

Spring 2015

unicycler.com

## **Contact Us:**

**Redwood Empire Disposal** 

(800) 243-0291 New!

Chat Live Now!

Online Chat at: unicycler.com

**Office Hours** 

Monday - Friday 7am-6pm Saturday - Sunday 7am-3pm



/NorthBayUnicycler

# **Upcoming Events:**

April 20th - 24th:

# **West Marin** Cleanup



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Yardwaste service has increased to every week on your normal curbside garbage and recycle service day.

# Reduce, Remodel, Recycle!

Every year The United States joins over one hundred countries celebrating Earth Day to raise ecological awareness across the globe. Originating on April 22, 1970, it is a day to reflect on both our planet and the environment. It is also a day to educate others in ways we can keep our Earth healthy. Earth Day is a worldwide commemoration as well as a day to remember the importance of protecting our environment.

The idea came to Earth Day founder Gaylord Nelson, then a U.S. Senator from Wisconsin, after witnessing the ravages of the 1969 massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, California. Inspired by the student anti-war movement, he realized that if he could infuse that energy with an emerging public consciousness about air and water pollution, it would force environmental protection onto the national political agenda. Senator Nelson announced the idea for a "national teach-in on the environment" to the national media, he persuaded Pete McCloskey, a conservation-minded Republican Congressman, to serve as his co-chair and recruited Denis Hayes as national coordinator. Hayes built a national staff of 85 to promote events across the land.



As a result, on the 22nd of April, 20 million Americans took to the streets, parks, and auditoriums to demonstrate for a healthy sustainable environment in massive coast-to-coast rallies. Thousands of colleges and universities organized protests against the deterioration of the environment. Groups that had been fighting against oil spills, polluting factories and power plants, raw sewage, toxic dumps, pesticides, freeways, the loss of wilderness, and the extinction of wildlife suddenly realized they shared common values.

As 1990 approached, a group of environmental leaders asked Denis Hayes to organize another big campaign. This time, Earth Day went global, mobilizing 200 million people in 141 countries and lifting environmental issues onto the world stage. Earth Day 1990 gave a huge boost to recycling efforts worldwide and helped pave the way for the 1992 United Nations Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. It also prompted President Bill Clinton to award Senator Nelson the Presidential Medal of Freedom (1995) -- the highest honor given to civilians in the United States -- for his role as Earth Day founder.

A unique aspect of Earth Day in 1970 was that it brought together Republicans and Democrats, rich and poor, and many other people with seemingly different beliefs and backgrounds. Earth Day 1970 was an important part of the National Environmental Awareness Campaign in 1986 which continues today. This campaign led to the creation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

A highlight of the annual ceremony at the United Nations is the ringing of the peace bell that was given to the U.N. by Japan. The passage of the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Endangered Species Act, are considered to be products of Earth Day. We can make a difference by starting with a few actions:

Save Energy: Start turning off all unnecesarry lights, fans, televisions, and unplug unused electronics.

Save Water: Conserve water by turning it off while brushing your teeth or shaving, choose to take short showers rather than baths, and check faucets & pipes for leaks.

Use Less Gas: Walk or ride a bike to reach your destination. This helps reduce pollution.

Recycle: In addition to recycling paper, cardboard, and plastic; recycle electronics! E-cycle all old batteries, old game consoles, and televisions.

Compost: After composting, plant trees and other plants to produce oxygen in the air.

Stay tuned into the new ways to go green!!!

Earth Day was intended to be a chance to learn about ways in which we can live in a more environmentally responsible fashion. So do your part for the Earth, by rethinking, reducing, reusing, recycling and reinventing. With just a few simple steps, we can all live our lives more eco-friendly!



## Free E-Waste, Household **Appliance & Scrap Metal Pickup**

## **Accepted in Blue Cart:**

- Anything without a screen that can fit in the blue cart
- Computer accessories
- VCR/DVD players
- Stereo equipment
- Telephones & Cell phones (No Batteries)
- Digital cameras, Ipods, etc. (No Batteries)
- Household appliances

## **Prohibited in Cart:**

- Household debris
- Fluorescent bulbs & tubes
- Household batteries
- Paint & thinners
- Pesticides & herbicides
- Household cleaners
- Motor oil
- Vehicle tires
- All types of hazardous waste

# Accepted by Appointment Only:

- Televisions (Tube, plasma, LCD or projection)
- Computer monitors
- Bicycles & BBQs (No Tanks)
- Scrap metal
- Anything too large to place in the blue cart
- Printers
- Refrigerators, freezers, microwaves, etc.

# **Guidelines & Reminders from Customer Service**

To help us provide the best service to you, please observe the following:



 Place carts at the road edge the night prior to your service day.

Please leave 3 feet
 between garbage,

recycling & yard waste carts.

