



BEHIND THE SCENES

From blue carts to brand-new products

Do you live in an area with recycling service? Ever wonder what happens to your recyclables after you toss them into your blue cart? Let's take a quick trip through the recycling journey:

1. Into the Blue Cart They Go

Cardboard, paper, cans, glass bottles, and rigid plastics all go in together. Be sure all containers are empty, clean, and dry. One cart, many materials, all ready for their next life!

2. Off to the Transfer Station

Your mixed recyclables head to the nearest transfer station — Oroville or Maxwell — where they're piled, sorted, and prepped for the next big step.

3. Onward to the MRF

At the Material Recovery Facility (MRF), a team of people and high-tech machines get to work. They separate everything into clean, tidy streams so each material can be transformed into something new.

SORTED FOR REMANUFACTURING

Cardboard & Paper

Paper of all kinds is sorted by grade, then dropped into a massive blender-like pulping drum with warm water. It swirls into pulp while staples, tape, coatings, and ink are filtered out. What's left is rolled into fresh sheets, ready to make something new.

Metal & Cans

Cans get washed, shredded, and melted in enormous furnaces. Heat



Clean cardboard collected from customers is dumped at the Oroville Transfer Station for transport to the recycling plant.

naturally removes labels and coatings. The clean metal is cast into solid ingots or thin sheets — materials that can be recycled again and again.



Rigid Plastics

Plastics are sorted by resin type and ground into tiny flakes. After washing and density separation, they're melted

into small pellets called nurdles. These nurdles are the building blocks of new plastic items:

- #1: water and soda bottles
- #2: detergent bottles and milk jugs
- #5: tubs and yogurt cups

Glass Bottles & Jars

Glass is separated by color, then workers remove the labels and caps. The glass is washed, dried, and crushed into small pieces called cullet. Cullet is melted to 1600 °F, then molded into new containers. Like aluminum, glass is infinitely recyclable.

CONTACT US!

Recology Butte Colusa
2720 South Fifth Avenue
Oroville, CA 95965

530.533.5868
recology.com

OTHER RESOURCES

calrecycle.ca.gov

THE POWER OF REUSABLES

Why settle for single-use when you can go sustainable?

The most powerful way to cut waste isn't just recycling — it's rethinking. By eliminating disposable items, you invest once and save for years to come, reducing both costs and environmental impact.

BREAKROOM UPGRADE

Say goodbye to throwaway cups, plates, and cutlery. Stock your office kitchen with sturdy ceramic mugs, genuine dishes, and stainless steel utensils. Pair them with a dishwasher, and suddenly your breakroom feels more like an efficient café — without the constant restocking bills.

LINEN, NOT LANDFILL

Trade paper towels and napkins for washable cloth versions. Whether in restrooms or dining areas, they add a touch



of class and reduce daily waste — simply launder and reuse.

REFILL AND REFRESH

Skip the bottled water. Install refillable bottle stations or water dispensers in lobbies, gyms, and offices. It's convenient and sends a clear message: sustainability starts here.



Less garbage means a healthier planet and a healthier bottom line. Make the switch to reusable and compostable materials!

BE WISE WHEN SORTING WOOD

Not all wood can be placed in the organics container for composting. Some types of wood are considered contaminants because they can ruin the composting process.

Think twice before you discard:

1. If it is natural, unfinished, and comes directly from a tree without chemicals, it may be placed in the organics container.
2. Anything manufactured or containing color, sheen, or glue should not go in the green bin.

To keep your container contaminant-free, follow these guidelines:



ACCEPTED

- Raw wood scraps such as lumber offcuts from building projects that are free of paint, dye, varnish, glue, or nails
- Untreated wood chips or sawdust from natural wood
- Small branches and twigs from yard trimmings (under 4" in diameter)
- Wooden chopsticks, skewers, or popsicle sticks if they are 100 percent natural wood and not painted or dyed



NOT ACCEPTED

- Painted, stained, varnished, or pressure-treated wood



- Plywood, medium-density fiberboard, or particle board
- Burned or charred wood from firepits or BBQs



- Wood with nails, screws, or other hardware

Large pieces of wood, such as stumps, that may be difficult to compact in collection trucks can be hauled to:

- Oroville Transfer Station, 2720 South Fifth Avenue, Oroville, 95965.
- Maxwell Transfer Station, 3852 Co Rd 99W, Maxwell, 95955.



NEVER PLACE THESE ITEMS IN YOUR LANDFILL BIN

- Sharps and Medication
- Fluorescent Bulbs
- Flammables, Pesticides, or Herbicides
- Electronic Waste

Maxwell Transfer Station:
<http://bit.ly/3ZPWId3>

Oroville Transfer Station:
<https://bit.ly/4nkp7fN>