



Costa Mesa Sanitary District

....an Independent Special District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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100 GALLONS OF TURKEY GREASE COLLECTED AFTER HOLIDAY WEEKEND

(Costa Mesa, CA) – Officials from the Costa Mesa Sanitary District and Orange Coast College (OCC) are very pleased with the results of their new and innovative recycling program after its inaugural week. Kicked off on November 21st, OCC and the Sanitary District partnered to develop a convenient method for disposing cooking grease used in fryers. After the Thanksgiving weekend the OCC Recycling Center collected 100 gallons of used cooking grease! Both storage containers for the grease were filled to the top and had to be pumped out by the Sanitary District's contractor, Triple A Pumping, where the grease is then taken to a rendering facility to be recycled into useable products such as candles, soap, fuel and/or dog food.

The program is an attempt to prevent people from pouring their grease down the kitchen sink, which clogs pipes and causes sewer backups. Grease, or as it is known in the sanitary industry as Fats, Oil and Grease (FOG), is quickly becoming the number one cause for sewer backups in neighborhoods. The program is open to all residents in Orange County. No commercial and/or restaurant grease will be accepted. Residents can bring their used cooking grease to the OCC Recycling Center, located on Adams Avenue between Harbor Blvd and Fairview Road Monday through Sunday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and pour the material into a designated grease storage container. A free FOG funnel that makes it easier to pouring grease into empty containers such as milk cartons is available to Sanitary District, the City of Costa Mesa and the City of Huntington Beach residents. FOG funnels can be picked up at the OCC Recycling Center or at the Costa Mesa Sanitary District's office located at 628 W. 19th Street in Costa Mesa. Officials are expecting another big response from residents in the month of December when people from all over Orange County are celebrating their traditional holidays.

Funding for this program is funded by a grant from OC Waste & Recycle. For more information about the Residential FOG Recycling Program, contact the Costa Mesa Sanitary District at 949-645-8400 or Orange Coast College Recycling Center at 714-432-5131.

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