

The Rethinker is a newsletter dedicated to educating local residents on ways to reduce, reuse and recycle their waste. With your help, we can achieve our goals of diverting waste from the landfill and maintaining healthy, livable communities.

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RETHINKER

Spring 2016



Keeping compost out of the landfill is more important than ever!

Did you know that approximately one-third of the garbage we send to our local landfill is compostable waste such as food scraps and other organic materials? This material then breaks down in the landfill and generates methane gas which is 25 times more potent than carbon dioxide and directly contributes to climate change. By putting your compostable items (yard trimmings, food scraps, soiled paper plates and cups) into the green Compost cart you can work toward reducing greenhouse gas emissions and help meet California's goal of diverting 75% of landfill waste by 2020.

Separating your compostable material is easy! Just collect your food scraps and soiled paper products in a kitchen pail or other container before emptying into your green Compost cart. Contact Recology San Mateo County at 650-595-3900 if you would like to order a kitchen pail. *Limits may apply.*

Visit www.rethinkwaste.org for more information.

You CAN Compost:

Food Scraps

- Bread, grains and pasta
- Coffee grounds (and filters)
- Fruits and vegetables
- Meat, fish and shellfish (including bones)
- Dairy products

Soiled Paper Products

- Paper plates, cups and containers
- Paper bags, napkins and towels

Yard Trimmings

- Branches, brush and leaves
- Flowers and floral trimmings
- Grasses and weeds



Announcements

Celebrate 5th Annual Earth Day @ Shoreway!

Saturday, April 23rd, 10 am-1 pm | Shoreway Environmental Center, 333 Shoreway Road, San Carlos. Our event includes fun activities for the whole family with informational booths, arts and crafts, games, tours, free compost, and lots more. Everyone who attends will be automatically entered into a special raffle to win an exciting eco-gift basket!

CartSMART Collection Services – Memorial Day

Monday, May 30 | Recology will provide services so please set your carts out for collection as usual. Recology's administrative offices will be closed. The Shoreway Environmental Center will be open.

Green Spring Cleaning

Go green and take advantage of these helpful services available to all residents in the RethinkWaste service area!

On-Call Bulky Item Collection (February 1 – December 31)

For proper recycling and disposal of bulky items that can't be reused, Recology offers a convenient On-Call Bulky Item Collection (BIC) service. This service is great for large appliances, used mattresses and other furniture, as well as electronics. Each single-family household can schedule two pick-ups annually at no additional cost. Property manager/owners can also schedule two On-Call Bulky Item Collections for Multi-family Dwelling residents.

For more information and great ideas for donating the items before you decide to toss them, visit: www.RecologySanMateoCounty.com

Door-to-Door Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Properly and safely managing residential Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and other items such as fluorescent bulbs, computers and sharps is now as easy as picking up the phone or sending an email. Residents just need to follow this easy three-step process and **At Your Door Special Collection** will conveniently collect these items.

Step 1 Call **At Your Door Special Collection** at **800-HHW-PKUP (800-449-7587)** or email atyourdoor@wm.com to schedule an appointment.

Step 2 **At Your Door** will then send you a Collection Kit prior to your appointment.

Step 3 Follow the Kit instructions to properly prepare your materials and set out your items for collection by 7 a.m. on your scheduled collection day near your home as directed.



Free Community Events!

Compost Giveaways

Residents can attend free compost giveaway events in participating communities. Just bring along proof of residency and your own shovels, gloves and containers!

Free compost is also available year-round for residents in the RethinkWaste service area at the Shoreway Environmental Center in San Carlos. *For residential use only, limit two bags per visit.*

Document Shred Events

Bring paper documents and confidential materials for safe and secure shredding done onsite at select locations in participating communities. Limit is 3 standard size banker's boxes (10" x 12" x 15") per household. Proof of residency required.



E-Scrap Recycling Events

Properly recycle your old electronics such as TVs, computers, printers, monitors, cables/cords, cell phones, DVD players, laptops and more!

Find the next event near you!

Free community events are available in participating communities. For an up-to-date calendar visit:

www.rethinkwaste.org/residents/beyond-the-cart/community-events



Information & Resources

The regional public agency that helps local communities reduce waste through innovative programs and partnerships, including the ownership and management of the Shoreway Environmental Center in San Carlos. **650-802-3500 | rethinker@rethinkwaste.org | www.rethinkwaste.org**

For questions about your garbage 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](https://www.facebook.com/RecologySanMateoCounty)**

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

Go green this year and sign up to receive the Rethinker electronically!
Visit www.rethinkwaste.org for more information and to sign up.