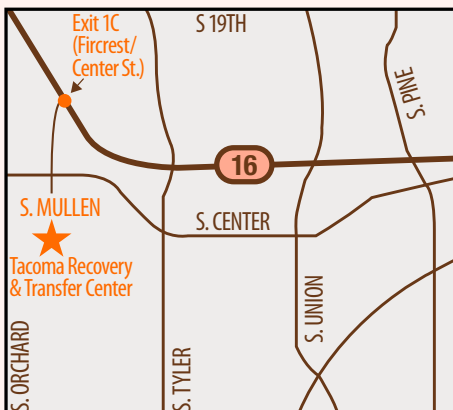


# EnviroTalk

Fall 2014



## How to Find the Tacoma Recovery & Transfer Center

3510 S. Mullen St.  
Tacoma, WA 98409  
(Formerly Tacoma Landfill)

8 a.m. to 6 p.m., seven days a week\*

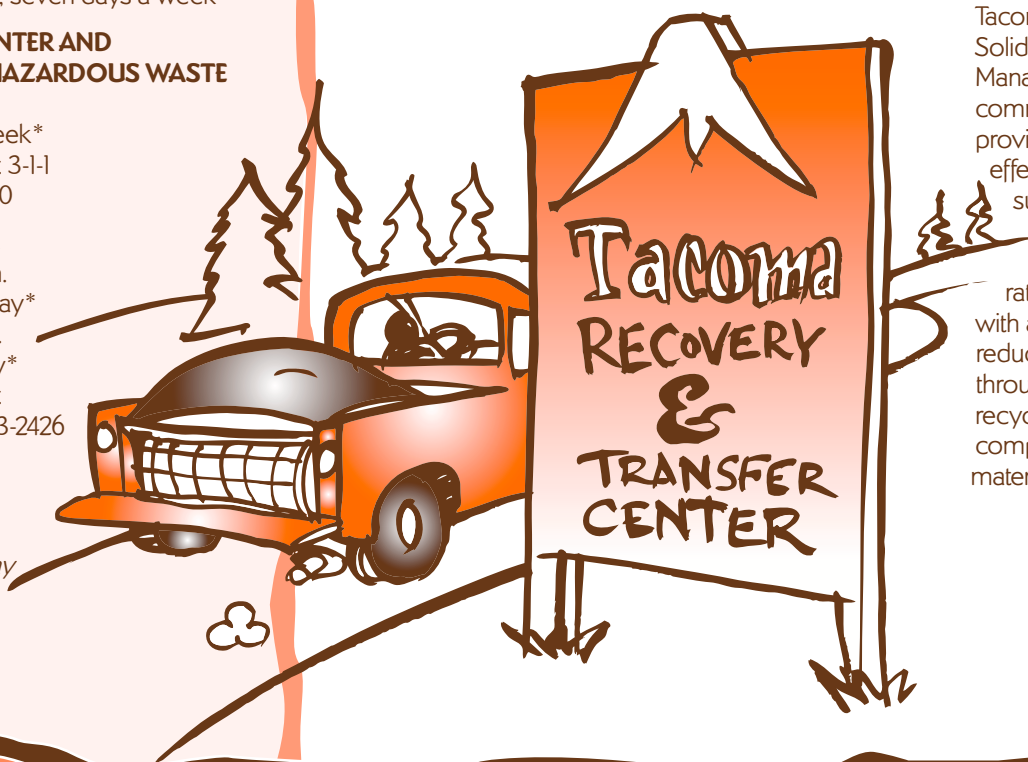
### RECYCLING CENTER AND HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

8 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
seven days a week\*  
CONTACT US at 3-1-1  
or (253) 502-2100

### ENVIROHOUSE

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Wednesday-Friday\*  
11 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Saturday-Sunday\*  
CONTACT US at  
3-1-1 or (253) 573-2426

\*Closed:  
New Year's Day,  
Fourth of July,  
Thanksgiving Day  
and Christmas  
Day



## TACOMA RECOVERY & TRANSFER CENTER & focuses on 'materials recovery'

With a new focus comes a new name – the Tacoma Recovery & Transfer Center.