- Place garbage loosely in your cart. Carts that are overstuffed or have material jammed into them may not empty completely.
- Please remove your containers from the road edge as soon after they have been serviced as is practical.
- Be sure all items are contained inside your carts. Carts that have items sticking out of them or have material piled on top may not be emptied or may receive additional charges.
- You may opt to set out recycle and yard waste carts only when full if you choose.

For everyone's safety and convenience, we request that you pay special attention to the following:

- Do not place carts within three feet of vehicles, mailboxes, fire hydrants, other obstacles or personal property.
- Collection vehicles need 14' overhead clearance. Carts should not be placed in an area with overhangs, trees or other obstacles.
- Please park your car in your driveway the night before your collection day whenever possible. There may be a delay in collection of blocked carts.
- If you have any questions, please call or check out our new on-line chat option at unicycler.com.

## **Extra Trash**

- If you have an overloaded garbage cart or extra bags of garbage piled on top of, or alongside your cart, you may receive an automatic charge for each extra bag or can of garbage. Carts are considered overloaded if the lid will not close.
- If you have extra garbage, call our office at 800-243-0291 by 2:30 pm the day before your regular collection day to order extra service and avoid confusion when you receive your bill. Do not overstuff your carts as they may not empty completely.

## **Bulky Item Pickups**

The Ratto Group - *A family of companies* local hauler (Redwood Empire Disposal) offers Bulky Item Pick up for items that are too large for your cart.

Items such as mattresses, couches, and household electronics can be picked up **for a fee** for single-family residential customers. Call Redwood Empire Disposal at 800-243-0291 to schedule a pick up.

We make any attempt to reduce, reuse and recycle your bulky items and keep them out of the landfill. Help us out by trying to donate your item before disposing of it.

## Please Remember:

- We are unable to pick up hazardous waste. Visit www.unicycler.com or www.marinrecycles.org for more information.
- Please direct reusable items to thrift or second hand stores.





#### PARTICIPATING RETAILERS:

Bolinas Bay Lumber & Landscape 1 Olema-Bolinas Rd. Bolinas |415| 868-2900

Building Supply Center

11280 State Route 1, Pt. Reyes (415) 663-1737

180 Merrydale Rd, San Rafael (415) 479-9393

Goodman Building Supply

775 Redwood Hwy, Mill Valley (415) 388-6233

Jackson's Hardware

435 Du Bois St, San Rafael (415) 454-3740

Jim Corbet's Ace Hardware

800 Magnolia Ave, Larkspur (415) 924-7013

Knight's Hardware 1650 Tiburon Blvd, Tiburon

iburon (415) 435-4603

(415) 454-0123

(415) 332-4318

Good Earth Natural Foods 720 Center Blvd, Fairlax

Waterstreet Hardware

Novato Builders Supply

800 Sweetser Ave. Novato | 1415| 892-1651



Hazardous and Solid Waste Management Joint Powers Authority (JPA)

## BATTERIES (of 4 lbs or fess)

Any common everyday battery used in the home such as cell phone, cordiess electric devices, laptop computers, power tools, rechargeable batteries including standard size AAA through D and those found in watches and hearing aids.















BULBS





Compact Florescent Bulbs

MarinRecycles.org ZeroWasteMarin.org



# **Save Yourself Some Money!**

If you are generating less waste, you can reward yourself with a smaller garbage bill by exchanging your current cart for a smaller size.

We offer four levels of service. Super recyclers or small families may be able to reduce their waste and subscribe to the 20 gallon service.

If you would like to change your service level, please contact our office for details and rates.

# BlueStone Master Backyard Composters

Looking for a convenient way to contain your home compost pile? This compact compost bin is durable, easy to use, and will break down your yard and food waste into a fine soil amendment to use for all types of gardening. It even has a door to unload your best compost.

Call our office for details or visit our website at www.unicycler.com for more info.



## **Yard Waste Guidelines**

- Place all grass cuttings, leaves & weeds, tree & shrubbery trimmings, berry bushes
  and other yard & garden waste inside your green rolling cart, also referred to as your
  yard waste cart. Branches under 4 inches in diameter and less than 2 feet long are
  accepted.
- Also accepted in the yard waste carts are food scraps such as fruits and vegetables (including pits and nuts), coffee grounds with filters, tea bags, plate scrapings and kitchen prep scraps, bread, grains, pasta, baked goods, eggs, eggshells and noncoated paper products such as paper plates and napkins.
- Place your yard waste cart at the curb allowing at least three feet of space between containers.
- All green waste must be in the container. Loose material will not be collected.
- Do not put yard waste in plastic bags.
- Acceptable except in Bolinas & Stinson Beach Meat, bones, dairy & seafood including shells.

## **Keep Your Green Clean!**

Keep your cart clean by wrapping your food scraps in a brown paper bag or newspaper. The following materials are banned from your yard waste cart.

