

# The Recycle Reader

YOUR QUARTERLY DOSE OF TRASH TALK



## New Year, Same 'Ol Reusable Bag

It's 2017 and we're ready to put a positive spin on grocery bags.

In November of 2016, Californians voted YES on Proposition 67, a measure designed to not only uphold the current ban on single-use bags, but to now come up with a revenue stream for environmental conservation efforts. A near 10% lead in favor of the prop led to state residents now being required to pay 10 cents per multiple use or paper bag.

It is now 2017, and Yuba-Sutter residents have been growing accustomed to this new law. Upfront, it can seem to be a major inconvenience. However, on a

positive note, this new law will have a lasting impact on our entire future.

Americans alone take home an average of 100 billion plastic bags per year. That is further broken down to roughly 1,500 shopping bags per household. Plastic can take up to 1,000 years to decompose, so after people dispose of these bags, harmful chemicals from the plastic are still alive and well in our environment for centuries to come. While the 10 cents can be irritating, especially at the very last second when you realize you've



forgotten your re-usable bags in the hall closet, that pesky dime may turn out to be very helpful in incentivizing us all to bring bags from home, thereby greatly reducing plastic waste (and money waste!). Healthier land, air, and water are sure to follow movements of this nature.

*Continued, page 2 (NEW YEAR)*

## WE LOVE *Our* COMMUNITY!

Thank you Yuba-Sutter for allowing us to serve YOU.

On behalf of the 120 employee-owners of Recology Yuba-Sutter, I would like to extend sincere thanks all around for allowing us the opportunity to serve you.

As we look toward the New Year, we also reflect on all that we accomplished in 2016, and everything for which we are thankful. Without a doubt, we are always grateful for you, the customers, and this community. We are very proud to be responsible for your garbage and recycling services.

Your input is especially important to us, and we will be asking for more of it in the coming months.

We are also grateful for the partnerships we've formed and the assistance we've been able to provide to so many different community groups and non-profit organizations.

In summation, thank you!

From the Recology family to yours, have a great holiday season and a happy New Year!

**Mike Leggins**

Vice President & General Manager



Recology Yuba-Sutter





## ATTN: Commercial & Multi-Family Housing Properties...

Recycling organics is now a must, according to California's new recycling and greenhouse gas emission law, effective January 1 of 2017. Businesses and multi-family housing communities generating 4 cubic yards or more of organic waste will be required to dispose of this waste separately from all other trash. Fun fact: 4 cubic yards placed in a neat rectangular pile, would be 3 ft. high, 6 ft. wide, and 6 ft. long. Businesses are required to separate food, gardening, and landscaping waste. Multi-family housing properties are required to separate gardening and landscaping waste, and are exempt from separating food.

"Business" can be a broad term, so to specify further, the state of California is referring to all commercial properties, non-profit organizations, and government affiliated entities, including schools and their districts. Case-by-case exemptions may be granted if

the property does not have enough space to sustain additional bins for proper recycling. If the organization is also finding a way to recycle a substantial portion of their organic waste through another method, qualifying for the exemption becomes a possibility.

Case-by-case exemptions may also be granted to multi-family housing properties for the previously named reasons, and the options available for meeting the latest requirements are as follows:

1. Source-separate organic waste from other waste and subscribe to Recology Yuba-Sutter's organic waste recycling service. There is a charge for this service, but to minimize this cost, now might be a good time to review your opportunities to increase your recycling efforts for other materials (i.e., cardboard, paper, bottles and cans, and

other food containers). Services to collect these materials are provided free of charge.

2. Recycle organic waste on-site, self-haul organic waste for organic recycling, or have the landscape and pruning waste removed by your landscape service to a permitted organic waste processing facility.

3. Sell or donate the generated organic waste.

If this raises any questions, as any new law is likely to do, Keith Martin at the Regional Waste Management Authority, and Jackie Sillman of Recology Yuba-Sutter are more than happy to help you figure out which which is which!



CONTINUED

Conveniently, there is a veritable plethora of options for toting your groceries and other goods! Cotton canvas bags are currently very popular as well as durable. Insulated beach bags or other bags with non-porous liners also work well if you find you are concerned about thawing food or other leaking, as

they are super simple to wipe out. Rolling totes with handles are also not unheard of, and are much easier on shoulders and backs.

Ultimately, our little community can make a phenomenal impact on not just our area, but in surrounding areas, even spanning the globe. By doing our part to reduce the usage, and therefore disposal, of harmful chemicals, we are helping to ensure a greatly improved environment is left for the generations to follow!

**whatbin.com**  
Recology's answer to what goes in what bin

**Trash Talkin'**

B. Blue

How about this weather? It's raining cats and dogs!

Ya, you have to be careful not to step in a poodle!

You crack me up! I love your optimism.

I'm always full of "cans"!

I've got one, what did the oceans say to each other when they met?

I've heard this one! Nothing, they waved!



For more information about the Yuba-Sutter Curbside Recycling Program call Public Relations Manager, Jackie Sillman at 749-4220 or visit [YubaSutterRecycles.com](http://YubaSutterRecycles.com)