The Tacoma Landfill has been fondly referred to by many names since it opened in 1960. Yet with the closure of landfill operations at the 240-acre site in 2012, the City of Tacoma has repurposed the former landfill with a primary focus on the recovery and transfer of materials.

Now, the new Tacoma Recovery & Transfer Center name reflects the state-of-the-art facility, which provides many opportunities to divert and recover materials from the waste stream. Mattresses, metal, wood products and cardboard are examples of items that often make their way into the garbage, yet can be recovered and recycled.

The City is committed to sustainability through partnership with its customers. Together we can reduce the waste we send to the landfill.

Tacoma Solid Waste Management is committed to providing cost-effective and sustainable services for ratepayers with a focus on reducing waste through reusing, recycling and composting materials.

## Cleaning out your garage?

With fall just around the corner, you may be thinking about cleaning out your garage. Remember:

- ✿ Use **Call-2-Haul** bulk disposal service for items too large to fit in your garbage container. Call (253) 573-2468 to make an appointment for either pickup at your home or drop-off at the Tacoma Recovery & Transfer Center. Solid Waste customers living in single-family homes and duplexes are allowed two pickups or self-hauls each year.
- ✿ Drop off leftover and unwanted hazardous products at the **Household Hazardous Waste Facility**. This includes cleaning products, lawn and garden chemicals, oil-based paints and stains, and anything else labeled caution, warning, danger, poison, hazardous, harmful, or fatal if swallowed.

[cityoftacoma.org/call2haul](http://cityoftacoma.org/call2haul)  
[cityoftacoma.org/hazwaste](http://cityoftacoma.org/hazwaste)

## Free home & garden workshops at the EnviroHouse

**Registration required.** Please go to [cityoftacoma.org/envirohouse](http://cityoftacoma.org/envirohouse) or call (253) 573-2426.

**Schedule** is subject to change.

### September

- 6 10:30 a.m. Landscape Stewardship: Using Water Wisely
- 13 10:30 a.m. Yard Waste & Worm Bin Composting
- 20 10:30 a.m. Planning & Planting a Winter Garden
- 27 10:30 a.m. Depave, Reduce Maintenance & Go Green

### October

- 4 10:30 a.m. Ductless Heat Pump: Advantages & Incentives
- 11 10:30 a.m. Yard Waste & Worm Bin Composting
- 12 1:30 p.m. Rain Barrels: How to Make & Maintain
- 18 10:30 a.m. Bright Ideas, Smart Lighting: LEDs at Home
- 25 10:30 a.m. Prune Like the Pros: Landscape Trees
- 25 1 p.m. Tree Selection: Right Tree – Right Place

**Location:** Tacoma Recovery & Transfer Center (formerly the Tacoma Landfill), 3510 S. Mullen St., 98409. Directions on EnviroHouse website.

**Workshops open** to Tacoma & Pierce County residents.

**EnviroHouse hours:** Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.



## A thin layer of TAGRO can work MAGIC on your lawn

Give your yard a little attention this fall, and you'll be ready to enjoy a beautiful lawn next spring.

1. Thatch or plug dense or well-rooted lawns.
2. Mow the lawn short.
3. Spread a thin layer (about 1/4-inch deep) of TAGRO Mix.
4. Water well, and get ready to enjoy a lush and lovely lawn.

Consider overseeding your entire lawn. Spread grass seed over the TAGRO Mix on your existing lawn at about half the rate needed for a new lawn.

TAGRO products – Mix, Topsoil, Potting Soil and Aged Black Bark – are available year-round for pickup or delivery.

