



Refuse & Recycling 2021

Boletín disponible en Español en www.cityofsantacruz.com/recycling

CITY OF SANTA CRUZ:

A Waste Characterization Study confirms that nearly 25% of the material going into our City landfill is food waste and wasted food.

Right this minute, you might have some wilted lettuce, blemished apples or a science experiment growing in the depths of your refrigerator. Chances are, you wasted some food this week. So how can you keep your food=cash out of the trash?

- ✓ **Plan your meals for the coming week** – Shop your fridge, freezer, cupboards and pantry first.
- ✓ **Shop wisely** – make a list and avoid impulse buys.
- ✓ **Smart Storage** – Check out the website, savethefood.com to find tips on the proper way to store and preserve food to keep it fresher longer.
- ✓ Request smaller portions or share when ordering Take Out.
- ✓ **Donate** – Check out the website USDA.gov (Good Samaritan Act) for important and updated liability protections for individuals and businesses.
- ✓ **Compost Food Scraps** –
 - Backyard** (see page 4 for our \$40 rebate offer).
 - Drop Off** – Pilot program under way.
 - Curbside** – Roll out begins January 2022.

KEEP YOUR FOOD AND HARD EARNED CASH OUT OF THE TRASH!

Food is wasted when we buy more than we need, store it incorrectly, throw away leftovers and cook too much. When we throw away food, we also waste all the water and energy used to produce, package and transport food from the farm to our plates.

American Food Waste Facts:

- 40% of all food in the US is wasted.
- 25% of all freshwater we consume goes to produce the food we never eat.
- 4% of the oil we consume goes to produce the food we never eat.
- \$166 billion (retail value of preventable waste) is spent on the food we never eat.
- 135 million tons of GHG emissions is created by the food we never eat.

These numbers are for our whole food system from farms, processors, retailers and households.

The Average American:

- Household throws out 25% of the food they purchase.
- Family of four tosses out more than \$1,600 a year in wasted food.



Food waste is the single largest material sent to landfills

- ✓ **“Become a Waste Warrior”** – Participate in one of the upcoming free virtual training sessions offered by Public Works Waste Reduction Staff. More information at www.cityofsantacruz.com/foodwaste

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VISIT OUR RECYCLING CENTER WITH MAV' AND FRIENDS

You can now experience an entertaining and close-up tour of our City of Santa Cruz Recycling Center online. Led by Santa Cruz Warriors mascot Mav'Riks and four animated characters. Our 6-minute video reveals the ins and outs of the multifaceted recycling process. The video follows Can,

Bottle, Box and Jug from a blue recycle bin as they travel up the coast to the Dimeo Lane facility

with an entire truckload of recyclables. As all are sorted and processed for recycling there, eddy currents send aluminum cans flying through the air, a V-screen separates 2-D and 3-D items, and a giant magnet dramatically pulls out the metal-heads. The tour will be fun and educational for the entire family!



The video can be viewed in English and Spanish at www.cityofsantacruz.com/RecycleRight

UPON REQUEST IS THE WAY TO GO

According to the Clean Water Action Network, 77% of all meals ordered "To Go" are consumed at home where most people prefer to use their own utensils and condiments. Unneeded and unused utensils and other accessories are an added expense for businesses and often go unused straight into the trash or worse, left to litter the environment.

AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST



SINGLE-USE DISPOSABLES
LIDS, STRAWS, CUTLERY, STIRRERS, CONDIMENT PACKETS

The City's Environmentally Acceptable Products and Packaging Ordinance requires businesses to give straws, utensils, lids, stir sticks and condiment packages Upon Request instead of tossing in all those extras. Be part of the solution by first saying "No Thank You" to the items you don't need.

Meal kits and prepared meals are perfectly portioned meals which mean no excess food and no food waste. The packaging requires extra attention.

Follow these guidelines to ensure your meal kit packaging is going into the right cart.

- **Box – Empty all contents**, break down and place in the Blue Recycling Cart.
- **Insulation liner and clear plastic containers** – Find a Reuse or place in the trash cart. Never in the recycle cart! Even if it has a recycle symbol and recycling instructions. This material does not meet our criteria of "Recyclable."
- **Plastic Bags** – If clean, dry, and stretchy, add them to your "Bag of Bags" and place in the blue recycling cart.
- **Ice or Gel Pack** – Reuse or place in trash.



KEEP IT LOOSE



Place recycling loose in your recycling cart.

