

# ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

## TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE GREAT OPPORTUNITIES



### SOLID WASTE RATE STUDY IS IN PROGRESS

A solid waste rate study to evaluate the cost of landfill, recycling and organics collection, processing and disposal services is underway. After the study is completed, a public hearing is tentatively scheduled on May 12 to discuss the proposed rates effective July 1, 2026, with annual adjustments effective on or after each July 1 through July 1, 2030. If approved, new rates will be in effect on July 1.

### SOLID WASTE AND WATER DISCOUNT PROGRAM

The City Council approved a rate assistance program to assist those suffering financial hardship. The program is currently approved through June 30. Qualified households may receive a 20% monthly discount on solid waste service from Recology San Mateo County and a monthly discount on the fixed meter charge for water service from Menlo Park Municipal Water. Those already enrolled do not need to submit another application.

To be eligible for this program, households must be enrolled in the PG&E CARE program, which is another discount program that offers a monthly minimum of 20% on gas and electricity.

Visit the City's webpage at [menlopark.gov/rateassistance](http://menlopark.gov/rateassistance) for more details about the program.

For households who live in the California Water (Cal Water) service area, its Customer Assistance Program provides financial assistance for qualified households. Visit [calwater.com/cap](http://calwater.com/cap) or email [cap@calwater.com](mailto:cap@calwater.com).

El Ayuntamiento de Menlo Park aprobó un programa de asistencia tarifaria para ayudar a quienes sufren dificultades financieras. El programa está disponible hasta el 30 de junio. Los hogares calificados pueden recibir un descuento mensual del 20% en el servicio de residuos sólidos de Recology San Mateo County y un descuento mensual en el cargo del medidor fijo del servicio de agua de Menlo Park Municipal Water. Los hogares ya inscritos no necesitan presentar otra solicitud.

Para ser elegible para este programa, los hogares deben estar inscritos en el programa PG&E CARE, este es otro programa de descuento que ofrece un mínimo mensual del 20% en gas y electricidad.

Visite la página web de la ciudad en [menlopark.gov/rateassistance](http://menlopark.gov/rateassistance) para obtener más detalles sobre el programa.

Para los hogares ubicados en el área de servicio de California Water (Cal Water), el programa de Asistencia Tarifaria para Hogares de Bajos Ingresos (CAP, por su sigla en inglés), ofrece asistencia financiera para hogares calificados. Visite [calwater.com/cap](http://calwater.com/cap) o envíe un correo electrónico a [cap@calwater.com](mailto:cap@calwater.com).

### HOST A ZERO WASTE PARTY BY BORROWING A FREE PARTY PACK!

If you are planning a party or gathering, make your next event waste-free! Zero waste party packs are free and available for Menlo Park residents to borrow. They are perfect for picnics, parties and casual get-togethers in the backyard or at the park. Party packs are available with complete table settings for up to 40 people — that's plates, tumblers, utensils and cloth napkins — all shatter-proof, plastic-free and easy to transport.

For more information or to reserve a party pack or connect with a volunteer host near you, please fill out the form at [bit.ly/partypackmp](http://bit.ly/partypackmp).

This opportunity is brought to you by 350 Silicon Valley and funded by the City of Menlo Park Community Grant funding program. Please email [menlopark@350siliconvalley.org](mailto:menlopark@350siliconvalley.org) with any questions.



### WATER-WISE EDIBLE GARDENS LANDSCAPE WORKSHOP

Saturday, April 18

1-2 p.m.

Arrillaga Recreation Center (Cypress Room)

700 Alma St., Menlo Park

Discover how to grow fruits, vegetables and herbs while conserving water. In this in-person class, learn how to design and maintain a productive edible garden that thrives in dry conditions. Learn smart irrigation techniques, soil improvement strategies and plant selection tips to maximize yields with minimal water use.



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### LOVE OUR EARTH FESTIVAL – SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, April 25  
Noon-3 p.m.  
Cesar Chavez Ravenswood Middle School  
2450 Ralmar Ave, East Palo Alto

Mark your calendar for the 2026 Love Our Earth Festival! This annual free event brings together local organizations, environmental experts and community members for a fun and family-friendly day focused on sustainability and environmental education.

More details and registration can be found online on the citywide calendar at [menlopark.gov/citywide-calendar](http://menlopark.gov/citywide-calendar).

### UPCOMING HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENT

Saturday, May 16  
8:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Location to be announced upon appointment confirmation. Space is limited and appointments are required in advance.

Acceptable Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) items include acids/bases, aerosol cans, automotive supplies (car batteries, motor oil, antifreeze, brake fluids), cleaning products, fertilizers, pesticides, flammable liquids, fluorescent lights (compact and tubes), paints, inks and photo chemicals. Radioactive, explosive, medical and commercial waste is prohibited.

Schedule an appointment online by visiting [smchealth.org/hhw](http://smchealth.org/hhw) or call 650-372-6200.



**City of Menlo Park**  
701 Laurel St.  
Menlo Park, CA 94025  
650-330-6720  
[menlopark.gov](http://menlopark.gov)



### POPULAR SHREDDING EVENT IS BACK

Saturday, Aug. 1  
9 a.m.–noon  
City Corporation Yard  
333 Burgess Ave., Menlo Park

Residents can prevent identity theft by shredding sensitive documents at the City's popular free shredding event. Confidential document destruction includes items such as receipts, checks, pre-approved credit applications, credit card statements, outdated tax returns, pre-printed envelopes, return address labels and business cards.

Participants are limited to three boxes (10" x 12" x 15") per vehicle and materials will be shredded on-site. Documents with paper clips and staples are acceptable.

This event is first come, first served. Please do not bring any e-waste or household hazardous waste materials.

Please follow these guidelines for smoother drop-off service:

- Please label "Shred only" on any shredding materials and leave them in the trunk.
- Remove all other personal items from the trunk to avoid any accidents.
- Open your trunk prior to driving up to the vendors and remain in your vehicle. Vendors will pick up the shredding materials from the trunk.

For more information, please email [publicworks@menlopark.gov](mailto:publicworks@menlopark.gov) or visit the citywide calendar at [menlopark.gov/calendar](http://menlopark.gov/calendar).



**GARBAGE/RECYCLING SERVICE QUESTIONS**  
Recology San Mateo County

- Visit [recology.com](http://recology.com)
- Call 650-595-3900