



Spring 2014

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](https://www.facebook.com/NorthBayUnicycler)

No need to stay on hold any longer. Simply go to unicycler.com and chat online with a friendly customer service agent now!

Upcoming Events:

May 12th - May 16th:

**Rohnert Park Spring
Curbside Clean-up**

June 14th:



June 21st:



July 24th - Aug. 10th:



The Unicycler Can Green Your School



Imagine our schools as leaders in environmental sustainability, offering students the tools to be innovators, and giving them a healthy environment in which to learn and play. Recycling at school empowers kids to make a difference, and teaches them environmental values that will stay with them for life.

As part of our efforts to expand our diversion programs and keep Sonoma County green,

The Ratto Group has been working with schools across the County to decrease the amount of trash they send to the landfill. Recycling Coordinators with The Ratto Group work with many schools throughout the year to improve their recycle program, whether it's simply updating signs or doing a full program overload with classroom-to-classroom presentations, the outreach coordinators tailor the program to the needs and capabilities of each individual school.

Here is just a taste of some of the services we provide to our local schools:

Site Visit: Outreach staff is available to visit your school to start or enhance your current recycling program. We can provide recommendations for service frequency and bin sizes, update signage on indoor cans or outdoor bins so they're clearly marked, and work with staff to determine the most effective way to reach your students and make recycling as easy to do as possible.

Food Scrap Composting: By participating in our new food scrap composting program, your food scraps and soiled paper products can all be diverted from the landfill and sent to a composting facility instead. Large amounts of food waste get thrown away at schools every day during snack break and lunch time, so composting the food scraps instead makes a really big difference.

Presentations: The best way to spread the word and educate the students about recycling, composting, re-using, and more, is through presentations! To teach your students about what happens to garbage and recycling once it leaves school, our outreach coordinators can provide grade-appropriate presentations classroom-to-classroom, in large groups of a few classes and/or grades at a time, or all at once through a school wide assembly. These presentations can be tailored to the classroom or school's needs depending on the program you have in place and what the students already know.



Recycling Coordinators Hillary & Bessie

Fieldtrip of Facility: Fieldtrips for groups of students are available at our recyclables sorting facility in Santa Rosa. At this facility, kids can see firsthand what happens to all of the recyclable materials we collect here in Sonoma County as they get sorted, baled, and sent off to be recycled into new material. Tours are limited to small groups and staff availability, and time slots fill up quickly!

So if you know a school that needs to be greened by the Unicycler, please don't hesitate to contact one of our Recycling Coordinators. These services are at no additional cost to the schools located in our service areas, and spots fill up quickly. To contact our Green Team, please email greenteam@unicycler.com, or call customer service and ask to be connected with the Recycling Coordinator in your area!

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.



Want to join our "Green Family"?
Email now to GreenFamily@unicycler.com

Rohnert Park Curbside Cleanup May 12 - May 16, 2014

Rohnert Park residents may place extra garbage (contained in bags or boxes) at the curb for collection on their regular collection day during this week. Only Rohnert Park residential customers and multi-family complexes may participate in the cleanup. Multifamily complexes must request cleanup service by scheduling service no later than Monday May 5th. Businesses and property managers may not participate. Call Rohnert Park Disposal at 586-2283 to schedule and for full descriptions of what is acceptable to be removed. Residents are limited to two cubic yards of material at the curb--equivalent of 14 bags, boxes or bins or one bulky item plus seven bags or boxes or 2 bulky items.

Prohibited Items:

The following items are not accepted. They will be tagged and left at the curb.

- Dirt, rocks, concrete, tires, stumps.
- Pressure treated or chemically treated wood/lumber.
- Lawnmowers, propane tanks, batteries
- Hazardous waste such as paint, motor oil, chemicals, cleaners, pesticides, herbicides, & thinners

Bulky Items:

Large furniture requires an appointment. There is a \$20 charge for mattresses (box springs included). Payment is due at time of pickup. Call Rohnert Park Disposal at 586-2283 before Monday, May 5, 2014 for an appointment.

Yard Waste:

Recycle yardwaste in your green organics cart. It can also be taken to the Central Landfill and composted for a fee. Yardwaste should not be discarded in the garbage.

E-Waste Items:

Household appliances can be picked up free of charge every Thursday. Call 707-586-2283 to make an appointment. *Fee is applied for Freon and/or microwave disposal. E-waste items include:

- Televisions & monitors (tube, plasma, LCD or projection)
- VCR/DVD players, printers, household appliances (with a power cord)*
- Scrap metal, bicycles, BBQs
- Refrigerators, A/C units, etc.*



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 yardwaste can.**
- 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.

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

Ask the Unicycler

Dear Unicycler:

The other day I saw one of your trucks pick up the trash and then dump the green waste into the same truck. I work really hard to separate my recycling and green waste from the trash. What gives?

Signed,

Dilligent Debris Divider

Dear Dilligent Debris Divider:

What you saw was one of our split-body collection trucks! Even though it looks like the materials were being mixed together because they were dumped into the same hole on top of the truck, there are actually two compartments inside that keep each material completely separate. So rest assured, the materials you work so diligently to keep separate are not being mixed together. Just like you, we want to keep the recycling and green waste as clean and contamination-free as possible.

The split-body collection trucks are actually super eco-friendly. Because they're collecting two materials at one time, it decreases the number of trips in your neighborhood by one-third, which also decreases fuel use and reduces wear and tear on the streets. These trucks also have reduced emissions, exceeding state standards with Bio Diesel Fuel.

So the next time you see two materials go into the same truck, just remember that it's our split-body collection vehicles hard at work!

