outside City/Brevard County Water Resources)	633-2092
• Dirty Water	674-5726
• Water Leaks	674-5726
• Water Conservation	674-5761
• Sewer Stoppages (inside City)	674-5726
• Sewer Stoppages (outside City/Brevard County Water Resources)	633-2093
• Water Treatment Plant	255-4622
• Wastewater Treatment Plant	255-4617
• Reuse Water (inside City)	255-4617
• Reuse Water (outside City/Brevard County Water Resources)	633-2094
• After Hours Water & Sewer Emergencies (4:00 p.m. - 7:30 a.m. and Sat. - Sun.)	255-4622
• Recycling (inside City)	953-6302
• Recycling (outside City/Brevard County Solid Waste)	633-2042
• Garbage Collection (inside City)	953-6302
• Garbage Collection (outside City/Brevard County Solid Waste)	633-2042
• Clam Truck Request (for large yard waste piles)	723-4455
• Waste Management Customer Service	723-4455
• Sarno Landfill	255-4365
• Household Hazardous Waste	633-2042
• Street Repairs	953-6231
• Drainage Problems	953-6231
• Street Light Repairs	953-6240
• Sidewalk Repairs	953-6231



## Online games teach kids about water

“The Great Water Odyssey” has been added to the St. Johns River Water Management District’s web site at [www.sjrwmd.com](http://www.sjrwmd.com).

The program features an interactive, multidisciplinary experience to teach children about water using history, geography, math, reading, social studies, and science.

“The goal of this project is to increase understanding of the importance of protecting and conserving our water,” said Linda Burnette, director of the District’s Office of Communications and Governmental Affairs. “By making students aware of this valuable resource, the District hopes that it will also assist in increasing community awareness.”

While schools can implement programs designed for third, fourth, and fifth graders, there are also three games children can play online from home. They include:

■ The Cloud Game, which is based on the water cycle and is a fun way to reinforce the concepts.

■ The Concentration Game, which tests memory skills. After a match is made a water conservation tip is given.

■ The Standard System Measurement Game, which teaches and tests knowledge about liquid measurements.

For the classroom, “The Great Water Odyssey” comes as a CD-based curriculum supplement that is linked to the Florida Sunshine State Standards and includes opportunities to prepare students to be successful on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT).

Students can work alone or in cooperative groups using the CD, which delivers the science content through a focus on water conservation.

For more information on “The Great Water Odyssey,” contact Eileen Tramontana, director of the District’s education and volunteer programs, at (386) 329-4572 or visit the web site at [www.sjrwmd.com/Odyssey](http://www.sjrwmd.com/Odyssey).