



RethinkWaste
South Bayside Waste Management Authority

For Immediate Release

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**2007-2008 ANNUAL REPORT RELEASED
Recycling Levels Remain Flat as Agency Gears Up for Major Rollout of New Services**

SAN CARLOS, CA – January 30, 2009 – The South Bayside Waste Management Authority (SBWMA) has released its 2007-2008 Annual Report highlighting its accomplishments over the last two years.

“This is our most comprehensive Annual Report to date. It not only provides information on where we have been, but also where we are going as a sustainable agency and community,” said Martha DeBry, Chairperson for the SBWMA Board of Directors. “We’re proud of the leadership role that we have taken through such things as becoming a Climate Action Leader™.”

The report emphasizes SBWMA’s leadership on climate initiatives, community partnerships and recycling programs. Program costs, Fiscal Year 2009 operating budget and budget comparisons are also included in the report, as well as the facts that residents in the SBWMA service area have some of the lowest monthly garbage rates in the Bay Area.

In addition, the report includes statistics on recycling and disposal figures for the SBWMA’s service area. Businesses and residents in the SBWMA service area threw away 459,000 tons of garbage in 2007 and 2008, approximately 1,200 pounds per person per year in the SBWMA service area.

This section of the report also brings attention to the fact that the diversion in the residential and commercial sectors, or the amount of material recycled/kept out of the landfill, has remained relatively flat over the last five years. As a result, the SBWMA has initiated one of the largest and most complex request for proposals processes for future programs, services and facilities to significantly increase diversion. Most notably, the weekly collection of single stream (commingled) recyclable materials in one cart and weekly combined food scraps and yard trimmings (organics) collection are anticipated to begin in January 2011. Residents will also be receiving all new wheeled carts for garbage, recyclables and food scraps/yard trimmings collection services.

A copy of SBWMA’s 2007-2008 Annual Report is available at www.RethinkWaste.org.

SBWMA

Formed in 1982, the SBWMA is a joint powers authority comprised of 12 member agencies (Atherton, Belmont, Burlingame, East Palo Alto, Foster City, Hillsborough, Menlo Park, Redwood City, San Carlos and San Mateo along with the County of San Mateo and the West Bay Sanitary District) in San Mateo County and is a leader in implementing innovative waste reduction and recycling programs. The SBWMA also owns and manages the Shoreway Recycling and Disposal Center in San Carlos consisting of a permitted solid waste transfer station and a recycling processing facility. For more information on the SBWMA, please visit our website at www.RethinkWaste.org.