

Spring 2013

rethinker



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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Simple. Smart. Green.
www.RethinkWaste.org

Time to Spring Forward!



The spring cleaning bug will be hitting many of us with warmer days ahead. But as we make our checklist of things to do, don't forget to include "cleaning" the earth. After all, it's where we all live! This issue of the *rethinker* is dedicated to Earth Day and tips on living green, saving green.

Living Green, Saving Green

Even the littlest acts can have a big impact. Here's some easy ways to save money, energy and the earth all at the same time!

- Save up errands and shopping trips so you are driving fewer times. This will save you gas money as well as reduce air pollution and traffic congestion.
- Replace incandescent light bulbs with longer-lasting, low-energy compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFL). If every American home replaced just one conventional light bulb with a CFL, we would save enough energy to light more than 3 million homes a year.
- Run your dishwasher only when it's full, and don't pre-rinse. Tests show it doesn't improve dishwasher cleaning and you can save as much as 20 gallons of water per load.
- Use simple ingredients such as baking soda and vinegar to make your own cheap, easy and non-toxic cleaning products that really work! Here's a link for alternative cleaners:
<http://bit.ly/13mn0jd>



- Ditch the paper towel habit and use an old t-shirt, towel or pillow case to dust and clean around your house, which can be washed and used again and again.

Celebrate Earth Day @Shoreway!

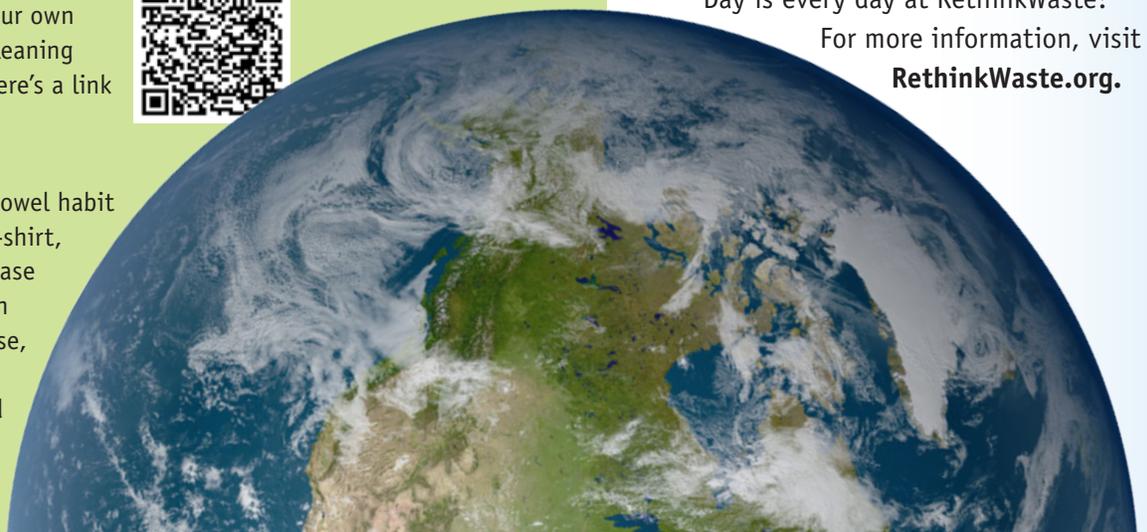
Save the Date! Join us for our 2nd Annual Earth Day@Shoreway Event.



Date: Saturday, April 20
Time: 10 am-2 pm
Location: Shoreway Environmental Center
333 Shoreway Road, San Carlos

The event promises to include fun activities for the whole family with informational booths, music, arts and crafts, games, tours, free compost and lots more! Everyone who attends will be automatically entered into a raffle. We will also be recognizing our "Trash to Art Contest" winners. Don't forget to also bring your empty bottles and cans to our buy-back center for redemption. Earth Day is every day at RethinkWaste!

For more information, visit RethinkWaste.org.



Ask Mario



Dear Mario,

I've been cleaning out my garage and came across a lot of old cleaners, insecticides and other products that I know I can't throw away in the garbage. My friends who live in other RethinkWaste communities have a pick up program for household hazardous waste. When will Burlingame offer the program?

- *Bummed in Burlingame*



Dear Bummed,

Great news! Burlingame is the latest RethinkWaste Member Agency to offer the Door-to-Door Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection program to its residents starting February 1, 2013. The program is a convenient way to manage items such as HHW, universal waste, sharps and other items. Other participating communities include Belmont, East Palo Alto, Foster City Hillsborough, Menlo Park, San Carlos, City of San Mateo, the West Bay Sanitary District and parts of Unincorporated San Mateo County. Visit www.RethinkWaste.org for details.



If you have a question for Mario, please send it to: rethinker@RethinkWaste.org

Announcements

Memorial Day

Monday, May 27

No change to CartSMART collection services by Recology. Set your carts out for collection as usual. Recology's administrative offices will be closed. The Shoreway Environmental Center will be open.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER Public Open House Days

Held the 3rd Thursday of each month
from 9:30am – 12:30pm
For more information email:
tours@rethinkwaste.org



ON-CALL BULKY ITEM PICK-UP SERVICE

For recycling and disposing of bulky and extra items that can't be reused, Recology offers an **On-Call Bulky Item Pick-Up Service**. Each household is entitled to two pick ups annually at no additional cost. This service is great for large items such as appliances or worn sofas, as well as electronics. Limits apply. Visit www.RecologySanMateoCounty.com for more information and great ideas for donating the items before you decide to toss it.

Information & Resources:

Rethink waste The regional public agency that helps local communities reduce waste through innovative programs and partnerships and by managing service contracts.

Telephone: 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
Customer Service: 650-595-3900
carts@recology.com
www.RecologySanMateoCounty.com

For questions about the Shoreway Environmental Center:
SOUTH BAY RECYCLING
333 Shoreway Road • San Carlos, CA 94070
Telephone: 650-802-8355
www.SBRecycling.net



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