



# Neighbor To Neighbor

FALL 2011 NEWSLETTER



## Landfill-Gas-To-Energy Coming in 2013



In 2013, Sunshine and DTE Energy will construct a landfill-gas-to-energy plant that can produce 20 megawatts of electricity, enough to power 15,000 local homes.

The plant will use state-of-the-art turbines permitted by South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). It will reduce emissions by nearly 118,000 tons of carbon dioxide and 40,000 tons of methane per year by offsetting carbon dioxide by not burning fossil fuels for energy.

When the gas-to-energy plant is operational, the total emissions reduced each year will be equivalent to:

- Taking 167,000 vehicles off the road
- Planting 239,000 acres of forest
- Turning off 1.56 million light bulbs

## What's New at Sunshine Canyon Landfill?



A view of Sunshine Canyon Landfill

The team at Sunshine Canyon Landfill has been actively working on the facility's gas collection system. Work may result in odors that could potentially reach the Granada Hills neighborhood. This work is subject to state and local rules and regulations. A licensed engineer is overseeing the project.

Through October 6, 2011, a total of 83 new or replacement gas extraction wells have been installed. An assessment of the completed work is scheduled to be completed by the end of October.

## Sunshine Canyon Landfill's Oak Tree Mitigation Project

The team at Sunshine Canyon Landfill actively strives to enhance the environment. As part of that goal, Sunshine Canyon Landfill staff members have implemented an oak tree mitigation project. The project includes planting native oak trees from acorns collected on site, growing and maintaining them in our nursery and monitoring their growth and health once the trees are planted.



Our oak tree nursery located on the Sunshine Canyon Landfill property

## Our Odor Response Team is Here for You

Recently, I accepted the responsibility of "Odor Management" at Sunshine Canyon Landfill. As a licensed professional engineer in the State of California, I have worked for over 25 years in the environmental engineering field. The odor issue is complex, but we are committed to finding a solution. I am looking forward to working with the community, our site personnel, and other professionals to solve this issue.

There has been a lot of misunderstanding about why we want residents to call us. The fact is that our goal is the same as your goal: no odor in the community. We have invested in new technology such as a new weather station and computerized technology to help respond to odor complaints faster and improve our communication with you. YOU are important to us!

I encourage you to call me directly or our hotline number if you have concerns or would like any information on what we are doing at the site to address odors.

Sincerely,

Patti Costa

818-833-6514



PATTI COSTA, P.E.  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
MANAGER  
SUNSHINE CANYON  
LANDFILL

Odor Hotline:

818-822-2835

General Telephone Number:

818-833-6500

David Cieply, General Manager

[sunshinecanyonlandfill.com](http://sunshinecanyonlandfill.com)

## Being Community-Minded

Sunshine Canyon Landfill uses the Best Available Technology to ensure the safe disposal of waste. Part of that includes many community-minded items such as:

### Litter Control

SCL patrols areas within a 1.5 mile radius of the landfill for litter control. Crews are dispatched daily to pick up litter.

### Street Cleaning

A street-sweeper is used to clean up roads at the landfill, cutting down on mud and helping to keep area roads clean.

### Water Truck

A water truck is used to spray water on landfill roads. This helps reduce dust.



Sunshine Canyon Landfill uses a street-sweeper to help keep roads clean.

### Sunshine Canyon City/County Landfill

As of September 30, 2011, Sunshine Canyon Landfill continues to operate six days per week. The combined city/county averages were approximately 9,000 tons per day Monday-Friday. Saturday waste volumes average approximately 3,000 tons due to reduced hours of operation.

### Sunshine Canyon Landfill Hotline Report

- Operational 24/7
- Call about landfill operational concerns
- Third quarter received 113 calls, 86 were seeking information about hours of operation, waste types accepted, and pricing. Twelve calls were to our hotline for odor complaints directly from residents, 14 were from a SCAQMD inspector, and one was from a commuter regarding a traffic situation.

### Did You Know?

If you have a compliment, complaint, or concern, you can speak to a live person between the hours of 6 a.m.—10 p.m. Mon-Sat. 818-822-2835.

[sunshinecanyonlandfill.com](http://sunshinecanyonlandfill.com)

There is a FREE S.A.F.E. center near you to dispose of your toxic waste (i.e. pesticides, fertilizers, paints, cleaners, anti-freeze, batteries, motor oil, oil filters, and electronic waste). Sun Valley—11025 Randall Street, Sun Valley, CA 91352.

For more information: 800-974-9794 or [LAstormwater.org](http://LAstormwater.org)

### Preserving Nature With Parkland

- **New Preserves and Parks:** Sunshine Canyon Landfill's parent company Republic Services has donated more than 900 acres of woodland and grassland areas around the landfill, creating numerous preserves and recreational areas:
- **East Canyon:** Immediately west of Sunshine Canyon, dedicated 426 acres to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for permanent open space and park and recreational uses.
- **Upper Bee Canyon:** Just south of Sunshine Canyon, bought 490 acres and immediately transferred ownership to the County of Los Angeles, which will transfer it to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for permanent open space, and park and recreation use.
- **Multiple Canyons:** Granted approximately 80 acres of easements for hiking trails along the perimeter of Sunshine Canyon and in East Canyon, Bee Canyon, and Weldon Canyons. We also gave \$50,000 to the county to acquire trail access into East Canyon.

## We're An Economic Benefit for Southern California

As we continue to talk to people in the Granada Hills community, we frequently are asked: What financial benefits to the community does the Sunshine Canyon Landfill provide?

