



# RECOLOGYSF.com

Recology Sunset Scavenger and Recology Golden Gate, your local recycling companies

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## S.F. composts 1 million tons, aspires to waste zero

San Francisco has embraced composting like no other city in the country. Thanks to residents and businesses placing compostable materials in their green bins, San Francisco hit a true milestone in November — 1 million tons composted.

That is 1 million tons of food scraps and plants kept out of the landfill and made into nutrient-rich compost that is returned to local farms and vineyards.

San Francisco's curbside compost collection service began as a test program at the Wholesale Produce Market in 1996. Within two months, we expanded the program to include the large hotels. Then restaurants and city homes came to the party as city officials approved plans to make curbside compost collection available across San Francisco.

The program continued to grow as more San Franciscans put their coffee grounds, peelings, and food scraps in green compost bins for curbside collection. Momentum turned to unmatched participation in

2009 when the Board of Supervisors passed an ordinance requiring all properties to recycle and compost.

Today, we collect more than 600 tons of food scraps and plants a day for composting.

"We are part of something really important," said Kelly Bennett, chef and purchasing director for Scoma's restaurant on Fisherman's Wharf. Scoma's is one of the top recyclers in San Francisco.

Farmers use the compost to grow cover crops that return nutrients to the soil by pulling carbon from the atmosphere, a process called carbon fixation or carbon fixing.

The compost collection program is now the largest recycling program in San Francisco. And other cities and universities

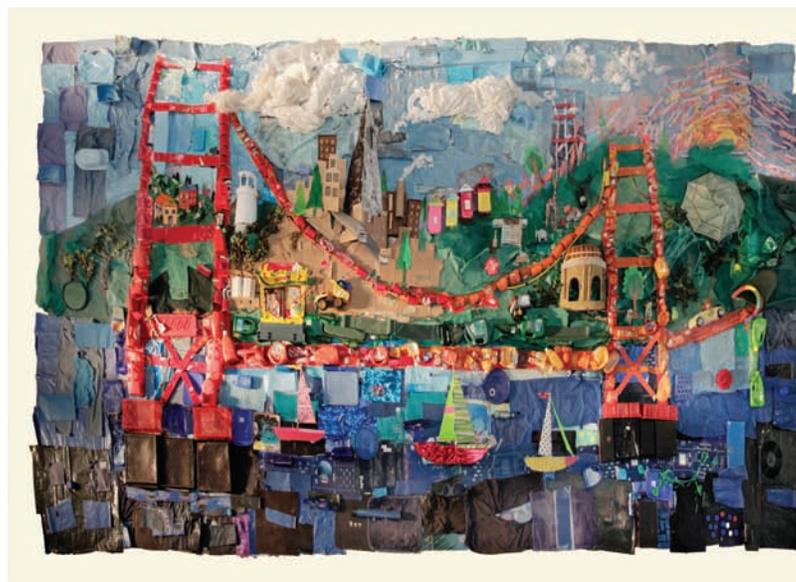
are beginning to replicate the program.

Composting is a highly effective way to help protect the environment. We hope every city composts 1 million tons.

We are pleased to report that in San Francisco we are off to a strong start toward our second million as we continue to strive to waste zero.



Scoma's chef Kelly Bennett praised the curbside compost program as "important." Recology CEO Mike Sangiacomo stands on the right.



## What We Save

Where some people see garbage, Recology sees the opportunity to reduce waste. Working together with residents and businesses, we've helped make San Francisco America's greenest city.

The 18-by-30-foot mural (left) was made from bottles, cans, paper, and other materials collected from the tipping floor at Recycle Central on Pier 96.

Recycling workers and Bay Area artists, such as Dio Mendoza, who are associated with Recology's Artist in Residence program created the temporary mural.

The Artist in Residence Program was established in 1990 as an educational initiative to promote reuse and recycling and to encourage an appreciation of the arts.

To see a video showing the mural's construction and to learn more about What We Save together, go to [RecologySF.com](http://RecologySF.com).



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## Lifeline rates for eligible customers

NUMBER OF PERSONS LIVING IN YOUR HOME	TOTAL GROSS ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME (ALL SOURCES)
1 or 2	\$21,855 or less
3	\$27,465 or less
4	\$33,075 or less
More than 4	Add \$5,610 for each additional person

Lifeline Rates are approved by the city's Refuse Collection and Disposal Rate Board. All Recology customers get the same high-quality garbage collection and recycling service regardless of what they pay.

San Francisco's collection rates are designed to enable the city to meet state-mandated recycling and waste reduction requirements.

Get a Lifeline Rate application online at [RecologySF.com/residentialRates.htm](http://RecologySF.com/residentialRates.htm) or call 330-1300 to request an application.

The new rate will appear on your next bill after the completed application is received and your eligibility is confirmed.

Discounted garbage rates are available to low-income households. Depending on household size and total annual income, you may be eligible

for a rate reduction. The discounts, known as Lifeline Rates, are based on the number of persons per household and annual gross income. Please see the accompanying chart for eligibility levels.

## We recycle the contents



To manage debris from remodeling, clean-out, and construction projects order metal bins or debris boxes from Recology Sunset Scavenger and Recology Golden Gate.

We can deliver different types and sizes of metal bins and debris boxes to meet your needs and will place them in locations you specify.

Our customers comply with San Francisco's construction recycling ordinance because we sort their debris in a state-of-the-art recycling plant that we operate in the city. Inside the plant we sort wood, metal, cardboard, concrete, asphalt, sheet rock, and other construction debris, and we recycle more than 75 percent of the materials.

Contact us at [DebrisBoxRental.com](http://DebrisBoxRental.com) or call us toll free at (888) 404-4008.

## Nice-to-know updates

Would you like succinct information about garbage and recycling services, including additional programs that can make your life easier and help protect the environment?

If you wish, we can email you occasional notes about: holiday collection schedules, compost giveaways, how to schedule a [RecycleMyJunk.com](http://RecycleMyJunk.com) bulky-item pick up, and other recycling services.

Many people find it helpful and timely to receive these brief updates sent by email. We will NOT share your email address with anyone, and you can opt out at anytime.

To sign up for Nice-to-know updates, go to [RecologySF.com](http://RecologySF.com).

Receive brief updates about garbage and recycling services on your computer or mobile device.



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Useful Telephone Numbers

Recycle, Compost and Trash Collection:  
Recology Sunset Scavenger, 330-1300  
Recology Golden Gate, 626-4000

Debris Box Service, 888-404-4008  
[RecycleMyJunk.com](http://RecycleMyJunk.com), 330-1300

