

**Eco-tip of the week:** At its new factory in Camarillo, Chamness Biodegradables uses bamboo and tapioca to make biodegradable packaging and food service items. Last week, in an experiment sponsored by the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, Chamness examined using three other materials: “spent” hops, provided by Topa Topa Brewing Company in Ventura; discarded tissue fibers, provided by Procter & Gamble in Oxnard; and discarded cardboard fibers, provided by New Indy Containerboard’s factory, also in Oxnard.

Using discarded materials can make a company eligible for incentives from the Ventura County Recycling Market Development Zone. Testing and development may take months, but Chamness could become eligible for low-interest loans or grants.

Does your business use discarded material to make products? For more information on the economic benefits that might be available if it does, contact the county's Recycling Market Development Zone at 658-4312 or [david.goldstein@ventura.org](mailto:david.goldstein@ventura.org).

More information: [www.chamnessbiodegradables.com](http://www.chamnessbiodegradables.com)

Chamness open house on 2/9/17, 1pm to 3pm, RSVP at [rfry@chamnessbiodegradables.com](mailto:rfry@chamnessbiodegradables.com)