



RethinkWaste.org
South Bayside Waste Management Authority

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 14, 2004

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Free Spring Compost Giveaway

SAN CARLOS, CA – In honor of International Compost Awareness Week during May 2, 2004 to May 8, 2004, RethinkWaste is teaming up with its member communities to giveaway compost on Saturday, May 1, 2004. The compost is made from yard trimmings collected at the curb from communities every other week, and composted at the BFI-Newby Island composting facility located in San Jose. Residents in the communities of Atherton, Belmont, Burlingame, East Palo Alto, Fair Oaks, Foster City, Menlo Park, San Carlos, and San Mateo may take up to 1 cubic yard of compost (about six full garbage cans) at no charge at select locations between 8 AM and 12 PM as long as supply lasts. Proof of residency is required.

- Atherton: Holbrook-Palmer Park - 150 Watkins Ave
- Belmont: City Hall Parking Lot
- Burlingame: Burlingame High School Parking Lot
- North Fair Oaks: Flood Park – 215 Bay Rd
- Menlo Park: Bayfront Park Entrance
- San Carlos: Highlands Park - Melendy Drive & Aberdeen Dr
- San Mateo: Anchor Rd at 3rd Ave

Compost is the result of nature decomposing organic materials into a dark, nutrient-rich soil. Not only is curbside composting available to residents, but backyard and worm composting are other options. Home composting workshops and bins are available through RecycleWorks, a program of the County of San Mateo.

According to the California Integrated Waste Management Board, “approximately 40 percent of California's waste stream consists of compostable organic materials, including yard trimmings, grass clippings, food scraps, and woody debris.” By participating in curbside collection of yard trimmings, valuable resources are put back into use as rich compost, suitable for general landscaping and as topsoils for lawns. Proper management of yard trimmings reduces the nutrient runoff to wetlands and the Bay, thereby promoting better water quality. Additionally, by applying compost to yards, we are putting organic resources into our soil, providing a non-chemical alternative to fertilizers.

About SBWMA/RethinkWaste: The South Bayside Waste Management Authority/RethinkWaste is a regional agency, formed in 1982 to help local communities manage and reduce waste.

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Transforming the Way We Think About Trash