

RETHINKER

FALL/WINTER 2025 | FOR SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTS

This Rethinker issue brings you information about the holiday pick-up schedule, gift-giving and food saving tips, and more.

Printed on recycled paper with soy-based inks.

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.

RethinkWaste
Administrative Offices
1245 San Carlos Avenue, Suite E
San Carlos, CA 94070



HOLIDAY PICK-UP SCHEDULE

There will be **NO** Recycle, Compost, and Garbage collection services Christmas Day on Thursday, December 25, 2025 and New Year's Day on Thursday, January 1, 2026. If your regular collection day falls on or after the holiday, your service will be **DELAYED BY ONE DAY**. Regular collection service schedule will resume the week of January 5, 2026.

DECEMBER	DECEMBER	DECEMBER	DECEMBER	DECEMBER	DECEMBER
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
22	23	24	25	26	27
Regular Service	Regular Service	Regular Service	No Service	Service for Thursday Residents	Service for Friday Residents
DECEMBER	DECEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY	JANUARY	JANUARY
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1	2	3

HOLIDAY TREE COLLECTION AND SCHEDULE JANUARY 2–31

Holiday tree collection will take place on your regularly scheduled pick-up day, starting the week of January 2nd. Place trees **NEXT TO** your green compost cart for collection.

For proper TreeCycling, please follow these easy steps:

- 1 Remove ALL decorations and tree stands (flocked trees are accepted, but can't be recycled).
- 2 Place tree next to your green compost cart.
- 3 Trees larger than 8 feet will need to be cut in half in order to be collected. If you have an oversized tree, contact Recology for a special collection at no additional charge.



After January 31st, please cut the tree to fit inside your compost cart or contact Recology for a special pickup.

LOW-WASTE HOLIDAY MEAL TIPS

The holiday season is once again upon us, which means get-togethers, tasty food—and food leftovers! Here are some tips to help reduce food waste at your next party.

- 1. **Shop with a plan.** Know how many people you’re expecting, think about portion sizes and plan accordingly.
- 2. **Coordinate recipes with friends and family** so you don’t end up with three pumpkin pies.
- 3. **Invite guests to bring reusable containers** to take home leftovers.
- 4. **Use your freezer** to extend the life of leftovers. **Expert tip:** Divide leftovers into smaller portions before freezing to lessen prep time for a quick meal!



GIVE GIFTS WITHOUT THE WASTE

‘Tis the season for gifting to loved ones! Read our tips to help reduce your holiday waste and make the holidays a little greener.

- **Creatively wrap presents** – Reuse giftbags, repurpose last year’s holiday cards as gift tags, or wrap presents in reusable items such as dishtowels or reusable bags.
- **Gift experiences** – Gift lasting memories with tickets to the movies, a museum, an activity, or a class or workshop that aligns with your loves ones’ interests.
- **Get crafty** – Making gifts can lead to meaningful keepsakes that come with a lighter ecological footprint. Bake cookies, write a poem, make some candles, or construct a memory book with photos to cherish.



CART SET-OUT



GUIDELINES

- **Set carts out by 6 a.m.** on your collection day.
- **Place carts curbside** with wheels against the curb or roadside, with arrows on cart lids pointed toward the street.
- Leave **two feet of space between each cart.**
- Make sure **lids are fully closed.**
- **Put carts away once serviced** and/or within 24 hours to avoid a possible fine per Municipal Code requirements of your community.

CONTACT INFORMATION

RethinkWaste is a joint powers authority of eleven member agencies* that owns the Shoreway Environmental Center in San Carlos.

RethinkWaste
(650) 802-3500
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RethinkWaste.org

Questions about your recycle, compost or garbage service? Contact Recology:

Recology San Mateo County
225 Shoreway Rd, San Carlos
(650) 595-3900
Recology.com



Questions about the Shoreway Environmental Center, including hours of operation, materials accepted, disposal, etc? Contact South Bayside Industries:

South Bayside Industries
333 Shoreway Rd, San Carlos
(650) 802-8355
SouthBaysideIndustries.com



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*RethinkWaste Member Agencies: Belmont, Burlingame, East Palo Alto, Foster City, Hillsborough, Menlo Park, Redwood City, San Carlos, San Mateo, County of San Mateo, West Bay Sanitary District