



## COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

## Resolution Declaring May 7 - 13, 2006 International composting Awareness Week CALIFORNIA

WHEREAS, the Composting Councils of Canada, the U.K. and the United States have declared May 7 through 13<sup>th</sup> to be the dates for International Composting Awareness Week; and

WHEREAS, County of Santa Barbara has made a commitment to compost organic materials in Northern Santa Barbara County and material suitable for composting can represent up to 70% of materials land filled each year and composting is an effective form of waste reduction, reuse and recycling; and

WHEREAS, home composting and mulching is a way householders can reduce the volume of waste generated at home by taking individual responsibility for keeping waste reduction costs down; and

WHEREAS, compost improves the soil structure, reduces erosion and run-off, supplies soil with a variety of macro and micro nutrients; and enables compost amended soils to use less water, and

WHEREAS, using sustainable soil-enriching composts helps prevent erosion of valuable topsoil without depleting valuable wildlife habitats, and

WHEREAS, Community Sustainability is enhanced by composting green waste, biosolids, and other organic naterials and promoting the use of renewable resources in landscaping, horticulture and agriculture; and

WHEREAS, returning organic resources to the soil is a method of decreasing the dependence on chemical fertilizers, decreasing erosion, reducing water consumption, and non point pollution; and

WHEREAS, The County of Santa Barbara has initiated Green waste collection programs with their franchise haulers to aid in the efforts of Environmental Sustainability; and

WHEREAS, Engel & Gray Inc. Regional Composting Facility, Santa Maria, and Valley Compost and Topsoil Inc., Buellton, have been successfully composting organic material for sustainable agricultural practices;

NOW, THEREFORE, the County of Santa Barbara, in recognition of the efforts of the Composting Councils, Extension Agents, householders, landscapers, farmers, recyclers, public workers, composters, gardeners, and plant growers everywhere, along with Central Compost sites Valley Compost and Topsoil Inc., and Engel & Gray Inc., hereby proclaim the week of May 7—May 13, 2006, as