



# Waste Zero News

GROWING TOWARD ZERO WASTE TOGETHER



## FROM THE EDITOR

San Benito County businesses and other organizations came together on Earth Day to celebrate the strides our community is making toward a more sustainable future. One of the best practices for positive change is compost collection.

By separating food scraps, food-soiled paper, and landscape trimmings for collection, businesses send less to landfill, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and provide the feedstock needed to make nutrient-rich compost. Some of that compost is used by local farmers.

If you own or work at a business not yet participating in the compost collection program, call Recology to get started.



Jessica Wohlander, executive director of Terra Cultura operations, creates seed balls with Earth Day Celebration attendees. Photo by Kevin Burleigh.

## Local Business Spotlight

Several local companies got down to the business of fun and collaboration at the recent San Benito County Earth Day Celebration.

- Terra Cultura, a nonprofit educational eco-arts farm in Aromas, created and distributed “seed balls” containing native flowers such as the California poppy.
- Teknova, a biotech firm based in Hollister, gave away bird feeders made from its plastic discards.
- Hollister’s The Farmhouse Café provided organic meals made with local ingredients to all event vendors and partners

Local green businesses are now 40 strong and growing. They, along with Recology and partners such as San Benito County Integrated Waste Management (SBCIWM), are working to create an environmentally conscientious San Benito County.



Zero Wastingly,

Recology Waste Zero Team  
**Brian, Gabbie, Shana, and Lisa**

The next **Green Business Mixer** is scheduled for 5:30 PM on Wed., July 19, at Veteran’s Memorial Hall, 649 San Benito St., Hollister. Follow **@SBCIWM** on Instagram for event updates.

## CONTACT OUR CUSTOMER SERVICE TEAM!

Se habla español

[f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [@](#)RecologySanBenitoCounty

Recology San Benito County  
 1351 Pacheco Pass Hwy  
 Gilroy, CA 95020

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831.636.7500, M – F, 8 AM – 5 PM  
 Messages left after hours will be returned the next business day.

CustomerService055@Recology.com



## GREEN BIN TIPS

Regular maintenance of compost bins will help reduce odors and pests, especially during the warm summer months.

First and foremost, remember to put your bins out for weekly collection by Recology. And:

- 1 Keep enclosures clean.
- 2 Make sure bin lids are completely closed.
- 3 Layer your bin with newspaper, food-soiled paper, or other dry compostable materials.
- 4 Put food scraps in BPI-certified compostable bags or paper bags and close them.
- 5 Lock containers if necessary. Please contact Customer Service at **831.636.7500** to obtain an approved lock for free.



Put compostables in a BPI-certified compostable bag or paper bag.

## MORE FREE RESOURCES FOR BUSINESSES

Recology offers free posters, guides, training, and containers to help your business Recycle Right. Send an email to [SBCWZ@Recology.com](mailto:SBCWZ@Recology.com), and one of our Waste Zero Specialists will help identify and provide resources for your specific needs.



Staff from the McDonald's restaurant on San Felipe Road in Hollister proudly display the free composting and recycling materials they received during a recent Waste Zero training.

## RECOLOGY, LOCAL PARTNERS CREATE

### RECYCLE RIGHT VIDEO

Announcing a new educational tool!

Businesses will soon have the opportunity to learn how to launch and maintain successful waste-reducing programs from a new training video.

The video is the result of a unique collaboration between Recology, Hollister biotech company Teknova, and SBCIWM's Green Business Program. Teknova is a certified California Green Business and is the video's shining example of recycling right.



Local videographer and editor Kevin Burleigh films a Recology truck in action.

The film, shot by Kevin Burleigh Productions, aims to help businesses improve diversion and reduce contamination by showing workers how to sort correctly.

"We believe that by empowering businesses with the knowledge and tools to recycle properly, we can collectively make a positive environmental impact," said Recology Waste Zero Specialist Gabriella Ulloa.

Follow [@RecologySanBenitoCounty](https://www.instagram.com/RecologySanBenitoCounty) on Instagram to see behind-the-scenes photos and stay informed about the video release.

### RECYCLE QUICK TIP!



Break down cardboard boxes to maximize recycling space in your cart or front loader bin. Place non-recyclable packaging and packing materials (bubble wrap, foam, plastic film) in the grey landfill bin.