



**For Immediate Release**

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**RETHINKWASTE ADDS A SECOND DAY PER MONTH FOR FREE PUBLIC TOURS AT THE SHOREWAY ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER IN SAN CARLOS**  
*Free Tours for the General Public Now Held on the First and Third Thursday of the Month*

**SAN CARLOS, CA - August 29, 2014** – RethinkWaste is pleased to announce that a second Public Open House Day will be held monthly at the Shoreway Environmental Center in San Carlos to give the general public and local businesses more opportunities to see the facility in operation. Public Open House Day tours will now take place the first and third Thursday of the month starting with Thursday, September 4, 2014. Tours will be held twice on each of the Public Open House Day, from 9:30–10:30 am and 11:30 am–12:30 pm.

The free tours include visiting the Transfer Station, where garbage, food scraps and yard trimmings are handled; the outdoor education area, with a demonstration garden and composting system, rainwater harvest tank and solar panel display; a state-of-art Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), where recyclables are processed; the Environmental Education Center, which includes museum-quality exhibits, reuse art and a talking robot; and more. Tour participants will learn about the 4Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle and rot), resource conservation and have the unique opportunity to see firsthand what happens to garbage, recyclables and organics once they are picked up from their homes and businesses.

“Our public tours have been such a hit and we are excited to be able to add a second day each month,” said Heather Co, RethinkWaste Environmental Education Associate. “We love to see the enthusiasm of the visitors as they walk through Shoreway and learn about the 4Rs and sustainability so they can make smart choices at home, work or school.”

In addition to the Public Open House Days, RethinkWaste is kicking off its School Groups tour program for the new school year that just started. The School Groups tours seek to engage students and increase their knowledge through active learning experiences and are based on best practices in environmental education that are connected to the California Common Core State Standards. RethinkWaste also provides bus transportation for fourth through sixth grade public and private classes in its service area. Tours for the current school year are offered Monday through Friday through June 2015. Approximately 15,500 people have visited Shoreway to date through the public and school tours program since it was first launched in January 2012.

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MEMBER AGENCIES: Town of Atherton • City of Belmont • City of Burlingame • City of East Palo Alto • City of Foster City • Town of Hillsborough  
City of Menlo Park • City of Redwood City • City of San Carlos • City of San Mateo • County of San Mateo • West Bay Sanitary District

RethinkWaste owns the national award-winning Shoreway Environmental Center, which receives all of the residential and commercial recyclables, organic materials and solid waste collected in its service area by Recology San Mateo County. The Certified LEED® Gold facility by the U.S. Green Building Council also includes a public Transfer Station and Public Recycling Center for use by the general public.

Reservations for groups of five or more are required. Individual reservations are also recommended to ensure space availability. Tour reservations can be made by visiting [www.RethinkWaste.org](http://www.RethinkWaste.org), sending an email to [tours@rethinkwaste.org](mailto:tours@rethinkwaste.org), or calling (650) 802-3506. All tours will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis. There will not be a Public Open House Day on October 16 and no public tours are held in August. The Shoreway Environmental Center is located at 333 Shoreway Road in San Carlos.

### RethinkWaste

RethinkWaste is a joint powers authority of twelve public Agencies (Atherton, Belmont, Burlingame, East Palo Alto, Foster City, Hillsborough, Menlo Park, Redwood City, San Carlos, San Mateo, the County of San Mateo and the West Bay Sanitary District) in San Mateo County, California and is a leader in the delivery of innovative waste reduction and recycling programs. RethinkWaste owns and manages the award-winning Shoreway Environmental Center which receives all the recyclables, organic materials, and materials (i.e. solid waste) collected in its service area. RethinkWaste also provides strategic oversight, support and management of service providers that collect, process, recycle and dispose of materials for its Member Agencies. RethinkWaste (i.e., South Bayside Waste Management Authority) was formed in 1982. For more information on RethinkWaste, please visit our website at [www.RethinkWaste.org](http://www.RethinkWaste.org) or follow us at [www.Facebook.com/rethinkwaste](http://www.Facebook.com/rethinkwaste) or [www.Twitter.com/rethinkwaste](http://www.Twitter.com/rethinkwaste).

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