

THE CONNECTION

Keeping Us Connected To The Communities We Serve



Reduce • Reuse • Recycle • Compost

WASTE ZERO

New Organics Recycling Program is Here!

All residents by now should have received new color-coded wheeled carts for garbage (gray), recycling (blue), and organics (green). The new organics program (green cart) is a great way for residents to reduce the amount of waste that goes into the gray garbage cart, and ultimately the landfill. Organics consists of all food waste and food soiled paper items. Materials such as fruits, vegetables, meats, grains, leaves, tree prunings, paper plates, and napkins are now collected in the green organics cart. These materials will be composted at the South Valley Organics facility in Gilroy and made into a rich soil amendment.

Ideas to Make Food Recycling Easy!

- 1. Collect in newspaper, brown paper bag, or approved compostable bag (find a list of compostable bags by visiting www.bpiworld.org)
- 2. Store food in a container with a lid either in the refrigerator or freezer until your service day
- 3. Take out to your green cart daily and make sure your cart is out for pick-up each week
- 4. Lining your green cart with newspaper and cardboard will help soak up the juices that result from food waste
- 5. Store organics cart in shade with lid closed to reduce odors, insects, and other pests







DO NOT put any of your organics in plastic bags. Plastic does not compost, only use-compostable bags (visit www.bpiworld.org)

Composting is a Win-Win for Water Conservation and the Environment

Shawn Novack, Water Conservation Program Manager with Water Resource Agency of San Benito County, said "instead of putting vegetable waste down the drain, save those leaves, rinds and stems for making compost. Not only do you save water, but compost will help your soil hold more water so you don't have to irrigate as much. A win-win for water conservation and

the environment."

FREE Bulky Item Curbside Collection Program

Recology will provide residential customers with Free Bulky Item Curbside collection up to two (2) times per year, upon request.

Bulky Item Curbside Collection Includes:

- MAX of 2 cubic yards (equal to twelve, 32-gallon plastic clear bags or boxes) of reusable or gently used materials
- MAX of 2 Bulky Items (appliances with Freon count as 2 bulky items)
- MAX of 5 Electronic Waste or Universal Waste items

Prohibited Items include: hazardous materials, abandoned automobiles, trees, household garbage, recyclable materials, or any single item that cannot be managed by one person.

We will take great care to ensure that items we pick up can be recycled or donated in an ecologically and socially responsible manner.

Call customer service at (831) 636-7500 to request the Bulky Item Curbside Collection Service.





New Green Business Program

Which San Benito Business would you want to see become a CA Certified Green Business? Send your nominations to Green Business Specialist Celina Stotler at cstotler@cosb.us. Go to www.greenbusinessca.org to learn more about the CA Green Business Program.

Christmas Tree Recycling

There are two ways residents can recycle Christmas trees at the curb:

Local Boy Scout Troops 436 and 428 will be collecting and recycling Christmas trees in Hollister, San Juan Bautista, and surrounding neighborhoods on the following dates:



January 5 & 6, 2019

Trees need to be on the curb by 9am on those dates. Boy Scouts do not require trees to be cut. Donations of \$8 are appreciated and support local Boy Scout activities and the Gerry Rawn Endowment Fund.

Recology San Benito County will pick up your Christmas tree for recycling on your collection day between January 2 -25, 2019.

Before setting your tree on the curbside for recycling, you must do the following:

- Cut trees into six feet sections
- Remove all decorations, tinsel and stands
- Flocked trees are acceptable

Holiday Collection Schedule

DECEMBER 2018 & JANUARY 2019					
Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
24	25	26	27	28	29
Normal Service	Merry Christmas!	Service for Tuesday Customers	Service for Wednesday Customers	Service for Thursday Customers	Service for Friday Customers
31 Normal Service	Happy New Year!	2 Service for Tuesday Customers	3 Service for Wednesday Customers	4 Service for Thursday Customers	5 Service for Friday Customers



Need more information?

Contact us! (831) 636-7500 We value your opinion, questions, or comments.

Another Important Resource San Benito County Integrated Waste Management Regional Agency (831) 636-4110

Bulky Item Drop-Off Events

There are four (4) opportunities each year for residents (not businesses) to drop off specific items at the John Smith Road Landfill for FREE.

> The last 2018 dates are December 29 & 30, 9am-3pm

The 2019 drop-off events are Saturdays & Sundays, 9am-3pm, on the following dates:

- March 23 & 24
- June 22 & 23
- September 28 & 29
- December 28 & 29

For more information visit www.cosb.us



Environmental Education

There is a great website that has a lot of useful information about the environment for kids. Please check out www.epa.gov/students. There is a mixture of homework, games and fun activities kids can do to learn about the environment they live in.

Here is a game you can try to test knowledge of what is and is not recyclable.

How to play: Draw a line from the item listed to the correct cart.



ALUMINUM CANS DIAPERS **GLASS JAR** PLASTIC HANGERS **BROKEN TOYS EMPTY SOUP CAN**



ANSWERS

RECYCLE: Aluminum cans, glass jar, empty soup can

GARBAGE: Diapers, broken toys, plastic hangers





