



Weekend, January 16-17, 2010

HOMES & LIVING

FEATURES EDITOR: Katharine Ball **PHONE:** 754-4282 **FAX:** 754-4293 **E-MAIL:** living@thecalifornian.com
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**COMING MONDAY
IN LIVING**

A Chualar couple builds a family through adoption.

**REAL ESTATE
LISTINGS INSIDE**

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Throwaway tires can create major problems

We count on our tires to keep us rolling, but once they wear out, tires can become a nuisance or worse.

Old tires can be recycled, but in most cases there is a disposal fee involved. Some people stack them up in the yard awaiting a trip to the landfill, or resort to desperate measures to avoid disposal fees and dump them illegally. This is where the problems begin.

Tires left outside are prone to collecting standing water, which



ALAN STYLES
Recycling

mosquitoes use for breeding, potentially inviting the West Nile virus to your neighborhood.

Illegally dumped tires will damage vegetation, create unsightly litter and pose a major

DETAILS

For information on Worn Out Wheels Weeks, visit www.svswwa.org or call 831-775-3000.

fire risk. If dumped near creeks or streams, they can damage the ecosystem, leading to flooding and landslides and possibly harming wildlife. Proper disposal is the only way to protect against these dangers.

The good news is that free tire recycling is available now

through Feb. 6, thanks to Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority and a grant from the California Integrated Waste Management Board. Residents may dispose of up to nine tires, with or without rims, for no charge during Worn Out Wheels Weeks.

During the Worn Out Wheels Weeks in Salinas earlier this month, 3,500 tires were collected at the Sun Street Transfer Station. Worn Out Wheels Weeks continue through Jan. 24 at the

See **STYLES, 8C**

STYLES

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Johnson Canyon Landfill in Gonzales, and run Jan. 25 through Feb. 6 at the Jolon Road Transfer Station in Salinas.

Unfortunately, businesses are not eligible to participate in the events; only residents of the SVSWA service area may recycle tires free of charge. SVSWA hopes to exceed the tire collection numbers from 2007, when 30,000 tires were collected and recycled.

Old tires will be recycled into pavement for roads, playgrounds and schoolyards. Other uses for recycled tires include alternative fuel for manufacturing industries, creating soles

for shoes and work boots, sidewalks, and more.

Start the New Year with a resolution to reduce, reuse, recycle, and keep those resources in your old tires rolling.

► *Alan Styles is recycling coordinator for the Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority. His column appears the third Saturday of the month in Central Coast Living. Contact him at alanst@svswa.org.*

