

# Commercial Organics Recycling



The City of Vacaville has worked with **Recology Vacaville Solano** to implement a program that turns organic waste from commercial customers into rich compost. The program complies to State law SB 1383 that centers on reducing the amount of organic materials going to landfills.

A large part of organic waste includes food waste. Over 6 million tons of food waste are currently sent to landfills. The new program in Vacaville will collect food waste and other organic waste from commercial customers like restaurants and food processing plants. The organic material will be taken to the composting facility at the **Recology Hay Road Landfill** just outside of Vacaville. There it is mixed with green waste to produce a rich compost that is highly valued by vintners and farmers.

**Recology** is experienced at composting organic waste. In addition to green waste from landscaping and lawn maintenance, **Recology** has been diverting food waste to compost facilities for about a decade. The composting facilities in California and Oregon have gained international attention for the high quality compost.

The new program in Vacaville meets the mandate of SB 1383 which was signed into law in

2016. It works in conjunction with another law, AB 1826, that sets goals of reducing organic waste levels 50% by 2020 and 75% by 2025. SB 1383 also provides guidelines for recovering edible food for human consumption by the year 2025. The food will be distributed through food banks and organizations serving people in need.

**Recology** and the City of Vacaville continue to work to reduce the amount of waste going to landfills. The new organic program is a significant step to achieve the goal of zero waste.

## Sweeping the Streets

Street sweeping takes place inside the Vacaville city limits the day after your collection day on a biweekly schedule. Residents must move their vehicles from the curb by 5AM on their sweep day to ensure the street is swept. Check the street sweeping calendar at [recology.com](http://recology.com) for the day your street will be swept.



Summer is here and that means extra amounts of yardwaste in Vacaville. Only customers with 96-gallon green Toter® service may place out unlimited amounts of extra yardwaste for collection at no extra charge. Place extra yardwaste in Toters® that can be rented from **Recology** or in sturdy 32-gallon cans that have handles and tight fitting lids. Only 32-gallon cans may be used. Extra yardwaste cans must be placed out next to the green yardwaste Toter® for collection. Place bundles of tree or shrub prunings beside your green Toter®. Bundles must be no larger than 3 feet by 2 feet. Tie bundles with twine—never use wire.

# Zero IN Vacaville

## Recology Responds to Pandemic

While the COVID-19 pandemic impacts people on a global scale, **Recology Vacaville Solano** continues to provide collection service without interruption. There are, however, changes in the way the company operates.

"The safety of our customers and our employees continues to be our highest priority," explains **Recology Vacaville Solano** General Manager Scott Pardini. "Residential and commercial customers will see no change in their collection schedule, but many other services have been suspended or modified."

The **Recology Vacaville Solano Recycling Facility** at 855½ Davis Street in Vacaville is closed until further notice.

The **Recology** office at 1 Town Square Place is closed to visitors. Customers may pay bills by US mail, by phone, or online. There is a drop-box in front of the office where payments can also be made.

To pay by phone, just call 707-305-1275 anytime. Have your account number ready and follow the instructions.

Go to [billpay.recology.com](http://billpay.recology.com) to pay online. Customers may make a one-time payment or create an online account for recurring payments. We accept American Express, Discover, Mastercard, and Visa credit cards, or we can debit your bank account.

Customers are encouraged to use the website at [recology.com](http://recology.com) for service requests. Customers may also call the office during working hours at 707-448-2945.



**Recology** drivers continue to service residential and commercial customers on schedule during the pandemic.

"We only have a small number of people in the office," Pardini explains, "Most of our Customer Service team has been working remotely, and they have been amazing. Calls are being answered and emails are responded to regularly by staff."

Services like Bulky Item Collections have been temporarily suspended. **Recology's** safety director is in close contact with City and County health officials to plan a safe reopening of all services.

"We are all in this together," said Pardini. "Customers can really help by making sure materials are sorted properly. Help eliminate reasons why employees have to touch materials. Please rinse recyclable containers and break down cardboard."

"**Recology** workers are essential to the health and operation of Vacaville," Pardini said. "Our drivers and other employees are following all safety guidelines as we continue to provide uninterrupted service. I can't say enough how determined we are to provide customers with the best service possible during these challenging times."

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Summer 2020

# Zero IN Vacaville

## COVID-19 Changes



The current pandemic has caused a number of temporary changes in the way **Recology** does business.

There have been no changes to collection services (including curbside used oil and batteries) or street sweeping services. Here is a quick list of the temporary changes in **Recology** services due to the Covid-19

pandemic:

**Main office at 1 Town Square Place:** Closed until **Recology** safety officials authorize opening.

**Assistance by phone:** Customer Service Representatives work remotely Monday through Friday from 8am until 5pm. Contact us at 707-448-2945 to get information about services, to enroll in E-BillPay service, or for other assistance.

**Assistance by web:** The "Contact Us" feature at [recology.com](http://recology.com) is given the same priority as phone calls or phone messages. Contact requests are answered promptly during working hours.

