

Recycling? Yes, San Marino Does!

The City of San Marino, in cooperation with Athens Services Inc. will be offering an opportunity for residents to visit the recycling facility in the City of Industry which manages all trash collected in the City. This exciting trip will take place during the week of “Earth Day”, the nationally recognized day of celebration on April 22nd which focuses on the protection of our planet. The dates for the facility visits are April 22nd and April 24th. The tour will be from 10:00 A.M to approximately 12:00 P.M. Registration and transportation will be provided through the San Marino Recreation Department. Please call (626) 403-2200 for the details. Space is limited. For general question regarding the tour or general trash hauling in the City of San Marino please call Ron Serven, Administrative Services Manager at (626) 300-0789 or rserven@cityofsanmarino.org.

Some cities/counties utilize a system known as source separation. This typically requires residents to separate their waste into three different barrels- one for trash, one for recyclables, and one for green waste. Although this method has been somewhat successful, new technologies have made it possible to achieve and even surpass state-mandated waste diversion requirements more effectively and efficiently than source separation. This new technology is currently used in San Marino. Here’s how it works- Trash collected from San Marino residences is taken directly to the Athens Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in the City of Industry. Collection trucks dump their loads onto a massive tipping floor where the trash begins its journey through a series of automated and manual sorting lines to extract recyclables. Once recyclables are removed from the waste stream, the residual trash is loaded onto large transfer trucks and taken to area landfills. The recyclables are baled and shipped to various locations around the Pacific Rim, eventually returning to the U.S. in the form of various new, recycled products. The Athens MRF is the largest, most technologically advanced facility of its kind in Southern California and is capable of processing more than 5,000 tons of waste each day. It is fully enclosed with a high-tech air filtration system which virtually eliminates odor from escaping to the outside air.