TAGRO  
 2201 E. Portland Ave., Gate 6  
 (253) 502-2150  
[tagro.com](http://tagro.com)



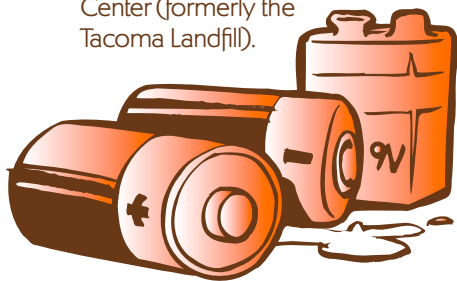
# EnviRO Q&A

## Q. How do I dispose of batteries?

A. If you have the standard curbside glass recycling bin (not used in some pilot areas), you can seal **rechargeable** and **alkaline** batteries inside a plastic bag and place it in your glass bin.

**Alkaline, NiCad, lithium-ion, lithium** and **button** batteries (separated) go into bins at the Recycling Center. Cell phones, chargers and cameras go into the E-Cycle bin.

**All** types of batteries – including **automotive** batteries – can be dropped off at the Household Hazardous Waste Facility at the Tacoma Recovery & Transfer Center (formerly the Tacoma Landfill).



Coming Soon:  
**A new look  
for EnviROTalk**

EnviROTalk is getting a makeover, but don't worry. It will still have the same great information you enjoy and use to protect our environment.

## RESOURCE LIST

FALL 2014

### Environmental Services (Solid Waste, Surface Water, Wastewater)

Questions about billing and services for Solid Waste, Surface Water and Wastewater	502-2100	cityoftacoma.org/environmentalservices
Questions about the Tacoma Recovery & Transfer Center (formerly the Tacoma Landfill)	502-2100	TacomaRecycles.org
EnviroHouse	573-2426	cityoftacoma.org/envirohouse
TAGRO	502-2150	tagro.com

### Solid Waste Management

Solid Waste Management Administration	502-2100	TacomaRecycles.org
Call-2-Haul	573-2468	cityoftacoma.org/call2haul
Hazardous waste	591-5418	cityoftacoma.org/hazwaste
Scalehouse	593-7724	

### Surface Water Management & Wastewater Management

Sewer backups & Street flooding	591-5585	cityoftacoma.org/sewerbackup cityoftacoma.org/flood
Street sweeping		cityoftacoma.org/streetsweeping
Tree resources	591-2048	cityoftacoma.org/urbanforestry
Report water pollution, spills & dumping	383-2429	healthybay.org
Residential Rain Garden Program	591-5588	cityoftacoma.org/raingarden

### Join the Conversation

E-mail listserv		cityoftacoma.org/environews
Facebook		facebook.com/CityofTacoma
Twitter		twitter.com/CityofTacoma

When calling the utilities, please have your account number available. Your account number is located at the top of your utility bill.

## Central Treatment Plant gets a new floodwall

The Pierce County Flood Control Zone District is providing \$6 million to build a floodwall around Tacoma's Central Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The project was selected because flooding could send untreated wastewater into waterways, damaging public health, water-based businesses, recreation and wildlife.

Construction began in spring 2014 and will take about a year.

TAGRO is open during construction.

Answer key for puzzle in the Summer 2014 issue:

Z	U	T	Q	E	M	Z	X	X	E	G	J	B	U	U
N	U	S	V	U	F	S	X	X	W	U	Q	L	C	U
P	S	U	S	T	A	I	N	A	B	L	E	U	B	C
B	X	M	F	H	S	O	U	N	D	V	M	E	M	F
N	P	M	R	W	O	P	T	S	E	W	Z	C	R	R
X	F	E	J	O	K	T	R	E	S	A	R	H	Z	V
F	F	R	B	R	S	F	I	C	U	D	H	O	O	A
I	I	W	V	K	R	R	E	O	N	P	I	T	Q	N
C	L	H	I	S	A	A	N	M	S	R	S	U	H	G
E	T	X	U	H	G	Y	T	M	H	O	X	X	A	A
G	E	S	S	O	P	T	S	U	I	P	W	K	P	L
C	R	A	I	P	J	V	Z	N	N	E	I	Y	P	N
N	I	V	Z	S	W	W	V	I	E	R	Q	J	Y	N
T	N	V	L	P	L	O	H	T	U	T	K	U	Q	R
M	G	X	A	V	B	U	G	Y	V	Y	F	F	U	N

# Rake 'em Up:

## Keep leaves out of the street to prevent floods

Help prevent flooding in your neighborhood by clearing leaves from storm drains, sidewalks and curbs.