**Bulky Item, E-waste collection, Special Pickups:** These services are temporarily suspended.

**Payments:** Pay bills by mail, over the phone, or online. A payment box for checks or money orders is available outside the office at 1 Town Square Place. Cash is not accepted. Pay-By-Phone is free for customers to use at any time. Call 707-305-1275 to make your payment.

**Recycling and Buy-Back Facility:** The facility at 855½ Davis Street in Vacaville that purchases some recyclables and accepts Household Hazardous Waste, E-waste, mattresses, and other material is temporarily closed.

## What can and cannot go in the blue Toter®?

Customers in Vacaville are able to recycle a great variety of materials. Following is a list of the materials that can and **cannot** go in the blue Toter®.

### Place in the Blue Toter®:

**Paper**-Newspaper, boxes, bags, cardboard (flattened), magazines, catalogs, glossy paper, phone books, softcover books, shredded paper in paper bags, junk mail, envelopes, all colors of office paper.

**Glass**-All beverage and food containers in all colors. Empty container, rinse, and remove lid or cap.

**Plastic**-All #1 through #7 narrow-neck bottles (water, soda, and detergent bottles). All California Redemption Value (CRV) containers. Plastic tubs for margarine, butter, yogurt, etc. Empty all containers and rinse.

**Metal**-Food and beverage cans (aluminum, steel, and tin). Rinse. Clean aluminum pans or foil. Empty aerosol cans. Metal lids from jars.

The following materials are not recyclable. Check website or call for proper disposal instructions.

### Never Place in the Blue Toter®:

**Paper**-No hardcover books or binders; soiled papers, food wrappings, napkins, tissues or towels, waxed paper milk cartons or waxed paper juice cartons.

**Glass**-No drinking glasses; ceramics; window glass or mirrors; light bulbs or fluorescent tubes.

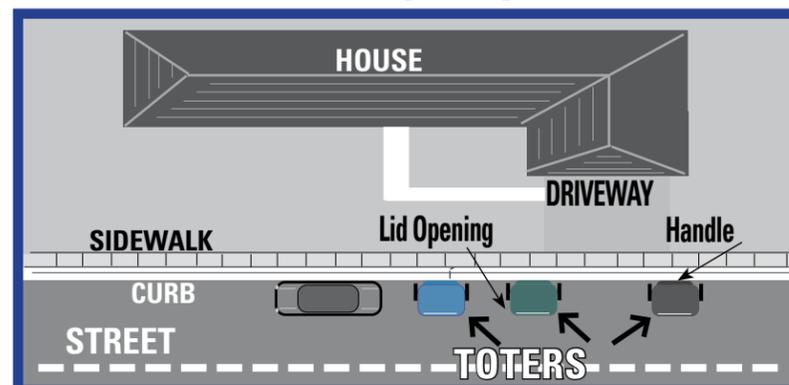
**Plastic**-No plastic toys, cups, garden hoses, etc.; plastic bags; Styrofoam; clam-shell food containers; PVC or other piping.

**Metal**-No electronic or computer equipment; hangers; scrap metal; fuel or propane tanks, etc.

**Bundles, boxes, or bags of materials placed outside of the Toter® will not be collected.**

Click [recology.com](http://recology.com) or call 707-448-2945 for more information.

## Check for proper Toter® placement



- Toters® should be placed out with the wheels touching the curb. The lid should open to the street with the handle in the back.
- Don't block the sidewalk.
- Don't park cars within 5 feet of Toters®.
- Place Toters® 5 feet apart.
- Put Toters® out by 6AM on your pickup day.
- Remove Toters® from curb by 6PM and place them at the side of the house or in the rear yard. According to Municipal Code Chapter 8.10 waste receptacles must be at the side of the house or in rear yard at all other times.

## Welcome Isabell!

Isabell Angel was born on Earth Day, so what better career could there be for her than the **Recology Vacaville Solano** Waste Zero Specialist?

"I get to teach people while improving the health of our environment," explains Isabell. "**Recology** is a company that 'walks-the-walk' when it comes to reducing waste. As a Zero Waste Specialist, I play a key role to achieving this goal."

Isabell recently obtained her B.S. degree from UC Davis in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, so she is a perfect fit to help implement new programs and provide community outreach on environmental programs offered through **Recology**.

Isabell lives in Vallejo. When not working, she enjoys eating pizza and visiting breweries with her fiancé Mike.

### Hay Road Landfill Open

The **Recology Hay Road Landfill** is open. Residential customers may use their Landfill Pass to self-haul a single load of up to two yards or 1,000 pounds of materials to the landfill without charge. E-waste and recyclable materials should not be included in the materials.

Organic compost is available at the landfill. Vacaville residents who reside in the city limits may haul up to three yards of the organic compost per visit each day at no charge. Show your residual waste bill or other identification at the scale-house. Compost supply is limited and is also subject to supplies on hand. You must load your vehicle and cover your load of compost.



Isabell Angel  
Waste Zero Specialist



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