• garbage • sod or dirt • rock • gravel or concrete • lumber •playground bark • plastic bags • nursery pots or plastic • pet waste • palm fronds • processed or treated wood products • bamboo • cups, packaging & straws • liquid waste & ice • plastics • cardboard • take-out containers • compostable plastics (even bio-bags) • corks • nursery pots or plastic • pet waste

# **Ask the Unicycler**

Dear Unicycler,

What is the easiest and most efficient way to pay my bill?

Signed,

Mr. Green

#### Dear Mr. Green:

Our online bill pay is the easiest and most efficient way to pay your garbage bill. With our online service you no longer receive paper bills, eliminate the use of stamps and handwritten checks which reduces the use of paper.

To get started, follow these 4 simple steps:

- •Go to unicycler.com and click on pay bill in the right hand corner
- •Have your bill with your unique ID available
- •Click on the register button
- Enter in your information

Once you have created your account you will be able to: Pay your bill with credit, debit or bank withdrawal (residential billing is done quarterly and commercial billing is done monthly). Set up automatic "no-hassle" future payments. View your bills and billing history. Go Green - Enroll in paperless billing. Save trees, time and hassle.

Have a recycling or environmental question? Ask us at greenteam@unicycler.com. Or, like us on Facebook and post your questions there.

# Unicycler Offering Full Construction Services Plus an 82% Diversion Rate!

The Unicycler has been busy as of late. We are proud to announce that the Ratto Group is now offering full construction services for all of your disposal needs. By "Construction Services" we mean just about everything a general contractor would need to get a building project going. This also includes disposal of the construction and demolition materials which we are diverting at a rate over 82% from the landfill. Exchanges of debris boxes can even be done same day. We now offer a full array of the following:



Give us a call at 707-585-5222 or visit us at www.unicycler.com for more information on what we can do to help out your jobsite.

**Private Street Sweeping** 

# **Single-Stream Recycling Guide**

Place all recycling together inside the blue cart

## **Mixed Paper and Cardboard**

Flatten or cut boxes to fit loosely inside cart. Place shredded paper in clear plastic or paper bag.

#### Yes!

- White & Colored Paper
- Office Paper & Junk Mail
- Newspaper
- Magazines & Catalogs
- Cereal & Shoe Boxes
- Corrugated Cardboard

#### No!

- · Napkins, Towels, Tissues
- Food-Contaminated Paper
- Photographs or Blueprint Paper
- · Waxed Cardboard or Paper



## Milk Cartons and Juice/Rice/Soy Boxes

Remove straws. Empty before recycling.

#### Yes!

- Milk Cartons
- Drink Boxes

#### No!

- Plastic-Lined Cartons
- Straws or Pop Tops

## **Glass Bottles & Jars**

Empty before recycling. Leave caps screwed on.

#### Yes!

- Clear & Colored Glass
- Food & Beverage Jars

#### NO!

- Window or Mirror Glass
- Ceramic, Dishes or Stemware
- Loose Caps less than 4"

· Loose Caps less than 4"



Wash & squash. Empty before recycling. Leave caps screwed on

#### Yes!

- Plastic Containers
- Milk & Water Jugs
- Soda & Juice Bottles
- Yogurt & Deli Tubs
- Consolidated Plastic Bags
- Rigid Plastics

**Metal Cans** 

Wash & squash, leave labels on. Empty before recycling.

#### res!

- Aluminum Cans
- Steel & Tin Cans
- Bimetal Cans
   Empty Paint/ A
- Empty Paint/ Aerosol Cans

## No!

Styrofoam

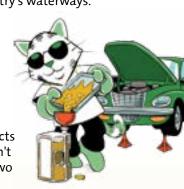
- Plastic Caps
   Others for a second se
- Styrofoam
- Loose Caps less than 4"



# Why is it Important to Recycle Used Motor Oil and Oil Filters?

- Used oil can contain contaminants such as lead, magnesium, copper, zinc, chromium, arsenic, cadmium and chlorinated compounds.
- Don't pour used motor oil down the drain or on the ground. One gallon of used motor oil can pollute one million gallons of drinking water.
- Used motor oil represents more than 40 percent of the oil pollution in our country's waterways.
- Used oil is easy to recycle. It can be re-refined into usable motor oil.
- Recycle your used oil filter. Even after draining, used oil filters contain about 10 ounces of used oil, as well as one pound of reusable steel.
- All the used oil filters sold annually in California could be recycled into 67 million pounds of steel, enough to build three large football stadiums!