You can:

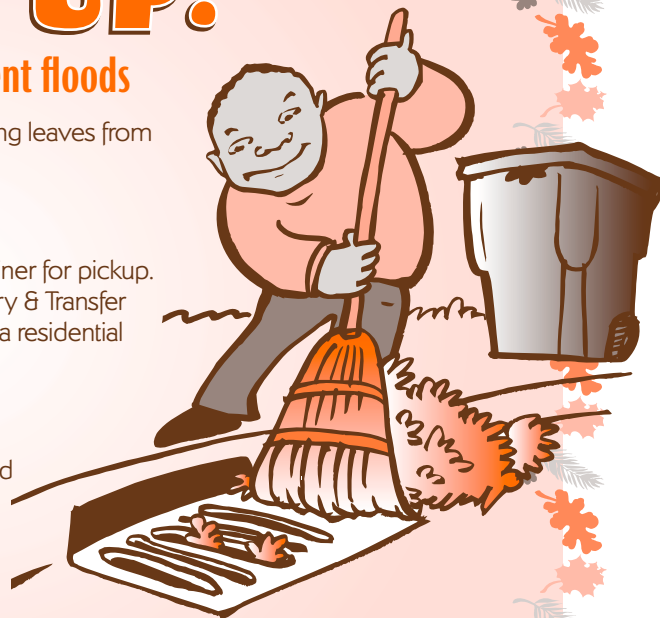
- ✿ Use leaves as compost in your garden.
- ✿ Place leaves in your brown yard/food waste container for pickup.
- ✿ Take leaves and yard waste to the Tacoma Recovery & Transfer Center. There's no additional fee for City of Tacoma residential customers. *Please keep your loads covered!*

City of Tacoma residents are responsible for collecting and disposing of leaves and other debris from their property, including the area between their sidewalk and the street.

[cityoftacoma.org/leaves](http://cityoftacoma.org/leaves)

Yard waste questions: (253) 502-2100

Report flooding: (253) 591-5585



# WATCH

## for storm damage to trees

Wind, rain, ice and snow can be downright mean to trees.

Regular maintenance goes a long way toward preventing storm damage. Experts recommend a checkup by an arborist every few years – and more often for larger, older trees, especially after storms.

### For trees on public property or in the right-of-way:

- ✿ To report a potentially hazardous tree, call 3-1-1 or Tacoma Cares at (253) 591-5001 or email [TacomaCares@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:TacomaCares@cityoftacoma.org).
- ✿ To report a tree emergency, call Street Operations at (253) 591-5495.

### Tree emergencies on public property or in the right-of-way include:

- ✿ A fallen tree blocking a street, sidewalk or alley.
- ✿ A large branch blocking a street, sidewalk or alley.
- ✿ A tree splitting.
- ✿ A large branch hanging over a street or sidewalk, or overhanging private property.
- ✿ Any other immediate hazard on public property or City right-of-way.

For tips on dealing with trees and storm damage, and tree care, including how to hire an arborist: [cityoftacoma.org/urbanforestry](http://cityoftacoma.org/urbanforestry)





# celebrate harvest

this fall with food,  
fun and learning

## PIERCE COUNTY COMMUNITY GARDEN TOUR & POINT DEFIANCE FLOWER AND GARDEN SHOW

Saturday, Sept. 27, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Point Defiance Pagoda

Free classes, vendors, tours of  
Fort Nisqually Heritage Garden  
and Community Gardens.

For details, [MetroParksTacoma.org/  
FallGardenFest](http://MetroParksTacoma.org/FallGardenFest).

