

Give gifts that create smiles, not landfill

One of the great things about the holidays is giving someone a gift they truly enjoy. And if that gift comes without generating any trash, it is even better.

The environmental side of gift giving is an important consideration. The amount of trash generated in San Francisco increases about 15 percent during the holidays. We can all do our part to reduce that number in our collective efforts to help protect the environment.

So rather than shopping for new products, which can come with a lot of packaging, much of it not recyclable, consider giving gifts that generate a lot of pleasure and no trash:

- Tickets to a concert, play, sporting event, or a special show would keep the holiday spirit center stage throughout the year. This area offers opportunities for every taste — from symphony to rap to Broadway-quality performances, and so much more.



- Gift certificates to local restaurants present many wonderful possibilities as San Francisco is considered one of the best food cities in the nation.
- A pass to a new art exhibit or even a membership to affiliated museums and cultural venues would be a terrific gift. San Francisco is blessed to be home to first-rate museums that host many notable exhibitions.

- Vouchers for activities such as kayaking, culinary classes, bay cruises, and spa days can be personalized to make anyone's wishes come true.
- Favorite books to share, specialty foods, or homemade gifts crafted from recycled jars, fabrics, papers, and other items also can bring smiles to loved ones and friends.



Giving is often better than receiving, especially when the gifts we give provide special experiences that celebrate our city's unique offerings and help San Francisco in its mission to reduce waste. That's a present for us all.

Highlighting key materials to recycle and compost

New public service announcements feature short messages that remind San Franciscans to be sure to recycle and compost specific materials.

One of these educational signs, for example, encourages people who live and work in the City to compost all coffee grounds and fish bones. Those are two of the best materials to compost. That's because both coffee grounds and fish bones are rich in nutrients and when applied as compost improve soil health on local farms and vineyards.

You can review and download these friendly reminders by going to the **Property Manager's Lounge** at **RecologySF.com**. If you like these recycling and composting notices, feel free to print them out and pin them up in common areas at home and work. You can also share them on social media.

Doing so helps extend San Francisco's effort to inspire people to be more attentive to reducing waste, reusing materials, and recycling and composting. Making these actions good green habits helps keep materials out of landfills and helps achieve numerous other environmental benefits.

Help SF achieve zero waste



San Franciscans **recycle** and **compost**.

2016–2017 holiday collection schedule

Collection crews will work on **Thanksgiving Day**, Nov. 24. The office will be closed.

| Monday                            | Tuesday                           | Wednesday                         | Thursday                          | Friday                            | Saturday                          | Sunday                       |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>DEC. 19</b><br>Regular service | <b>DEC. 20</b><br>Regular service | <b>DEC. 21</b><br>Regular service | <b>DEC. 22</b><br>Regular service | <b>DEC. 23</b><br>Regular service | <b>DEC. 24</b><br>Regular service | <b>DEC. 25</b><br>No service |
| <b>DEC. 26</b><br>Regular service | <b>DEC. 27</b><br>Regular service | <b>DEC. 28</b><br>Regular service | <b>DEC. 29</b><br>Regular service | <b>DEC. 30</b><br>Regular service | <b>DEC. 31</b><br>Regular service | <b>JAN. 1</b><br>No service  |



**Christmas Tree Collection program runs Jan. 2–14.** Please place clean, unflocked trees at the curb. Remove all tinsel, decorations, plastic bags, stands, and lights. If your tree measures more than 6 feet tall, please cut it in half.





Ordering the right size bins for your address is key. To learn about the options, contact a Recology service rep today.

## Size bins to match your needs

Right-sizing your blue, green, and black bins allows you to choose the service that suits your property best. Right-sizing also helps you comply with City rules and increase recycling. This is good for customers to know because one size does not fit all.

Recology offers all three bins in different sizes. The basic blue bin holds 32 gallons of recycling. A taller and slightly wider blue bin offers double the volume — 64 gallons.

Customers increasingly say they prefer the taller blue bin because it provides the extra space needed for cardboard boxes used to ship items bought online. Please break down cardboard and paper boxes and place them in your recycling bin. City health codes require that all refuse be placed in bins with closed lids. This helps reduce litter.

Homes tend to produce a similar amount of trash week after week. Exceptions exist, but this same rule of thumb is generally true for apartment buildings and commercial properties.

If the property you own or manage often generates more trash than will fit in your bins, please call us at (415) 330-1300 or email us through the “contact us” page on [RecologySF.com](https://www.recologysf.com), and we can walk you through different size options.

In support of San Francisco’s efforts to reduce landfill disposal, City ordinances require all properties to use recycling and composting collection bins. If you would like to explore adjusting the size of your bins or adding another bin, please contact us at your convenience. We employ customer service representatives in San Francisco, and we are always glad to help customers right-size their containers.

## Community service

It is important for kids to have a safe and pleasant place to go after school. More than 200 Recology employees supported that idea on a sunny Saturday in September by helping make improvements to the Willie Mays Boys & Girls Club in Hunter’s Point.

Volunteers:

- removed three tons of rock and old wood from areas surrounding the property
- composted nine tons of bush and tree trimmings, including enough eucalyptus leaves to fill a collection truck
- rebuilt a greenhouse and pathways in the club’s edible garden
- applied 35 gallons of primer and paint to the gym walls and cleaned and painted spectator benches through the facility.

The clubhouse is a haven for youth to work on academics, participate in sports, and to grow, cook, and enjoy healthy foods.



## Lifeline rates for eligible customers

Discounted refuse rates are available to low-income households that meet certain requirements. 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.

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.

In addition to income eligibility, the address on the applications must be where the household lives for more than half the year (not the second home) and the applicant cannot be claimed on another person’s income tax return. For complete details and to get a Lifeline Rate application, go to [RecologySF.com/residentialRates.htm](https://www.recologysf.com/residentialRates.htm) or call (415) 330-1300.

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

| No. of persons living in your home | Total gross annual household income (all sources) |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1 or 2                             | \$24,030 or less                                  |
| 3                                  | \$30,240 or less                                  |
| 4                                  | \$36,450 or less                                  |
| More than 4                        | Add \$6,210 for each additional person            |

|                                 |         |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| 32-gallon Trash (black bin)     | \$19.43 |
| 32-gallon Recycling (blue)      | 1.55    |
| 32-gallon Composting (green)    | 1.55    |
| Base Charge per dwelling unit   | 3.87    |
| Projected monthly Lifeline bill | \$26.40 |

### RECYCLING, COMPOST, AND TRASH COLLECTION:

Recology Sunset Scavenger  
(415) 330-1300

Recology Golden Gate  
(415) 626-4000

Debris Box Service  
(888) 404-4008

BulkyltemRecycling.com  
(415) 330-1300