"Bag of Bags" are allowed in the blue cart.

AVOID MIXED MATERIALS

Packaging made from multiple materials like shipping envelopes, product packaging, and food containers are not recyclable unless you can separate materials first.



FREE SERVICE TAGS & DISPOSAL COUPON

FOUR FREE SERVICE TAGS

are enclosed for you to use when you have more refuse than your cart can hold. Use these tags on collection day before December 31, 2020. They may come in handy following a special occasion like a party or spring-cleaning!



YARD WASTE OPTION: Use one tag for free drop-off of yard trimmings at the Resource Recovery Facility.

APPLIANCE/BULKY ITEM OPTION:

- Use Bulky Item Pickup day in June
- Schedule a Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday pickup anytime of the year
- Drop off an appliance or bulky item at the Resource Recovery Facility (RRF)

One tag is required for each appliance, one tag for each bulky item with a limit of four tags total per drop-off at the RRF or curbside pickup.

Proof of City residency is required.

Extra Trash Option:

- 1 Place extra refuse in a trash bag — maximum 32 gallons, 40 pounds.
- 2 Open refuse cart lid, **place extra bag on top**, close lid over bag to hold in place.
- 3 Attach tag to the outside of the bag, facing the street.
- 4 Only one tag may be used per week.



ONE FREE DISPOSAL COUPON

Use your disposal coupon at the Resource Recovery Facility for free disposal of one yard of refuse.

See coupon below for details.

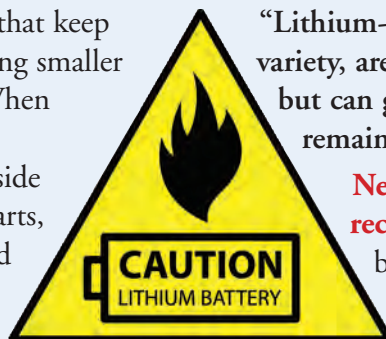


ADDITIONAL SERVICE

Additional curbside service may be scheduled, for a fee, by calling Customer Service 420-5220.

A LITTLE BATTERY – A LOT OF HARM!

Batteries power most of the items that keep us moving and connected, becoming smaller and more powerful all the time. When residents carelessly place their old batteries or items with batteries inside them, inside one of the curbside carts, those batteries become a fire hazard and that poses a major physical and financial threat.



“Lithium-ion batteries, including the small button variety, are the most problematic. “They’re small, but can generate a lot of heat if they have any remaining charge and their terminals aren’t taped.”

Never throw batteries in the trash or the recycling cart. Instead, safely collect your batteries, tape the terminals, secure in a clear zip-top bag and drop off your bag of batteries at one of the designated places

around town. Check the What Goes Where app on the website at www.cityofsantacruz.com/recyclerright for a location near you.



Must be used by December 31,

2021

FREE COUPON for 1 yard of REFUSE Disposal

at the City of Santa Cruz Resource Recovery Facility (605 Dimeo Lane, 3 miles north of Highway 1)

- Drop-off one yard of refuse.
- Present disposal coupon at the City Resource Recovery Facility.
- Bring a driver's license and recent City utility bill as proof of City residency.
- Loads must be tarped.

(Non-transferable – not for commercial use)

City of Santa Cruz • Public Works Department – 420-5220

BATTERIES IGNITED

In California

83% of waste facilities reported a fire in the past two years, and...

65% of those fires were started by batteries, and...

40% of all battery fires were started by lithium-ion batteries.

THESE ITEMS ARE **NOT** ACCEPTED AT CURBSIDE!

These items require special handling due to size and material.

Please bring these items to the Resource & Recovery Center (Recycling Center) on Dimeo Lane so that they don't end up in our Landfill!

Automobile



Tires, anti-freeze, transmission fluid, auto batteries, **used motor oil** (call 831-420-5220 to request a free, 2.5 gallon container).

Scrap Metal



Large appliances, furniture, motors, engines and transmissions (must be drained of all fluids).

Household batteries



(AAA, AA, C, D, 9-volt, button cell and lithium ion).

E-Waste



Computers and monitor, televisions and stereos, small electronics and appliances.

Fluorescent light bulbs & tubes



Limit 10 per visit.

Rigid Plastic



5 gallon buckets, laundry baskets, storage tubs, plastic garden pots and trays and lawn furniture.

Shredded Paper



Contained in a brown paper bag.

