



Fall 2013

unicycler.com

Contact Us:
Rohnert Park Disposal
(707) 586-2283

New!



Online Chat at:
unicycler.com

Office Hours

Monday - Friday 7am-6pm

Saturday - Sunday 7am-3pm



/NorthBayUnicycler

Upcoming Events:

October 14th - 18th

**Rohnert Park Fall
Curbside Clean-up**

January 6th - January 17th

Christmas Tree Pickup

Curbside Collection:

Place whole trees at the curb on your regularly scheduled collection day.

December 26th -January 15th

Christmas Tree Dropoff

Dropoff Information:

Daily 9am-4pm at the Rohnert Park Corporation Yard

600 Enterprise Dr.

Multi-Family Units:

Collection set up on a case-by-case basis. Transfer call or email contact information to Bessie Martinez at Bessie@unicycler.com

General Information:

-General Holiday Collection: Customers with service on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday will be delayed one day during the weeks of Christmas and New Year's Day

-Green Waste Cart Collecton: Trees are accepted in Green Waste Carts at **ANY-TIME**. Trees **MUST** be cut to fit inside cart. Flocked trees are **NOT** accepted

-All lights, tinsel, ornaments and stands **MUST** be removed prior to any collection

-Flocked trees are considered trash and will **NOT** be collected at curbside, green cart or drop-off program



Responsible E-waste Recycling is a Hit in Sonoma County

Electronic waste, commonly known as e-waste, is a growing segment of today's waste stream. E-Waste consists of items that are obsolete or broken including damaged computers, monitors, televisions, video recording devices, stereos, and fax machines. Even commonly used electronic devices found in homes and businesses such as toasters and coffee makers are considered e-waste. Simply put, most items that contain programmable features, batteries or are plugged in are considered e-waste. As technology rapidly advances and these electronic items become more obsolete, the challenge grows for businesses, residents, and local governments to search for ways to properly dispose of this equipment.



In California, e-waste is banned from disposal at the landfill. This is because many e-waste items contain hazardous substances such as lead, mercury, and cadmium. For example, the average "big box" television screen or computer monitor (CRT) contains about 8 pounds of lead. If not handled properly, these hazardous substances in e-waste can have a severe long-term effect on groundwater and air quality, as well as public health.

In 2003, the State of California adopted the Electronic Waste Recycling Act. This provided a funding system for the recycling of computer monitors and televisions, mandated reductions of certain hazardous substances in electronics, and adopted regulations for certifying e-waste recyclers and collectors. This has prompted more businesses and communities to participate in proper collection and recycling of e-waste. Unfortunately there is still a portion of e-waste that ends up being dismantled by countries that lack the infrastructure to safely manage this waste. In many cases, these countries' e-waste is processed by being burned in large piles to recover precious metals such as gold and copper. This approach creates adverse health effects from released carcinogens into the air and pollution of local groundwater. For these reasons it is important to select the right processor when handing off those old or broken electronic items.

All of the e-waste we collect here in Sonoma County is processed by E-Recycling of California (ERC). ERC uses a combination of manual and mechanical processes that carefully dismantle e-waste into marketable by-products for re-manufacturing closed loop recycling. ERC recycles over seventy million pounds of electronic waste annually and are committed to the safe and environmentally sound dismantlement of all electronic waste for their employees, their clients, and our community.

Working with state certified E-Recycling of California ensures a successful e-waste program for the residents of Sonoma County. Whether it's through our bulky item pickup programs, clean-up events, or our newest program where residents can put small electronic items right in their blue cart, we have helped thousands of Sonoma County residents safely dispose of their e-waste.

For more information on disposing e-waste in your blue recycling cart, check out our "Ask the Unicycler" section inside this newsletter.

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)
- synthetic corks • waxed cardboard • poison oak
- Sudden Oak Death infested material • BBQ ashes
- tree stumps • meat & bones • seafood & shells
- cheese • dairy products



Rohnert Park Recycling News

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 586-2283 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 (Rohnert Park Disposal) offers Bulky Item Pick up for items that are too large for your cart.

Items such as mattresses, couches, and large furniture items can be picked up for a fee for single-family residential customers. Call Rohnert Park Disposal at 586-2283 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. Call the HHW hotline at 795-2025 or visit *unicycler.com* for more information.
 - Please direct reusable items to thrift or second hand stores.
- *Certain items have pick-up fees. Please call or chat online at *unicycler.com* for details.



Our "Green Family" - Partners in Food Waste Recycling

Our "Green Family" consists of businesses in our community who currently take advantage of our Food Waste Recycling program. Please support and thank them for making every effort to reduce our local footprint.



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.

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, kitchen prep scraps, bread, grains, pasta, baked goods, eggs, eggshells and non-coated paper products such as paper plates and napkins. **No meat, bones, dairy or seafood products in the yard waste cart.**
- 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.
- Please put your garbage in the correct can. Contamination can lead to higher costs and higher prices in garbage service.

Got Cooking Oil?

Plan on cooking this holiday season? Not sure what to do with leftover oil and grease? Fortunately, there is a solution. Several Sonoma County restaurants accept clean, liquid vegetable oil that is mostly free of any solids, meat scraps or water. Yokayo Biofuels, a CDFA-licensed grease collection center based in Ukiah, collects used vegetable oil and processes it into biodiesel. Visit recyclenow.org and see the Recycling Topics Database Search and look under "grease/food service oils" for additional Sonoma County locations that accept clear cooking oil. Or call 565-DESK for more information.

