

## Are You Composting Correctly?

Here are the items you can put in your green Compost cart:



If you do not have compost services, contact Recology San Mateo County at (650) 595-3900, [Carts@Recology.com](mailto:Carts@Recology.com) or visit [Recology.com](http://Recology.com).

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610 Elm Street, Suite 202 | San Carlos, CA 94070  
**RethinkWaste Administrative Offices**

The Rethinker newsletter is dedicated to educating residents and businesses regarding waste reduction, reuse, and recycling. With your help, we can meet our goal of diverting waste from the landfill and maintain healthy, livable communities.

A Public Agency



## KNOW YOUR HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES?

It's important to recognize these common batteries found in many of your everyday household items:

### SINGLE USE

Common, non-rechargeable batteries typically found in small items around the home.

**Alkaline:** Basic AA, AAA, C, D, and 9-volt batteries.

**Button cell:** Used in small items when long continuous service is required.

**Found in:**

- Cordless Phones
- Flashlights
- Greeting Cards
- Hearing Aids
- Remote Controls
- Toys



### RECHARGEABLE

Common batteries that can be recharged and reused up to 1,000 times.

**Ni-Cad (Nickel Cadmium):** Least expensive rechargeable battery.

**Ni-MH (Nickel Metal Hydride):** Performs well in high-drain devices.

**SSLA/Pb (Small Sealed Lead Acid):** Hold a charge for a very long time.

**Found in:**

- Cordless Power Drills
- Security Systems
- Vehicles



### LITHIUM PRIMARY

Non-rechargeable but long-lasting, these batteries react violently with water and must remain manufacturer sealed. May be marked as "lithium" or "lithium cell" batteries.

**Found in:**

- Drones
- House Alarms
- Pacemakers
- Remote Car Locks
- Watches



### LITHIUM-ION

Rechargeable batteries that contain lithium-ion and highly flammable electrolytes, which are vulnerable to overheating and exploding if they short-circuit or become damaged. May be marked as "lithium-ion (Li-Ion)" or "lithium polymer (Li-Po)" batteries.

**Found in:**

- Cell Phones
- Digital Cameras
- Laptops
- Power Tools



Recology offers a free & convenient battery disposal program for residents that live in a single-family home or an apartment/condo. Residents can also drop-off used batteries at select neighborhood hardware stores and the Shoreway Public Recycling Center at 333 Shoreway Rd, San Carlos. For more information, visit [rethinkwaste.org/batteries](http://rethinkwaste.org/batteries)



## Community Events

Do you have paper documents in need of shredding? E-waste to be recycled? Or want compost for a home gardening project? RethinkWaste, in partnership with Recology and our Member Agencies, hosts annual shred, e-scrap and compost giveaway events in your local community – free of charge!

Find more information and the next free community event near you by visiting [rethinkwaste.org/communityevents](http://rethinkwaste.org/communityevents)

## Apartment Recycling is the Law!

Live in an apartment complex or condominium, but don't have recycling? State law requires it! Contact your Property Manager to subscribe to recycling services with Recology San Mateo County.

# PREPARE FOR SUMMER BY GOING REUSABLE!

Summer is just around the corner, which means barbecues and camping trips! If you plan to fire up your portable stove this summer, ditch those disposables and power it with reusable 1lb. propane cylinders. Whether you are a camper, BBQer, or tailgater, going reusable will save you money and help the environment. Pick up reusable propane cylinders at a local participating retailer. Visit [refuelyourfun.org](http://refuelyourfun.org) for locations.



If you have empty disposable propane cylinders, remember they **DO NOT** go in any of your three carts. They are combustible, and must be disposed of properly through San Mateo County's Household Hazardous Waste Program. Make an appointment for a local drop-off location at [smchealth.org/hhw](http://smchealth.org/hhw)

## San Mateo County's Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Events

Not sure what to do with unwanted paint, cleaners, pesticides or used fluorescent lights and batteries? San Mateo County's Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program offers free neighborhood drop-off events to all County residents. To participate, *you must* schedule an appointment at [smchealth.org/hhw](http://smchealth.org/hhw) or call (650) 363-4718, select option 3.

MONTH	DAY	LOCATION*
June	22	East Palo Alto
July	27	Redwood City
August	10	Menlo Park
August	24	Foster City
September	28	Redwood City
November	9	Redwood City
November	23	Menlo Park



\*Specific location will be disclosed after your appointment is made.

San Mateo County's permanent facility in San Mateo is open Thurs-Sat. 8 a.m.—2 p.m.

## PROGRAM INFORMATION:

RethinkWaste is your regional public agency\* that owns the 16-acre Shoreway Environmental Center in San Carlos and manages our two major contractors: Recology & South Bay Recycling. [RethinkWaste](http://RethinkWaste.org) | (650) 802-3500 | [rethinker@rethinkwaste.org](mailto:rethinker@rethinkwaste.org) | [Rethinkwaste.org](http://Rethinkwaste.org)

For questions about your garbage bill or to schedule services: [Recology San Mateo County](http://Recology San Mateo County) | 225 Shoreway Rd, San Carlos | (650) 595-3900 | [carts@recology.com](mailto:carts@recology.com) | [Recology.com](http://Recology.com)

For questions about the Shoreway Environmental Center including hours of operations, materials accepted, rates, etc.: [South Bay Recycling](http://South Bay Recycling) | 333 Shoreway Rd, San Carlos | (650) 802-8355 | [SBRecycling.net](http://SBRecycling.net)

### RethinkWaste Member Agencies:

- Atherton
- Belmont
- Burlingame
- East Palo Alto
- Foster City
- Hillsborough
- Menlo Park
- Redwood City
- San Carlos
- San Mateo
- County of San Mateo
- West Bay Sanitary Dist.



Our Contracting Partners:



Sign up to receive the Rethinker newsletter electronically! Visit [RethinkWaste.org](http://RethinkWaste.org)

Follow us on social media @RethinkWaste to get the latest eco-tips and information.