Carpet



Must be separate from padding, clear of tack strips, nails, and other debris.

Resource Recovery Facility

(Landfill, Yard Waste, & Recycling)

Hours: Mon. – Sat. 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM

*Closed on Sundays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day.
Closed at noon on December 24 (Christmas Eve) and December 31 (New Year's Eve).*

Location: 605 Dimeo Lane

(3 miles north of Santa Cruz up Highway 1).

Need More Information?

Customer Service420-5220
Resource Recovery Facility.420-6270
Household Hazardous Waste Disposal454-2606



SAVE THIS GUIDE!



What Goes Where Guide

An online tool to assist you with all your 'what goes where' questions. The interactive guide will help you reduce, reuse, recycle and dispose of everything from a cardboard box to an old mattress in the most responsible way. **Check out our other resources, recycling facts, video links and much more.** You can take the recycle quiz to test your knowledge!

www.cityofsantacruz.com/recyclerright



Overloaded garbage carts and bags left on the ground attract animals. Torn open bags become a source of litter and have the potential to impact our storm drains during rain events. Residents may use disposal coupons (insert and page 5) or pay an extra fee for occasional extra bags or items.

Call Customer Service prior to your collection day (831) 420-5220.

HOME COMPOSTING

\$40 Rebate Program

Composting is fun and easy and it's good for your garden. To qualify you must buy a compost bin from one of our vendors and you must be a City resident and a refuse customer.



420-5591



● **Curbside** – The curbside pick-up service runs for **two weeks**, January 1–14. Put your tree out on your regular collection day. Trees must be six feet in length or less.

● **Cart** – Trim branches so that tree fits in green cart with the lid closed.

● **Drop-Off** – Take your tree to the Resource Recovery Facility at no charge through the month of January only.

Please remove ornaments, tinsel and stands.

~No flocked trees~

Not in the Green Cart!

- X** Animal Waste
- X** Dirt, Rock, or Concrete
- X** Food or Food Packaging

Not in the Blue Cart!

- X** Scrap Metal
(Hardware, wire, pots and pans)
- X** Rigid Plastics
(Toys, chairs, buckets, hangers)

Accepted at the Resource Recovery Facility



PLACE CARTS CURBSIDE BY 5 AM

- Do not overload carts. Lids should close completely.
- Use City-provided cart. No other containers will be serviced.
- Place carts on street with wheels 6–12 inches away from the curb.
- If carts are different sizes, align the front of the carts.
- Leave at least 6 inches between carts.
- Leave 18–24 inches between carts and parked cars.
- Take your carts in after they have been serviced.

Right Size Your Trash Cart

Choose the right size based on the number of people in your household & your consumption habits.

20 Gallon Trash Cart



2 Tall Kitchen Bags per Week
1 – 2 People

32 Gallon Trash Cart



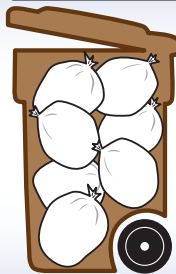
3 Tall Kitchen Bags per Week
2 – 3 People

64 Gallon Trash Cart



5 Tall Kitchen Bags per Week
3 – 4 People

96 Gallon Trash Cart



7 Tall Kitchen Bags per Week
5+ People

Avoid extra fees from overloading and recycle cart contamination. 420-5220

YES KEEP IT SIMPLE, KEEP IT CLEAN!



Paper and Flattened Cardboard



● **Papel y cajas de cartón desarmadas**



Glass Bottles and Jars



● **Botellas y frascos de vidrio**



Metal Cans & Aluminum



● **Latas de metal y aluminio**



Plastic Bottles Jugs, Jars & Tubs



● **Botellas y contenedores de plástico**



Plastic Bags Clean & Dry



● **Bolsas de plástico Pongalas en una bolsa**

● **Recycle Right!**

● **Don't Bag Recyclables**

● **Keep Recycling Loose**

● **Dejar el Reciclaje Suelto**

X NO

NOT ACCEPTED IN THE BLUE CART



No Single Plastic Bags



No Food, Liquids or Garbage



No Cartons



No Plastic Food Boxes



No Polystyrene



No Glassware or Ceramics



No Pizza Boxes



No Clothes or Linens



No Tanglers
hoses, wire, chain, electric cords



No Big Items
Scrap metal, buckets, furniture



NO



2021 When in Doubt Find Out! ● 420-5593 ● cityofsantacruz.com/recycleright