



## Vineyard Creation Care

### Recycling

As a church our recycling project is now in full swing. We recycle cardboard and paper, as well as bottles, cans and batteries. We estimate that we recycle 30 tons of cardboard and 25 tons of paper each year. If you have newspapers, cardboard or any other type of paper, or batteries that you would like to recycle, please feel free to drop them off at the front desk any time during the week or Sundays.

Don't forget we also recycle cell phones and you can drop any old cell phones in the red bin in the front lobby.

**Fact:** Batteries contain harmful substances such as mercury, lead, cadmium and nickel which can contaminate the environment when batteries are improperly disposed of. For example, lead is extremely harmful to the human body; damages both the central & peripheral nervous systems; can cause seizures, retardation, high blood pressure, damage to the kidneys & liver; and adversely affects child development. This is just one of the ingredients in batteries. The concern is that when batteries get thrown into the landfills the chemicals will eventually begin seeping into our water supply. In addition, it is actually illegal in the State of California to improperly dispose of batteries.

### Mulching

Mulching planters and flower beds helps keep moisture in the soil and regulate the soil temperature, and helps with weed control. Each bed should have 3—4 inches of mulch in order for it to properly function. Here at vineyard Anaheim we have taken all of the tree trimming from the past several years and chipped them to make mulch for the planters and flower beds at various locations around the campus. As a result we have saved on watering and weed control and added an aesthetic appeal to our planters. Also, mulching yard trimmings keeps them from being added to the landfills. Using mulch in your flower beds at home can help you reduce your watering and weeding costs. If you would like to bring a couple of buckets with you on a Sunday, you are welcome to fill them with mulch from the SE corner of the parking lot and take them home. Start in November and running through April you are welcome to bring your tree trimmings from home to the designated area and we will chip them and add them to the available pile of mulch.

**Fun Fact:** If you are having problems with aphids in your rose beds you can throw a banana peel in the planter and the aphids should go to it. You can then throw the banana peel away, together with the aphids, without using pesticides.

### Other ways in which we are working to help the environment

80% of the average commercial property's electricity bill is lighting. We recently did a lighting retrofit throughout our entire building. By changing our lights and ballasts to newer more efficient versions, we have been able to save 25% on our electricity bill. You can make a change in your home and save on your bill by changing your lights to Compact fluorescents.

What are you doing to help the environment? We'd love to hear from you, email us with comments or questions at [dpaolozzi@vcfanaheim.com](mailto:dpaolozzi@vcfanaheim.com). You can read more about what we as a church are doing as part of our Creation Care Program in the next issue of Vinelife, and see how you also can participate.

Stay tuned for more helpful hints and fun factoids