Here in Marin County we recycle 3,800 gallons of oil per year. Recycling used oil and filters reduces our dependence on foreign oil, saves valuable resources, protects the health of our families, and is the only legal way to dispose of them! You haven't finished changing your oil until you've taken this last important step. There are two convenient options for recycling used oil and filters in West Marin:



## Curbside recycling service for used motor oil and filters!

Call Customer Service at 800-243-0291 or go to *unicycler.com* and chat live to request a free oil recycling kit. Transfer the used oil into the provided oil recycling container. Place the filter in the provided bag. Then call our office to request a pickup. Place oil and filter at the curb next to (not in) your recycling cart for pickup on your regular collection day. The driver will leave a replacement container when your full one is collected.

## **Drop-off Recycling Locations!**

There are many locations in Marin County that accept motor oil for recycling. Most also take filters. To find a list of locations nearest you, visit www.marinrecycles.org. Or check your Sonoma County Recycling Guide in the AT&T Phone Book. Find it behind the tab under Recycling in the AT&T Yellow Pages.



No need to spend your time on the phone. Simply go to unicycler.com during business hours and click on the "Chat Now" option on the right side. A Customer Service Agent will be able to handle whatever situation you may have. Or, if it's past business hours, click on "Leave a message" and we'll get back to you within 24 hours.

## See us on the web at unicycler.com



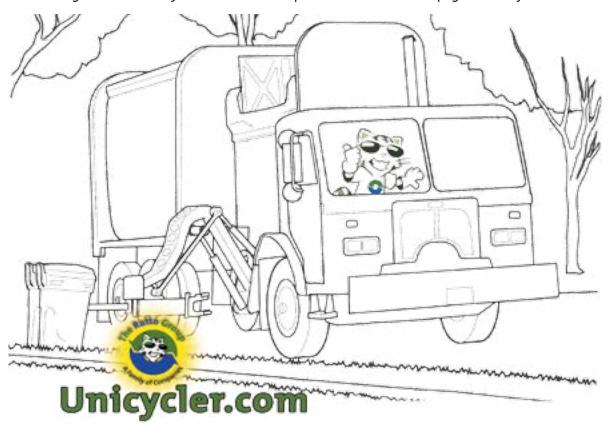
Redwood Empire Disposal

PO Box 14609 Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Tel (800) 243-0291 Fax (707) 586-5543

# Kids Korner

Help the Unicycler by coloring in the garbage and recycling truck to have it look like your weekly truck. Be as creative as you want to be. After, take a picture and email it to greenteam@unicycler.com and we'll upload it to our facebook page. Then try and find all the words in the word search. Good luck, and happy hunting.



O S W C H D C A D N W R K D W P X O
A N J X P H R O E O D L C G S F R E
Q G A J D J H E M D O H S Z Y G M C
N R U G M F R C Y P X W X R A R P U
E Y Q M L G Q K C C O H D N S O X D
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- CART
- ORGANIC
- RESPONSIBLE
- COMPOSTING TRUCK
- WASTE RECYCLE
- REUSE UNICYCLER

- GREEN
- REDUCE
- REDWOOD

# **Recycling Leftover Paint is the Only Way to Go!**

PaintCare Inc. is a non-profit organization established by the American Coatings Association to implement California's Paint Stewardship Law and is establishing hundreds of drop-off sites for postconsumer (leftover) paint at retailers and other sites throughout California. On October 19, 2012, the first day of the California PaintCare Program, 340 new sites started accepting paint from the public. PaintCare will continue to set up additional sites throughout California.

Due to the overwhelming response to the program at the beginning, please call the site prior to bringing them your leftovers to make sure they are able to accept your paint and to check on the quantity of paint they will accept.

The drop off sites near you are listed below:

Kelly Moore, 881 Olive Ave. Novato, CA 94945 - (415) 897-5151

Dunn-Edwards, 717 Francisco Blvd E. San Rafael, CA 94901 (415) 259-0302

Kelly Moore, 601 E Francisco Blvd San Rafael 94901 (415) 258-0627

Sherwin-Williams, 444 Du Bois St. San Rafael, CA 94901 (415) 485-6739



# Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Options

Marin HHW Facility: 565 Jacoby Street, San Rafael



Operating Hours:

Business: By appointment only, (415) 485-5648

Residential: Tuesday-Saturday, 8:00 am - 3:30 pm, (415) 485-6806

Types of HHW accepted:

oil based paints, stains & thinners • household & car batteries • fluorescent bulbs & tubes • pesticides, insecticides • propane tanks •computer monitors & TVs + other electronic waste • motor oil & filters • engine cleaners/brake fluid • poisons, bait & sprays • pool chemicals • mercury thermometers & switches • approved sharps containers • latex paint • household cleaners • asbestos with special handling. Call for instructions

## **Toxic Away Days**

One day drop off events are scheduled periodically in West Marin. Sponsored by the Marin JPA, Marin & San Rafael Fire Departments and Phillips Services. For more information, call the San Rafael Fire Department at (415) 485-3309.