## FREE FAMILY GARDEN FEST

Saturday, Oct. 4, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Master Gardener's Puyallup  
Demonstration Garden, across  
Pioneer from the WSU Puyallup  
Research and Extension Center  
(2607 W. Pioneer)

Come for a reduced-cost tree  
sale, smart and healthy gardening  
tips, hands-on composting  
demonstrations, kids' activities,  
live music, and seasonal snacks.

## FARMERS MARKETS IN TACOMA

☼ Sundays, 3873 S. 66th St.,  
10 a.m.-2 p.m. through  
September

☼ Tuesdays, 6th & Pine,  
3-7 p.m. through  
September

☼ Thursdays, S. 9th &  
Broadway, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.  
through October

☼ Saturdays, 2702 N. Proctor,  
9 a.m.-2 p.m. through Dec. 20  
(winter hours start in January)

## EDIBLE GARDEN CLASSES AT TAGRO

2201 E. Portland Ave., Gate 6

☼ Composting Basics, Saturday,  
Sept. 20, 10 a.m. to noon

☼ Putting the Garden to Bed,  
Saturday, Oct. 18,  
10 a.m. to noon

Register by calling (253) 798-4133.

# CALL FOR A TREE DISCOUNT COUPON

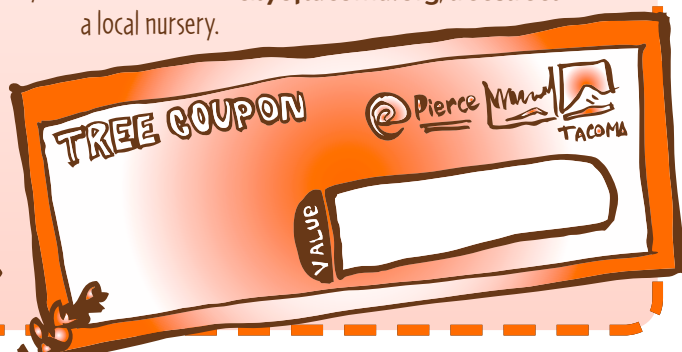
If you're planning to buy  
a tree for your property  
or the planting strip next  
to your property, you may  
qualify for a discount from  
a local nursery.

Tacoma residents should go to  
[cityoftacoma.org/treestreet](http://cityoftacoma.org/treestreet)  
to sign up for a coupon. Requests can  
also be made to (253) 591-2048 or  
[trees@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:trees@cityoftacoma.org). Please  
provide your address and contact  
information.

If you're eligible, you'll receive a  
coupon and information on tree  
planting and growing.

Trees beautify neighborhoods and  
reduce stormwater runoff, among  
other benefits.

[cityoftacoma.org/treestreet](http://cityoftacoma.org/treestreet)



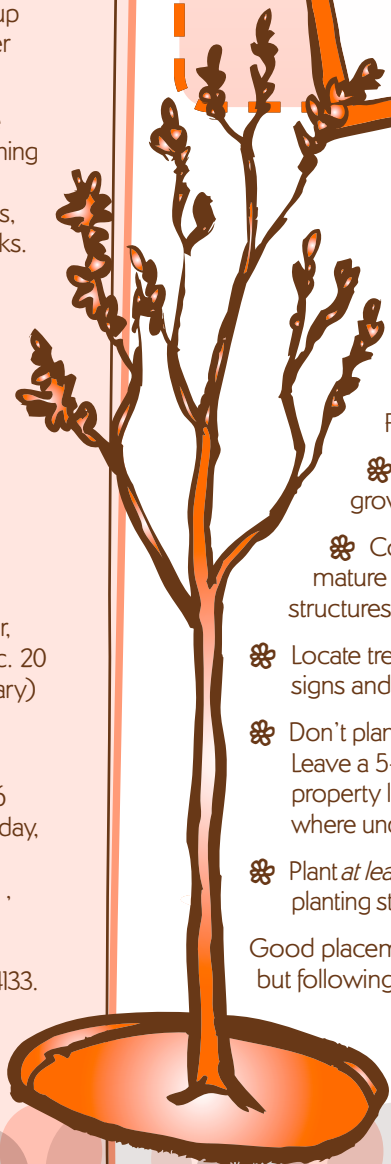
# Plant the right tree in the right place

