



## Upper Valley Waste Management Agency Board Agenda Letter

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**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Julia Travis for Lederer, Steven - Manager  
Upper Valley Waste Management Agency

**REPORT BY:** Dave Briggs, Environmental Resource Specialist - (707) 253-4094

**SUBJECT:** Household Hazardous Waste Program and Events 2013-2014

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### RECOMMENDATION

#### **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION PROGRAM**

**DISCUSSION:** Expand the Upper Valley Waste Management Agency Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program to include two "events" in 2013-14: one at Calistoga Fairgrounds in the fall, and a second at Rutherford Grove Winery in the spring.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Upper Valley Waste Management Agency (UVWMA) reinstated its full program of household hazardous waste (HHW) collections in 2012 after scaling back efforts during the recent recession. In October of 2012, with new revenues available for HHW collection, the agency hired a licensed hazardous waste hauler to conduct a one-day collection "event" at no charge to local residents. The event operators reported a record turn-out. UVWMA staff is preparing preliminary plans for at least one up-valley collection event in fiscal year 2013-14. Staff is asking the Board of Directors to decide on the number of events it wishes to hold next year and to select the preferred dates for the HHW collection event(s).

### FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	No
What is the revenue source?	Waste "tipping fee" at Clover Flat Landfill.
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary
Discretionary Justification:	UVWMA increased its tipping fee at Clover Flat Landfill in 2012-13 by one

dollar per ton so that it could hold household hazardous waste collection events serving up-valley residents and small businesses. This action would approve a plan to hold two collection events in 2013-14 that would cost an estimated \$35,000 - \$40,000 dollars.

Is the general fund affected? No

Future fiscal impact: None.

Consequences if not approved: The Agency would hold only a single collection event in 2013-14 at less convenience to some up-valley residents and businesses.

Additional Information:

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

### **BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION**

UVWMA has provided HHW collection services to residents and small businesses of up-valley communities since the mid-nineties. Its HHW program is intended to reduce the agency's long-term liability for release of locally-generated HHW to the environment and to address state and federal regulations that limit or ban certain hazardous materials from municipal landfills.

Residents and small businesses of up-valley communities have had two main options for disposal of a wide variety of HHW they generate. The most convenient has been HHW collection events offered by UVWMA. The agency has hired a licensed HHW operator to conduct the events and dispose of the HHW dropped off by the public. The other less convenient option is the HHW collection facility at the Devlin Road Transfer Station, located just north of the City of American Canyon. Both collection options have been available to up-valley residents and some small businesses at limited times, and at no extra charge.

Over the years, UVWMA has made modest expansions to its HHW services. Its staff has worked extensively with local agencies, non-profit organizations, and businesses to establish collections sites for specific types of HHW that are less toxic and therefore less regulated under state law. These partnerships have expanded the number of locally available public collection sites at relatively low cost to the agency.

The revenue reductions resulting from the economic slowdown of 2009 caused UVWMA to reduce some HHW services. The agency suspended its HHW collection events for three years prior to October, 2012.

#### **UVWMA's Existing Program for HHW Collection**

At the end of fiscal year 2011-12, the UVWMA Board of Directors approved a landfill disposal fee increase of one dollar per ton for most materials delivered to the landfill by Upper Valley Recycling and Disposal Service (UVDRS) and the public. Increased revenue from the fee has allowed the agency to reestablish its HHW collection events. It held its most recent event on October 20, 2012 at the Calistoga Fairgrounds.

With limited staff and funding, UVWMA continues to rely heavily on partnerships with local businesses and agencies to offer a compliment of HHW collection opportunities. In addition to HHW collection events and the HHW

facility at Devlin Road, residents and some small businesses may dispose or recycle some less regulated types of HHW in the following ways.

1. Curbside collection of used motor oil and oil filters for UVDRS customers
2. Drop-off collection of paint, antifreeze, batteries, motor oil, and oil filters and fluorescent lamps at Yountville Corporation Yard and Clover Flat Landfill
3. Drop-off collection at various partner business and non-profit group locations of household batteries, fluorescent lamps, sharps, pharmaceuticals, and used motor oil and filters

### **Up-valley HHW Collection in 2013-14**

Staff is continuing its work on development of and improvement to its partnerships for HHW collection in up-valley communities. It has also initiated plans for HHW collection events that UVWMA will hold in the up-coming fiscal year.

UVWMA Board members have expressed at previous meetings their support for supplementing the single HHW collection event that UVWMA schedules typically for the Calistoga Fairgrounds in October with other events that may be held periodically in other up-valley communities. Agency staff has searched for adequate up-valley locations in the past and found few sites with the necessary space and features for adequate public access and HHW collection, packaging, and loading operations. One potential site that has proven adequate in the past is the Rutherford Grove Winery, owned by UVDRS. Since the company is very busy with grape pomace composting operations in the fall, the site might be best suited for a spring event.

The Board may wish to consider holding a fall event in Calistoga and another event at Rutherford Grove Winery in the spring of 2014.

### **Financial Considerations and Event Scheduling**

During the 2012-13 fiscal year, UVWMA had sufficient revenues to hold one HHW collection event at Calistoga Fairgrounds, while continuing to cover costs of HHW collections at its partners' drop-off sites. HHW disposal rates have not increased under UVWMA's revised agreement with its HHW collection event contractor (see the revised agreement the Board is asked to approve on the consent calendar of today's meeting).

Staff expects to see significant savings in the agency's HHW handling costs this year due to the start of the new, industry-funded statewide paint recycling program. Under the program, the paint industry's designated contractor, "Paintcare," will take over all responsibilities and costs of paint shipping and recycling and disposal throughout California. Because paint is a large portion of HHW, Paintcare's activities will reduce substantially overall HHW program costs to public agencies. UVWMA should see a savings of between \$15,000 - \$20,000 in disposal costs for its single HHW collection event and the Yountville Corp Yard collections this year.

Costs of the one-day up-valley HHW event have in recent years ranged between \$25,000 - \$30,000. Overall costs of contractor payments, advertising, and promotion of a single day event can cost up to \$35,000. Considering the reduced costs of paint disposal, a reasonable estimate of overall costs of a HHW collection event in Calistoga in the fall of 2013 would be \$25,000. With lower attendance than the Calistoga event, costs of a spring event at Rutherford Grove Winery may be estimated at \$15,000.

The agency's HHW contractor has identified Saturday, October 26, 2013 as an available date for a Calistoga HHW collection event. UVDRS has suggested a Saturday in late April or early May for an event at Rutherford Grove Winery. Should the Board decide to hold a second collection event in the spring of 2013-14, staff would need to arrange with the HHW contractor to select the most appropriate date in April or May.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

None

Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Julia Travis