



FALL 2017

**A CLEAR CREEK DISPOSAL QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER**

Volume 11, Issue 3

## **AFTER THE HURRICANES** *Environmental Problems Abound*

As flood waters recede and residents return to restore their homes along the gulf coast of Texas, the Caribbean islands and vast swaths of Florida, they will have multiple environmental problems to address.

Initially, health concerns arise from people wading through unclean water. Water and wastewater systems have been taken offline due to facility damages or contamination. With the amount of standing water that remains, mosquito-transmitted diseases are of concern. Vector-borne diseases in Houston have included West Nile virus and Zika as well as men-

ingitis and hemorrhagic fever. There is also the stress, depression and PTSD people can develop because of the losses endured.

Then there is the herculean task of hauling away debris. Once cherished possessions have become sodden waste, gathered in piles in front of water stained homes. Couches, carpet, books, linens, televisions, DVD players, clothes, drywall, furniture... anything that is ruined or left molding from the flood waters.

This is the scene at houses, neighborhoods, and towns in the Houston area, and likely it will also be the scene in much of Florida.

Millions of pounds of debris already crowd Houston curbs, and will take months, and cost billions of dollars to clean up. Houston and other cities may be able

to recover some of the costs through FEMA, but the remaining bill will be expensive.

In Houston, authorities are asking residents to separate waste into five piles: appliances; electronics; construction and demolition debris; household hazardous waste; and vegetative debris. However, initially, few people seem to be responding to that request.



Houston expects to haul away about eight million cubic yards of hurricane-related debris. There will be the additional waste from nearby towns as well. Hurricane Katrina left behind just over 100 million cubic yards of debris in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. That is enough waste to fill the Yankee Stadium almost eight times.

## **AMERICA RECYCLES DAY** *November 15, 2016*

**America Recycles Day is a reminder that every day, with every purchase and every item disposed, you can make a difference in the environment—in the future.**

Visit [americarecyclesday.org](http://americarecyclesday.org) and make your pledge.

HERE'S WHAT OTHERS HAVE COMMITTED TO RECYCLE, WHAT ACTION WILL YOU TAKE?



8%

SHAMPOO BOTTLES



30%

PLASTIC BAGS AND WRAPS



37%

PLASTIC BOTTLES AND CAPS



14%

UNWANTED MAIL



11%

MOBILE DEVICES



## FALL YARD WASTE CLEANUP



The Hailey Fall Yard Waste Collection will be Saturday, October 28 from 9am -3pm, at the Park & Ride lot at the corner of River and Bullion streets. Hailey residents can bring tree and bush trimmings, grass and leaves to the drop-off. Collected green waste will be chipped by the Southern Idaho Solid Waste District, and is available for purchase at Ohio Gulch Transfer Station.

**DUMPSTERS AVAILABLE:** If you have landscaping renovation to complete, Clear Creek Disposal can provide containers as small as 1-1/2 or 3 cubic yards. If only green waste is collected, disposal costs can be less than for regular trash. Materials will ultimately be chipped and made into mulch, which is available for purchase at the Ohio Gulch Transfer Station.

### *CCD Holiday Schedule*

*There will be no collection of waste or recyclables on the following holiday:*

**Thanksgiving Day:** Thursday, November 23

All collections following a weekday holiday will be delayed one day, with Friday collections moved to Saturday.

## CHIC REUSE IDEAS

Clever ways to reuse glass, from bottles to outdated serving dishes

