



## Recycle-ready packaging is the law



Consumers should see more recyclable containers in grocery aisles, coffee shops, and takeout restaurants thanks to a state law aimed at reducing waste and keeping plastics out of gutters, landfills, and waterways.

**California Senate Bill 54 (SB 54) requires companies that make single-use packaging and food containers to help fund recycling programs and use materials that can be recycled or composted.** Although the law took effect in January 2025, some products that do not meet the new standard, such as styrofoam, are still commonly found.

Styrofoam, a lightweight plastic foam made from polystyrene, is often used for takeout food containers, cups, plates, and packing materials used during shipping. CalRecycle, the state agency responsible for overseeing and enforcing the law, is working with manufacturers to phase it out.

Styrofoam is troublesome because it is virtually impossible to recycle, breaks down into tiny microplastic pieces that litter the environment and harm wildlife, and can take hundreds of years to decompose.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Choose recyclable options when buying or ordering takeout.
- Support compliant businesses — your purchases encourage faster adoption.
- Sort discards correctly in accordance with local guidelines. Do not put styrofoam packaging, cups, plates, or other polystyrene items into the blue recycling cart. Put them into your gray cart.

By staying informed and making conscious choices, you can play a crucial role in turning SB 54's goals into everyday reality.

### WELCOME TO THE TEAM!

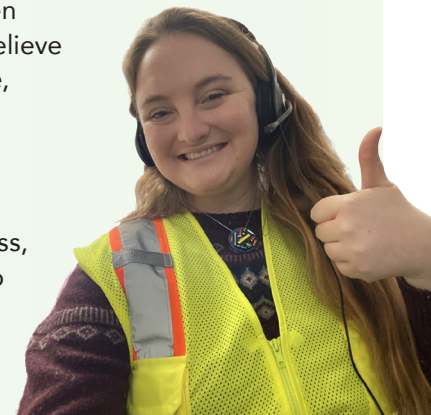
Recology Butte Colusa Counties is happy to introduce **Rachel Ostrander**, our new Waste Zero Specialist.

Rachel has a master's degree in environmental policy and management and, before joining Recology, was a fellow with the California Climate Action Corps, focusing on wildlife resilience, urban greening, and food recovery.

"Those experiences strengthened my commitment to building healthier, more sustainable communities, and taught me that meaningful environmental work often happens when you are hands-on," says Rachel. "I believe strongly in the possibility of a world with zero waste, where resources are valued, and items are reused, repaired, or repurposed."

If you have questions or would like to talk about waste-reduction strategies for your home or business, contact Rachel or other members of the Waste Zero team at [rbccwastezero@recology.com](mailto:rbccwastezero@recology.com).

**Rachel Ostrander**



## DON'T DUMP,

## RECYCLE E-WASTE RIGHT

Electronic waste, more commonly called e-waste, is one of the fastest-growing types of discards. But, be warned, it cannot go into any curbside container.

Instead, bring your discarded gadgets to an authorized drop-off facility where a certified recycling program does the heavy lifting.

Whether it's a toaster, coffeemaker, computer, smartphone, power drill, remote-controlled toy, or even a drone, all of these items qualify as e-waste.

By steering these and all electronics away from the landfill and into proper recycling streams, you help keep hazardous materials out of the environment and give valuable components a second life.

E-waste can be dropped off at the Recology Transfer Station, 2720 South Fifth Ave. in Oroville, and the Maxwell Transfer Station, 3852 Old Hwy 99W in Maxwell, during regular hours of operation.



## FRIENDLY REMINDER: COLLECTION SERVICE CALENDAR

Your blue recycling cart and green organics cart are serviced on alternating weeks throughout the year.

The highlighted weeks (right) show green for yard trimmings and blue for recycling collections.

For a free full-year calendar, contact Recology Butte Colusa Counties at **530.533.5868**.

Recology Butte Colusa Counties  
recology.com | 530.533.5868 | whatbin.com

### 2026 RECYCLING CALENDAR

#### APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

#### MAY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

#### JUNE

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

\* Service delayed by one day if your service is on or after the holiday that week.  
\* El servicio se retrasa un día si su servicio es durante o después del feriado de esa semana.

Yard trimming weeks marked in green. Place your landfill and yard trimmings carts at the curb by 6 AM.

Recycling weeks marked in blue. Place your landfill and recycling carts at the curb by 6 AM.

## RINSE AND RECYCLE RIGHT

Did you know that the way you prepare your recyclables for collection can make a huge difference?

Rinsing bottles, cans, and containers before tossing them in the blue recycling cart isn't just a nice gesture; it helps keep the whole system working efficiently.

Leftover food or liquids can contaminate other materials, making them impossible to recycle and often sending them straight to the landfill.

Help us divert recyclable materials from the landfill and be a Waste Zero Hero: **Keep recyclables empty, clean, and dry.**



**Pro Tip:** Keep a small "recycle-ready" bin in your home to collect rinsed bottles and cans. Once it's

full, dump the contents into your large, blue recycling cart — quick, easy, and mess-free!



## NEVER PLACE THESE ITEMS IN YOUR LANDFILL BIN

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

Maxwell Transfer Station:  
[bit.ly/3ZPWld3](https://bit.ly/3ZPWld3)

Oroville Transfer Station:  
[bit.ly/4nkp7fN](https://bit.ly/4nkp7fN)