



January 7, 2026

MEMORANDUM

To: Directors, Tehama County Solid Waste Management Agency

From: Paul Freund, Agency Manager

Subject: December 2025 Monthly Update

1. I continue to provide Green Building Code compliance support to the building departments and monitor and provide support to the cities and the County for paper product procurement.
2. Christian and I attended the ribbon cutting for WM's new compost facility at their Anderson Landfill on December 3. It was a great opportunity to see what they have planned for organics collection and processing in Shasta County and connect with WM staff to discuss potential costs for hauling organics collected in Tehama County.
3. Christian met with Corning Union High School staff on December 3 to go over the Smart Business Alliance (SBA) program and learn more about the high school's current recycling program. The school board approved the application to join the SBA shortly after his meeting. A second meeting is planned for January, during which Christian will be joined by Ashlee from WM to assess their needs for recycling collection bins in the classrooms and administrative office.
4. I promoted safe sharps and medication disposal, as well as proper battery recycling at the Tehama LIFT event held at the fairgrounds on December 5. I spoke with over 34 attendees and other booth vendors, gave out 12 mail-back sharps containers, and several orange battery bags.
5. Christian participated in a recycling audit ride-along with Max from Green Waste on December 8. They engaged residents by providing recycling tips and feedback on their current practices and will meet again to review the collected data to identify opportunities to improve the program and increase diversion rates.
6. Christian attended Good Morning Red Bluff on December 11 to promote the SBA program and provide information on recycling services to local businesses and community members.

7. I virtually attended the Rural Counties' Environmental Services Joint Powers Authority (ESJPA) meeting with Tom Walker at the Agency's office on December 11. During the meeting we learned more about SB 54 and the potential impacts to rural jurisdictions, as well as receiving greater clarification on the AB 1826 exemption ending and the ESJPA's interest in lobbying CalRecycle to extend the exemption.
8. I promoted the Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) program at the Tehama County Library's sewing repair class on December 11. I also gave an interview for a short video being produced to highlight the RMDZ and our partnership with the Library to encourage residents to repair their belongings before replacing them.
9. I was on vacation December 12 and December 19.
10. I attended the RMDZ ZoneWorks virtual meeting on December 16 and learned about new ways to share information and receive assistance for the RMDZ, as well as information on reporting deadlines.
11. Christian and I met with Waste Connections to review their updates to the second diversion sign and provide feedback for the final version. We also discussed the issues they were having with their previous company that had installed the first diversion sign and their plan to install the next sign using their own staff.
12. The Agency's office was closed on December 24 and December 25, while the Landfill was closed on December 25 in observance of the Christmas holiday.
13. The Agency held its monthly meeting with Waste Connections on December 30. We discussed progress on maintenance for the recycling sorting line and methane gas collection system, upcoming scale calibration, and assistance the Sheriff provided for addressing the trespassers coming onsite during the overnight hours. I also discussed plans for the HHW lockers that will be removed from the Corning facility and where they will be staged at the Red Bluff facility.
14. Agency staff contributed waste reduction, recycling and hazardous waste disposal information to the monthly Lake CA POA newsletter and WasteWise News, and produced and distributed the Educators Newsletter.
15. Household hazardous waste collection events will be held from 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM on the second Saturday of January in Red Bluff. I am currently working on setting up a meeting with ACTenviro to discuss increasing the event frequency in Red Bluff.

Please feel free to contact me at the office at 528-1103 should any questions arise.

CC: Gabriel Hydrick, Tehama County Chief Administrator
Tom Westbrook, Red Bluff City Manager
Brant Mesker, Corning City Manager
Carolyn Steffan, Tehama City Clerk/Administrator