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:



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!

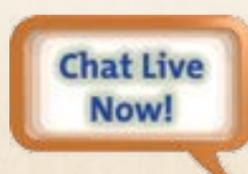
Here in Sonoma County we recycle 3,800 gallons of oil per year. Recycling used oil and filters reduces our dependence on foreign oil, saves valuable resources, protects the health of our families, and is the only legal way to dispose of them! You haven't finished changing your oil until you've taken 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.

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.



Rohnert Park Disposal

PO Box 1916
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Tel (707) 586-2283
Tel (800) 243-0291
Fax (707) 586-5543

Thomas Page Goes Green

Thomas Page Academy is now going green with the help of Recycling Coordinator Bessie Martinez and Redwood Empire Disposal's school recycling and food scrap composting programs!

Thomas Page Academy is a kindergarten through eighth grade school located in the western hills of Cotati and is part of the Cotati Rohnert Park Unified School District. In the past few years, Redwood Empire Disposal has come to teach the students about the 4'Rs: reduce, reuse, recycle, and rot (compost)! Thomas Page was already doing a great job recycling, but now they are able to put their fruits and vegetables from the cafeteria into the green yard waste cart.

Now all of the food scraps produced at Thomas Page will "rot," instead of making more waste in the county landfill.



Thomas Page has found that the more places on campus that containers are available, the more successful the program will be. "Every snack and lunch period there are both recycle and garbage containers available," says Barbara Gegan, one of the teachers at Thomas Page. "The after school YMCA program participates as well and each classroom and office has recycle containers available." To get the students more involved in helping out, the middle school leadership class goes throughout the campus and empties the recycle bins once a week. They found that when they do their best to fill up the recycling and compost bins, hardly anything is left over in the grey garbage bin. That means less and less trash being buried in our local landfill!

Thomas Page Academy even goes beyond their waste reduction programs to deepen the school's environmental focus. They are planting a habitat/vegetable garden on the far edge of the field on campus. Already they have planted a hedgerow of native plants, a butterfly garden, and a fiber garden. This spring they plan to build a tool shed, an outdoor classroom, and a worm composting system for a portion of the school's food waste.

With schools like Thomas Page Academy taking extra steps to help keep trash out of the landfill and involve more eco-friendly practices on campus, our community will continue to be a healthier, cleaner, and happier place.

TOXICS DISPOSAL IN SONOMA COUNTY

SERVICE OPTIONS FOR RESIDENTS

Household Toxics Facility
The Household Toxics Facility is open every week for free drop-off of toxics from Sonoma County residents.
Appointment: Not required
Hours: Thursday, Friday & Saturday 7:30 am-2:30 pm
Location: Central Disposal Site (Bldg. 5) 500 Mecham Rd., Petaluma

Community Toxics Collections
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 toxicsdisposal@cleanharbors.com
Hours: Tuesdays 4-8 pm

Toxic Rover Pickup Service
Have your toxics picked up at your home. Services are provided on a first-come-first-serve basis.
Fee: \$50/pickup (limit 440 pounds). Limited free pickup available for seniors over 80 years of age and housebound residents.
Appointment required: Call 795-2025 option 4 or toll-free 1-877-747-1870 or email toxicsdisposal@cleanharbors.com
Hours: Wednesdays limited appointments

SERVICE OPTIONS FOR BUSINESSES

Household Toxics Facility
Located at the Central Disposal Site, the Household Toxics Facility is open for drop-off of hazardous waste from qualified Sonoma County businesses.
Appointment required: Call 795-2025 option 2 or toll-free 1-877-747-1870 or email toxicsdisposal@cleanharbors.com
Forms & fees: Paperwork required. Download forms at www.recyclenow.org. \$25 processing fee plus disposal fees based on type and quantity of waste.
Hours: Tuesdays & Wednesdays 7:30 am-2:30 pm
Location: Central Disposal Site (Bldg. 5) at 500 Mecham Rd., Petaluma

Community Toxics Collections
Every week there is a toxics collection somewhere in Sonoma County. Space may be limited for business appointments and is based on availability.
Appointment required: Call 795-2025 option 2 or toll-free 1-877-747-1870
Forms & fees: Paperwork required. Download forms at www.recyclenow.org. \$25 processing fee plus disposal fees based on type and quantity of waste.
Hours: Tuesdays 4-8 pm for a complete schedule of Community Toxics Collections, visit www.recyclenow.org

2014 Community Toxics Collections schedule

March 2014	May 2014	July 2014
4 Rohnert Park	6 Guerneville	1 Larkfield
11 Santa Rosa, NW	13 Boyes Hot Springs	8 Petaluma
18 Monte Rio	20 Healdsburg	15 Kenwood
25 Sebastopol	27 Sonoma	22 Santa Rosa, SE
		29 Windsor
April 2014	June 2014	August 2014
1 Cloverdale	3 Santa Rosa, NW	5 Rohnert Park
8 Santa Rosa, NE	10 Oakmont	12 Cotati
15 Windsor	17 Cloverdale	19 Sebastopol
22 Sonoma	24 Graton	26 Glen Ellen
29 Larkfield	25 Bodega Bay	

Locations of Community Toxics Collections will be provided when you schedule your appointment. Call at least 24 hours prior to the collection event. **For a complete schedule, visit www.recyclenow.org**

Transportation & packing: State transportation laws limit each vehicle to a maximum of 15 gallons of liquid (with a maximum of 5 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 565-3375

Look for your
SONOMA COUNTY 2014 RECYCLING GUIDE
in the YP - The Real Yellow Pages phone book

Compost! It's in our roots.