The Sunshine Canyon Landfill Community Amenities Fund is one mechanism that allows our facility to benefit the nearby Granada Hills community. This fund is managed by City of Los Angeles Council District #12. We believe there are significant funds available for the benefit of Granada Hills. To find out more or to make a suggestion or request on how the funds can be used, please contact CD 12 today:

[Councilmember.Englander@lacity.org](mailto:Councilmember.Englander@lacity.org)

213-473-7012



**The Sunshine Canyon Landfill from high above**

At Sunshine Canyon Landfill, we are pleased to provide economic benefits to our community, including:

- **Low-Cost Disposal:** Because we will provide an in-county waste disposal option until the year 2037, County businesses and residents will pay much less than they would for other available options—and it's environmentally safe.
- **Revenue Sharing for City of LA/County of LA:**
  - The County receives a share of the revenue collected from operation on either side of the joint City/County Landfill, as determined by the Revenue-sharing Agreement between the two jurisdictions.
  - The City will receive more than \$150 million in franchise fees over the life of the City/County landfill.
  - Los Angeles County Public Works receives more than \$500,000 annually in support of hazardous waste roundups.
  - The replacement Conditional Use Permit for a combined City/County Landfill did not expand the landfill's footprint, but it allowed Sunshine Canyon to fully use all capacity within the footprint, which will maximize and stabilize revenues to the County and City.

### Notices of Violation (NOV)

Sunshine Canyon Landfill received five Notices of Violation (NOV) for odor/nuisance during the period of July 1, 2011 to September 30, 2011 (8/1, 8/23, 9/2, 9/6, 9/19). The NOV on 9/2/2011 was for a landfill gas surface sweep exceedance after an investigation from SCAQMD.

### Storm Water Controls

There is a comprehensive surface water management system at Sunshine Canyon Landfill that includes perimeter and interior drainage channels, four permanent sedimentation basins and several temporary basins to remove sediment from surface water leaving the site. The site operates under the statewide General Industrial Storm Water Permit. That permit defines the rainy season as Oct-May, and Sunshine Canyon conducts additional monitoring of runoff quality during that time. Data is submitted annually to the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

### Landfill Gas Monitoring

The latest Rule 1150.1 Quarterly Monitoring Report was published in August 2011, and is available upon request.

The city side of the landfill had 10 out of 200 grids that showed surface sample results over 500 ppm Total Organic Carbon (TOC). The County side of the landfill had 8 out of 122 total grids that showed surface sample results over 500 ppm Total Organic Carbon (TOC).

These grid areas were repaired and the areas passed a 10-day re-check and/or the second 10 day re-check as allowed by the requirements of SCAQMD Rule 1150.1.

### Landfill Operations

The below amounts were received for the 3rd Quarter. The landfill continues to operate six days per week.

MONTH	Non-buried, recyclable and beneficial reuse material (tons)	Total Landfilled Material (tons)
July	15,353.69	194,502.07
August	4,093.21	210,431.65
September	6,947.21	158,817.62

### Groundwater Monitoring

The Groundwater and Waste Disposal Monitoring Report for the Second Semi-Annual Monitoring Period of 2010 (RWCQB File No. 58-076) was published in February 2011. The report can be found at [sunshinecanyonlandfill.com](http://sunshinecanyonlandfill.com).

## Re-Vegetation and Tree Planting Status

As required by the City and County of Los Angeles Conditions of Approval, Sunshine Canyon Landfill continued to hydro-seed areas that are expected to be inactive for greater than 180 days. In the 3rd quarter of 2011, work consisted of interim cover applications on temporary and construction slopes. Sage Mitigation areas on permanent slopes continued to be monitored and maintained. City side Oak tree mitigation is complete. County side Big Cone Firs, PM10 tree berm, and the experimental "Wind Berm" are still currently being monitored and maintained.

## Air Monitoring

To address public concerns, the City requires quarterly air monitoring to measure dust and diesel particulate levels at Van Gogh Elementary School, the closest school to the landfill, and on site.

## Did You Know?

For over 50 years, Sunshine Canyon Landfill has been handling the waste disposal needs of Los Angeles City and County businesses and residents in a safe and environmentally sound manner. In 2009, the City and County landfill operations were combined.

## Resources & Information for Sunshine Canyon Landfill

14747 San Fernando Road  
Sylmar, CA 91342  
[sunshinecanyonlandfill.com](http://sunshinecanyonlandfill.com)

**24-Hour Sunshine Canyon Landfill Hotline: 800-926-0607**

### Mailing List:

To add or remove a name from our mailing list, to update your information, or to go paperless, please email:  
[info@sunshinecanyonlandfill.com](mailto:info@sunshinecanyonlandfill.com)

### Community Advisory Committee Meetings:

A joint city-county Community Advisory Committee has been formed and meets bi-monthly. The next meeting is Nov 3, 2011. Visit [sunshinecanyonlandfill.com](http://sunshinecanyonlandfill.com) for more information.

SCAQMD 24-Hour Hotline  
800-288-7664

SCL Odor Patrol  
818-822-2835  
6 a.m.—10 p.m.

Sunshine Canyon Landfill LEA  
8:30 a.m.—5:30 p.m., M-F  
213-252-3939

*Newsletter produced and distributed by the Sunshine Canyon Landfill*

**Sunshine Canyon Landfill**  
**14747 San Fernando Rd.**  
**Sylmar, CA 91342**

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