

## Waste Management's Sunset Environmental Transfer Station achieves Star Certification from Cal/OSHA

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Waste Management Sunset Transfer Station  
Courtesy Waste Management of Orange County

(WMOC) Sunset Environmental Transfer Station received notification from the California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal/OSHA) that it has achieved Star Certification as part of the Voluntary Protection Program (VPP). This is the highest safety achievement offered by Cal/OSHA. The facility provides services to the cities of Costa Mesa, Irvine, La Habra, Laguna Beach, Lake Forest, Mission Viejo, Santa Ana, and portions of unincorporated Orange County.

WMOC's Sunset Environmental Transfer Station is the first transfer station in the United States to be recognized as a Cal/VPP Star site, and only the second facility in the municipal solid waste industry to achieve this certification, joining Waste Management's VPP Star Certified hauling district in Carlsbad, Calif.

“Waste Management's achievement of the prestigious Cal/OSHA VPP Star Certification is an accomplishment that very few companies in California have attained. This is a testament to their dedication to employee safety,” said Iraj Pourmehraban, director of Cal/OSHA VPP Consultation Service. Cal/VPP is designed to recognize safety and health systems that effectively prevent and control occupational hazards.

WMOC's Sunset Environmental Transfer Station has 40 employees who perform various jobs including collection drivers, maintenance technicians, equipment operators and recycling processing line sorters, in addition to office personnel. All Waste Management employees receive safety training appropriate for their positions and participate in regular safety refresher courses. WMOC also has employee safety committees and a “Top Gun Safety Squadron” made up of employees with the site's best safety records that provide recommendations for safety

improvements, root cause analyses of incidents and share best practices.

"Working safely is a key component of Waste Management's culture," said Bill Bixler, district manager of WMOC. "Safety is a priority, we invite agencies like Cal/OSHA in to evaluate our programs and practices, as well as the condition of our facility, to make sure we're providing a safe environment for our employees and the community. We're very proud of our employees for all the hard work they've done to enhance safety in the workplace, and we're excited that Cal/OSHA has recognized us for these efforts."

"We make significant investments in the safety for our employees and the public, which have been recognized by Cal/OSHA through their Star Certification," said David Ross, community and municipal relations director. "While some companies may reduce their safety budgets during challenging economic times, cutting corners on safety is simply not an option at Waste Management."

For more information about Waste Management, visit <http://www.wmorangecounty.com>.