The following locations accept up to 10 gallons of clean vegetable oil that is free of any solids or water. Please call for hours and delivery instructions

| | |
|--|--|
| Betty's English Fish n' Chips 4046 Sonoma Hwy Santa Rosa, (707) 539-0899 | Coco's Bakery Restaurant 1501 Farmers Ln. Santa Rosa, (707) 545-2626 |
| Big John's Market 1345 Healdsburg Ave. Healdsburg, (707) 433-7151 | Puerto Vallarta 3333 Cleveland Ave. Santa Rosa, (707) 575-4374 |
| Black Bear Diner 201 W. Napa St. # 34 Sonoma, (707) 935-6800 | Willowbrook Ale House 3600 Petaluma Blvd N. Petaluma, (707) 775-4232 |

Ask the Unicycler

Dear Unicycler,

How do I get rid of my electronic waste in the curbside recycle cart?

Signed,

Earnest Electronic Expeller

Dear Earnest Electronic Expeller:

Now that we accept electronics in the blue curbside recycle cart, recycling your e- waste is super easy! Any electronic waste that you don't want anymore can be placed in the recycle cart as long as it fits and does not have a screen. E-waste includes items such as computer hard drives, phones, computer parts, keyboards, toner cartridges, DVD and CD players, VCR machines, printers, speakers, small kitchen appliances, laptops, radios and clocks to name just a few. Simply cut off the cord, place the item in the recycle cart, and put the cart out for curbside service on your normal collection day. We'll make sure that e-waste stays out of the landfill and is recycled properly! If you have any electronic waste that is too big for the cart and/or has a screen, such as computer monitors and TV's, you can call customer service to schedule a curbside pickup of that item at no cost. That way we can pick the item up safely and don't have to worry about the screen breaking inside of the recycle cart. It's easier for you and better for the environment—a win-win!

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

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"



Plastic Containers

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

No!

- Loose Caps less than 4"
- Styrofoam



Metal Cans

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

Yes!

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

No!

- Plastic Caps
- 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 Sonoma 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 Sonoma County:

Curbside recycling service for used motor oil and filters!

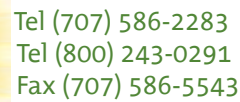
Call Customer Service at 586-2283 or 800-243-0291 to request a special container and zip-lock filter bag. Then call our office to request a pickup. Place oil and filter at the curb next to (not in) your recycling cart for pickup on your regular collection day. The driver will leave a replacement container when your full one is collected.

Drop-off Recycling Locations!

There are many locations in Sonoma County that accept motor oil for recycling. Most also take filters. To find a list of locations nearest you, visit http://recyclenow.org/toxics/motor_oil_dropoff.asp. 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.



New! 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.



TOXICS DISPOSAL

SERVICE OPTIONS FOR RESIDENTS

1 Household Toxics Facility

Located at the Central Disposal Site, the Household Toxics Facility is open every week for **free drop-off** of toxics from Sonoma County residents. Bring your ID to prove residency.

Appointment: Not required

Hours: Thursday, Friday & Saturday
7:30 am–2:30 pm

Location: Central Disposal Site (Bldg. 5)
500 Mecham Rd., Petaluma

2 Community Toxics Collections

By appointment only

Every week there is a toxics collection somewhere in Sonoma County. Bring your ID to prove residency.



Appointment required: Call **795-2025** option 3 or toll free **1-877-747-1870** or email toxicdisposal@sonomacountyrecycles.com

Hours: **Tuesdays 4-8 pm**

2013 Community Toxics Collections schedule

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>March 2013</p> <p>12 Monte Rio 19 Sebastopol 26 Cloverdale</p> <p>April 2013</p> <p>2 Santa Rosa, NE 9 Windsor 16 Sonoma 23 Santa Rosa, SW 30 Guerneville</p> <p>May 2013</p> <p>7 Boyes Hot Springs 14 Healdsburg 21 Sonoma 28 Santa Rosa, NW</p> <p>June 2013</p> <p>4 Oakmont 11 Cloverdale 18 Graton 25 Santa Rosa, SW</p> | <p>July 2013</p> <p>2 Petaluma 9 Redwood 16 Windsor 23 Santa Rosa, SE 30 Rohnert Park</p> <p>August 2013</p> <p>6 Oakmont 13 Larkfield 20 Sebastopol 27 Santa Rosa, NE</p> <p>September 2013</p> <p>3 Guerneville 10 Healdsburg 17 Santa Rosa, NW 24 Sonoma</p> <p>October 2013</p> <p>1 Cloverdale 8 Santa Rosa, SE 15 Oakmont 22 Petaluma 29 Glen Ellen</p> | <p>Locations of Community Toxics Collections will be provided when you schedule your appointment. Call at least 24 hours prior to the collection event.</p> <p>November 2013</p> <p>5 Windsor 12 Redwood 19 Santa Rosa, SE</p> <p>December 2013</p> <p>3 Forestville 10 Santa Rosa, NW 17 Sebastopol</p> |
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For a complete schedule of events, visit www.recyclenow.org

Transportation & packing: State transportation laws limit each vehicle to a maximum of 15 gallons of liquid (with a maximum of 3 gallons per container) or 125 pounds of solid material • Never mix chemicals • Place in sealed containers in the trunk, packed to prevent spills • Syringes/needles must be in a sealed and labeled approved container.

Not accepted: Explosives or ammunition • Radioactive materials • Electronics • Biological wastes (except syringes) • Controlled substances.



The Household Hazardous Waste program is funded by the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency.

www.recyclenow.org Eco-Desk 565-DESK(3375)