Follow these placement guidelines:

- ☼ Under overhead power lines, plant trees that will grow no taller than 25 feet.
- ☼ Consider the available root space and how wide the mature tree will be when placing trees near permanent structures.
- ☼ Locate trees where they won't obstruct street lights, traffic signs and sight distance at intersections.
- ☼ Don't plant directly over underground utilities or property lines. Leave a 5-foot buffer, especially if you're unsure where the property line is. **CALL BEFORE YOU DIG:** Call 811 to find out where underground utilities are located.
- ☼ Plant *at least* two feet from pavement. This means no trees in planting strips less than 4 feet wide.

Good placement won't guarantee a healthy tree with no conflicts, but following these guidelines will make it much more likely.

Free workshops on tree pruning and placement are planned for Oct. 25 at the EnviroHouse.



# EnviroTalk

## in this issue

- ✿ New name & focus for Tacoma's landfill ..page 1
- ✿ Add a layer of TAGRO for lawn magic ..... page 2
- ✿ What to do with all those batteries..... page 3
- ✿ Help prevent street flooding.....page 4
- ✿ Celebrate fall with garden events ..... page 5

We want to hear from you:  
[EnviroTalk@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:EnviroTalk@cityoftacoma.org)



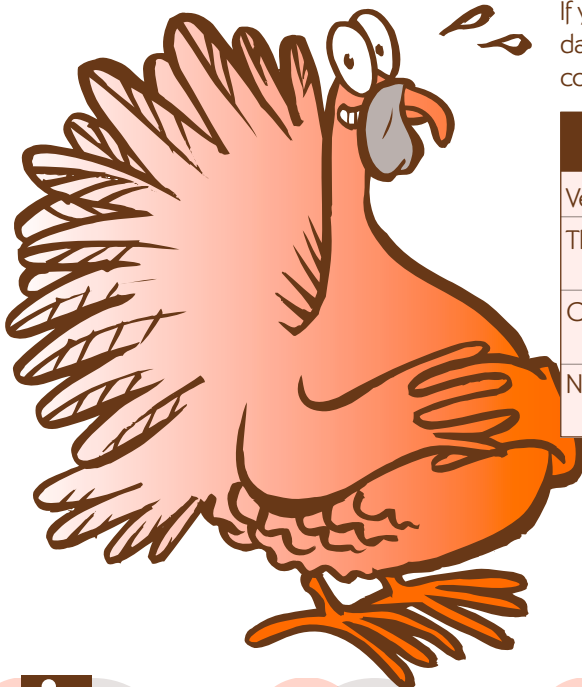
Recycled and recyclable  
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City of Tacoma  
 Environmental Services  
 747 Market Street, Room 408  
 Tacoma, Washington 98402-3769

PRSRT STD  
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
 TACOMA, WA  
 PERMIT NO. 2

# Garbage & recycling Holiday collection schedule



If your regular garbage/recycling or yard/food waste collection day falls on these holidays or the days following the holiday, your collection will be one day late during that week.

Holiday	If your regular pickup day is...	Your pickup day will be...
Veterans Day	On regular schedule	
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, Nov. 27 Friday, Nov. 28	Friday, Nov. 28 Saturday, Nov. 29
Christmas Day 2014	Thursday, Dec. 25 Friday, Dec. 26	Friday, Dec. 26 Saturday, Dec. 27
New Year's Day 2015	Thursday, Jan. 1 Friday, Jan. 2	Friday, Jan. 2 Saturday, Jan. 3

For more information:

- Call (253) 502-2100 for questions about holiday schedules.
- Collection calendar with holiday schedule specific to your home: [TacomaRecycles.org/collectioncalendar](http://TacomaRecycles.org/collectioncalendar)



If you need this information in an alternative format, please call (253) 591-5051. People with hearing or speech impairments may contact us through Washington Relay Services, 1-800-833-6388 (TTY or ASCII).