



Costa Mesa Sanitary District

...an Independent Special District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 25, 2019

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COSTA MESA SANITARY DISTRICT AWARDED \$50,000 FOR HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION PROGRAM

(Costa Mesa, CA) – CalRecycle, the agency that oversees recycling and waste management programs statewide, announced it will be awarding a **\$50,000** grant to the Costa Mesa Sanitary District (CMSD) for its Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Program. The grant money will help offset the costs of collecting alkaline batteries and fluorescent tubes and bulbs at the Orange Coast College (OCC) Recycling Center, as well as expenses related to the District's successful Alkaline Battery Recycling Contest for local schools. Additionally, it will also help defray the costs of public outreach for the District's Door-to-Door HHW Collection Program.

The District and the OCC Recycling Center have a long-standing partnership to encourage recycling by making it easy and convenient for residents. CMSD pays approximately \$20,000 per year for a contractor to collect and safely dispose of fluorescent tubes and bulbs, and to recycle alkaline batteries. Since 2013, the OCC Recycling Center has collected nearly 100,000 feet of fluorescent tubes, more than 17,000 light bulbs, and over 48,000 pounds of batteries.

"The partnership is truly a win-win for everyone," said Jim Ferryman, District Board President. "The OCC Recycling Center embodies the long-standing culture of sustainability that's



Protecting our community's health and the environment by providing solid waste and wastewater collection services.

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so important to the District and our community. It certainly makes sense for us to continue to partner with the Recycling Center,” said Ferryman.

In addition to CMSD’s partnership with the OCC Recycling Center, grant money will be used toward recycling household batteries collected at local schools through the Alkaline Battery Recycling Contest. Last school year, 20 schools participated in the contest and collected a total of nearly 13,000 pounds of batteries ([Costa Mesa Sanitary District Rewards Local Schools](#)).

Lastly, grant money will be used to support education and outreach efforts for the District’s Door-to-Door HHW Collection Program. This program allows residents to have unwanted HHW items, such as paint, cleaning products, pesticides, and electronics, picked up at their doorstep. Residents are eligible for this free program if they receive CMSD’s solid waste collection services.

During Fiscal Year 2018-19, CMSD’s trash hauler, CR&R, visited nearly 500 homes to pick up unwanted HHW. These pickups resulted in the diversion of more than 15,000 pounds of hazardous materials from landfills. Due to the success of this program, the District was awarded the Outstanding HHW Recycling Award from the California Resource Recovery Association in 2019.

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About the Costa Mesa Sanitary District: Formed in 1944, the Costa Mesa Sanitary District (CMSD) is an independent special district that provides solid waste and wastewater collection services to a population of approximately 116,700 in Costa Mesa, Newport Beach, and unincorporated Orange County. For more information and the latest CMSD news, visit [CMSD's website](#) and follow CMSD on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#). To get in touch with CMSD staff, email info@cmsdca.gov or call (949) 645- 8400.