

The Rethinker is a newsletter dedicated to educating residents and businesses regarding waste reduction, reuse and recycling. With your help, we can achieve our goals of diverting waste from the landfill and maintaining healthy, livable communities.

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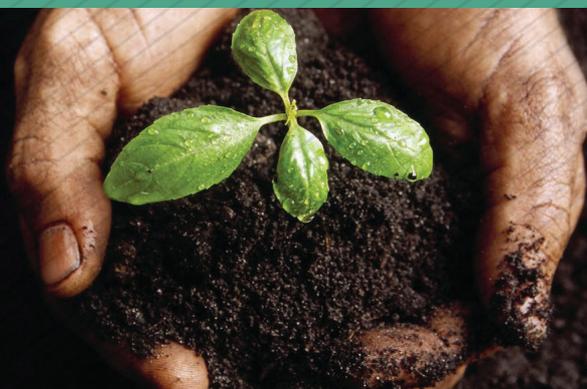
- Fall tips and early holiday ideas
- Gold Excellence Award
- Coats for Kids drive

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San Carlos, California 94070

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RETHINKER

FALL 2014



Fall Tips and Early Holiday Ideas

Fall and the holidays will be here before you know it. Here are tips and ideas to give you a jump start on how to make both a little greener!

- **Decorations:** Whether you're decorating for Halloween, Thanksgiving or Christmas, use natural decorations such as gourds, acorns, flowers, holly and pinecones to add seasonal ambiance to your home. Once the holidays are over, you can compost them in your green Compost Cart. Stick with LED lights for trimming your tree this year as they use far less energy than incandescent light bulbs and provide greater safety by not getting hot.
- **Food:** Buy local, seasonal foods which will not only help save the environment, but also support your community.
- **Parties:** Use reusable plates and silverware, and cloth napkins. Also, set up recycling and composting stations for guests.
- **Packaging:** Say "No" to buying wrapping paper and ribbons. Instead, use old magazines, maps or posters, or reuse colorful boxes and bags from previous years. You can also make the wrapping a part of the gift, such as colorful cloth napkins or scarves.
- **Gifts:** Be creative! Think about making a gift, giving an experience or gift certificates. They'll create treasured memories that will outlast the latest gadget or toy.

Announcements

Thanksgiving | Thursday, Nov. 27

No change to CartSMART collection – set your carts out for collection as usual.
Recology's administrative offices and the Shoreway Environmental Center will be closed.

Christmas Day | Thursday, Dec. 25

New Year's Day | Thursday, Jan. 1

There will be no CartSMART Recycle, Compost and Garbage collection. If your regular collection day falls on or after the holiday, your service will be delayed by one day. Your regular collection service schedule will resume the week of January 5, 2015.

Recology's administrative offices and the Shoreway Environmental Center will be closed on both holidays.





The Rethinker

Ask the Rethinker

Dear Rethinker,

I'm curious to see what happens to my recycling and other materials once they're picked up from my home. How can I find out?

— Wondering in West Bay Sanitary District

Dear Wondering,

We offer free tours to the general public (and schools) of our Shoreway Environmental Center in San Carlos, which is where Recology delivers all of the recycling, compost and garbage that they pick up from residents and businesses in the RethinkWaste service area.

We are excited to announce two Open House Days each month for the general public to come see what happens to these materials firsthand. These are now held the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month (no tour on October 16) from 9:30-10:30 am and 11:30 am-12:30 pm.



Visit www.rethinkwaste.org for more information.

Top North American Award Winner!

RethinkWaste was named the winner of the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) Gold Excellence Award in the Public Education category for its Environmental Education Center and Tour Program at Shoreway.

SWANA's Excellence Awards Program recognizes outstanding solid waste programs and facilities that advance the practice of environmentally and economically sound solid waste management.



Coats for Kids Drive Coming Soon

Fall also means the start of cooler weather. To help families in need throughout our communities, Recology San Mateo County will once again hold its Coats for Kids Collection. Recology drivers will collect new and gently used coats curbside from homes in participating communities from October 13-17 for donation to local nonprofit agencies. Residents are asked to place coats in a clear plastic bag marked "Coats for Kids" and place the bag next to or on top of their blue Recycle Cart on their regular collection day during that week. Collection containers will also be placed at various locations throughout the participating communities and Recology's offices for coat drop off October 13-24.

Visit www.RecologySanMateoCounty.com to learn more.

Information & Resources



The regional public agency that helps local communities reduce waste through innovative programs and partnerships and by managing service contracts. **650-802-3500 | rethinker@rethinkwaste.org | www.rethinkwaste.org**

For questions about your bill and the CartSMART program: **Recology San Mateo County**, 225 Shoreway Road • San Carlos, CA 94070 **650-595-3900 | carts@recology.com | www.recologysanmateocounty.com facebook.com/recologysanmateocounty**

For questions about the Shoreway Environmental Center: **South Bay Recycling**, 333 Shoreway Road • San Carlos, CA 94070 **650-802-8355 | www.sbreycling.net**

For the latest on CartSMART, sustainability & other facts, follow us on social media:



Sign up to get the Rethinker newsletter electronically by going to our website at www.rethinkwaste.org.