

City of Merced *Your City Connection* .org

JUNE 2009

Perfect for water play



The Ada Givens Pool

The public pools in Merced are an ideal way to cool off on hot summer afternoons or learn how to swim.

The City offers swim lessons through August for kids from 3 months (Tiny Tots) on up. The City pools are open during the summer for recreational swimming and also for rent for pool parties and other fun events.

For information, call the Recreation Office at 385-6855.

With all of the canals and creeks in Merced, it's always important to practice water safety, so avoid the canals.

Don't swim in the irrigation canals or creeks. They may look inviting, but they are deadly.

Don't walk on bridges or play with gates around canals.

Think Green

Get the dirt on composting

Composting is a simple, easy way to recycle kitchen leftovers and yard trimmings.

When used on your outdoor plants, compost provides vital nutrients, saves on water use and helps reduce soil erosion.

Composting can be done on a small scale with a simple pile or in a special container available at

MercedRecycles.com.

Composting is more about what not to do: don't add any meat, fat or grease. Besides fruit and vegetables, compost hair, newspapers, even teabags and eggshells.

For more information, go to epa.gov and look under Protect the Environment.

Ask the City: Help! Bees!

Ask the City is an ongoing column answering questions that have been submitted to us by mail, email or phone. Readers can submit questions to the addresses below.

What should I do if bees are swarming around my house?

M.C.

First, don't attack them because they might sting. Not only do bees sting, they can be fatal.

Bees swarm when a queen leaves a hive with a bunch of worker bees and are usually docile because they don't have a hive to protect.

But you don't want to have a beehive created in your back yard, or garage.

Call Merced Police at 385-6912 and they will call one of the beekeepers on their call list to remove the swarm at no charge.

Merced City Council

Mayor Ellie Wooten
Mayor Pro Tem John Carlisle
Joe Cortez
Michele Gabriault-Acosta
Noah Lor
Jim Sanders
Bill Spriggs

Contact the City Council by email at citycouncil@cityofmerced.org, by calling 385-6834. You can write to Council members at the Civic Center address.

Council meetings

The Council usually meets on the first and third Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers in the Civic

Center. The agenda is on the web at www.CityofMerced.org.

Contacting us

The Web site, www.CityofMerced.org, contains City Council information, the Municipal Code and General Plan and other information. Contact the Newsletter at newsletter@CityofMerced.org, call the Public Information Office at 385-6232 or write:

Merced Civic Center
678 W. 18th St.
Merced CA 95340

The Civic Center is open Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., except holidays.

Call us

City Council385-6834

City Manager	385-6834
City Attorney	385-6868
City Clerk	388-7100
Airport	385-6873
Code Enforcement	385-6861
Finance	388-7900
Inspection Services	385-6861
Personnel	388-7100
Planning Department	385-6858
Public Works (7:30-4:30) ...	385-6800
After hours	385-6905
Recreation/Parks	385-6855

IN AN EMERGENCY DIAL 911

Fire Department	385-6891
Police Department	385-6912

What goes in the blue recycling container, what stays out

Aluminum/bimetal products — all items must be empty, lids are OK

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

All tin/aluminum cans
Aluminum foil—clean
Appliances such as a can opener, microwave, etc. They must be more than 70 percent metal.
Beer cans
Cat and dog food cans
Coffee cans
Decorative cookie cans
Faucets — all metal — no motor
Hair spray cans
Household pesticide spray cans
Pots/pans
Soda cans
Soup cans
Tuna fish cans

NOT ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

BBQ propane tanks
Foil pouches (such as Capri Sun)
Large automotive parts (such as a fender)
Potato chip bags

Please rinse your plastic, glass and metal items. Not all items are listed, so use this sheet only as a guide-line. If you have further questions about what is accepted for recycling, please call the Public Works 385-6800.



Glass products — all items must be empty, lids are OK

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

Chili pepper bottles
Ketchup, mayonnaise and mustard bottles
Peanut butter jars
Pickle jars
Snapple Bottles

NOT ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

Ceramic floor tile
Ceramics, china and porcelain
Drinking glasses
Light bulbs
Windows
Mirrors

Paper products — Must be clean and uncontaminated with food or chemicals

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

All clean paper — staples are OK
Boxes — donut, cereal, cake, pudding, pizza or other boxes small enough to fit the container
Cardboard tubes from toilet paper/paper towels
Catalogs
Computer/office paper
Junk mail — glossy paper with window envelopes OK
Magazines and telephone books
Newspapers and inserts
Paper grocery bags
Paper milk cartons
Shredded paper

NOT ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

Bags from inside cereal boxes
Cardboard roll with plastic wrap
Cat and dog food bags/sacks, even when empty
Foil-lined potato chip bags/cartons
Juice boxes
Mixed cardboard/metal containers such as biscuit dough and cookie dough containers
Dirty paper napkins
Dirty paper plates
Dirty paper towels

Información sobre reciclaje disponible en la pagina electrónica http://www.cityofmerced.org/depts/pw/solid_waste/recycling.asp

Plastic products

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS (Plastics labeled 1 through 7)

Bleach bottles
Detergent bottles
Dishwashing soap bottles
Milk bottles
Peanut butter plastic jars
Shampoo bottles
Soda and water bottles
Sport and tea drink bottles
Plastic bags marked No. 4
Ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise bottles

Look for the recycling symbol, (a triangle or circle on the bottom, side or label of the product) to find the number.



NOT ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

Basketballs
Clothes
Diapers
Garden and other hoses
Potato chip bags
Shoes
Styrofoam

The Not Acceptable items can be put in the gray container along with the rest of the household garbage.

The Green container is for grass clippings, leaves, small tree branches and shrubbery. Do not put palm fronds, garbage or recycling material in the Green container.