



Windsor Refuse and Recycling

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See us on the web at www.unicycler.com

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THE WINDSOR WASTE WATCHER

A Community Service Publication of Windsor Refuse & Recycling

Summer 2006

New Waste Disposal Rules Regulate Electronic Devices

Recently the California Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC) announced new regulations affecting households and businesses relating to the disposal of most electronic devices. Beginning February 9, 2006, many electronic items can no longer be disposed of in the trash, but must be recycled or treated as hazardous waste.

Under this new rule, specific products such as computers and peripherals, cell phones, computers printers, telephones, answering machines, radios

and microwaves as well as mercury thermostats, fluorescent lamps, CRT's and household batteries will no longer be able to be disposed of in the trash. Broadly, all items with digital displays, circuit boards and computer chips now require special handling. These materials contain mercury and other heavy metals, such as lead and cadmium, which may pose a threat to the environment and human health if handled improperly. Visit www.zerowaste.ca.gov/ for additional information on the new regulations.

If you have household electronics, broadly defined as anything with a computer chip, circuit board or digital display, there are several options for proper disposal. The following locations accept most home office equipment, home entertainment systems, and miscellaneous electronics.

Electronics Recycling

Goodwill Donation Centers

- 513 Healdsburg Ave, Healdsburg
- 3535 Industrial Ave, Santa Rosa
- Daily 10-6 Call 523-0550 for additional locations

Goodwill accepts working and non-working electronics, including small kitchen and bath appliances and home entertainment and computer equipment for reuse or recycling. Goodwill sorts material for reuse then uses non working materials in job training programs.

All Central Disposal Sites including

- Healdsburg Transfer Station
- 166 Alexander Valley Rd
- 433-5631 Open daily 8-4

All County disposal sites accept working and non-working electronics, including small kitchen and bath appliances and home entertainment and computer equipment for recycling.

Fluorescent lamps (tubes and bulbs), mercury-containing devices (thermostats, thermometers, etc) and household batteries

may continue to be taken to the Household Toxics Facility located at the Central Disposal Site, 500 Mecham Road in Petaluma. The facility is open Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 7:30-3:30. Visit www.recyclenow.org or call 565-DESK for more information about Community Toxic Collection events in your area. See page 3 for details.

Computer Recycling Center

- 3227 Santa Rosa Ave.
- 570-1600

Accepts a variety of home office and entertainment electronics. Some fees charged. Tax deductible donation. Call for hours or visit www.crc.org



Clean out the garage, closet and yard.
Boxes will be provided for:

**garbage • recycling • wood
yard debris • scrap metal**

Proof of Windsor residency will be required.

Garbage Reincarnation will be on hand to accept your reusable items.

Please! No hazardous or banned materials, including computer monitors, televisions, freon appliances, motor oil, household or automotive batteries, paint, fluorescent bulbs or propane tanks.

Windsor Community Toxics Collection Tuesday, October 25, 2006. Appointment required. Call 877-747-1870 or 795-2025 Appointment line staffed M-F 1-4 pm or leave a message. See Page 2 for details on other toxics disposal options.

Town of Windsor

Community Cleanup

September 8-10 & 15-17

7:00 am to 3:30 pm

Windsor Corporation Yard
8400 Windsor Road

SONOMA COUNTY RECYCLING GUIDE AT&T YELLOW PAGES UNDER RECYCLING IN THE PHONE BOOK

Where can I recycle
batteries &
fluorescent lamps?

How do I dispose
of old paint?

Where do I recycle
an old computer?

ECO-DESK 565-DESK (3375)
WWW.RECYCLENOW.ORG



AT&T Yellow Pages

Debris Boxes • Clean Up Bins Portable Toilets • Temporary Fencing



Call Windsor Refuse & Recycling for all
your construction and cleanup needs

(707) 586-5545
One Call Does It All!

From Customer Service

Contact Us:

Windsor Refuse & Recycling

(707) 586-5545

- billing questions
- missed pickups
- compliments

www.unicycler.com

- service changes
- extra trash
- complaints



Guidelines and Reminders

For everyone's safety and convenience and, due to the high volume of traffic and vehicles in some neighborhoods, we request that you pay special attention to the following:

- Please leave three feet between garbage, recycling and yard waste carts.
- Do not place carts within three feet of vehicles, mailboxes, other obstacles or personal property.
- Carts should not be placed in an area with overhangs, trees or other obstacles.
- Place carts at the road edge the night prior to your service day

To help us provide the best service to you, please observe the following:

- Please park your car in your driveway the night before your collection day wherever possible. There may be a delay in collection of blocked carts.
- Place garbage loosely in your cart. Carts that are overstuffed or have material jammed into them may not empty completely.
- You may opt to set out recycle and yardwaste carts only when full if you choose.
- Please remove your containers from the road edge as soon after they have been serviced as is practical.
- Do not place TV's, computer monitors or household electronics in the garbage. Do not place syringes in trash. These are considered hazardous waste. Call the Eco Desk at 565-3375 (DESK) for disposal information.

Extra Charge for Extra Trash

If you have an overloaded garbage cart or extra bags of garbage piled on top of, or alongside your cart, you will receive an automatic charge of \$5.34 for each extra bag or box of garbage. Carts are considered overloaded if the lid will not close.

If you have extra garbage, call our office at 586-5545 by 4 pm the day preceding your regular collection day to order extra service and avoid confusion when you receive your bill. Do not overstuff your carts as they may not empty completely.

Keeping Odors Out

Some customers have inquired about strategies to minimize the odor of their trash carts.

- Periodically hose out your garbage carts. Allow to drip dry, then add a little baking soda.
- Leave the lid open for a few days after your collection day.
- Use plastic bags for your garbage.
- Compost your food waste. Freeze meat scraps and place in cart when you set it at the curb.



Household Toxics Disposal Options

Household Toxics Facility

Located at the Central Disposal Site, the Household Toxics Facility is open every week for **free drop-off** of toxics from Sonoma County residents. Bring your ID to prove residency.

Appointment: Not required

Hours: **Thursday, Friday & Saturday**
7:30 am-3:30 pm

Location: **Central Disposal Site**
500 Mecham Rd., Petaluma

Transportation tips: State transportation laws limit each vehicle to a maximum of 15 gallons of liquid (with a maximum of 5 gallons per container) or 125 pounds of solid material. • Never mix chemicals. • Place in sealed containers in the trunk, packed to prevent spills. **Not accepted:** Explosives or ammunition • Radioactive materials • Biological wastes (except syringes) • TVs, computer monitors & other electronics • Business waste



How to get there



Community Toxics Collections

Every week there will be a toxics collection somewhere in Sonoma County. Bring your ID to prove residency.

Appointment: Required. Call **795-2025** or toll free **1-877-747-1870**
Appointment line staffed M-F 1-4 pm or leave a message.

Hours: Tuesdays 4-8 pm

Transportation tips: State transportation laws limit each vehicle to a maximum of 15 gallons of liquid (with a maximum of 5 gallons per container) or 125 pounds of solid material. • Never mix chemicals. • Place in sealed containers in the trunk, packed to prevent spills. **Not accepted:** Explosives or ammunition • Radioactive materials • Biological wastes (except syringes) • TVs, computer monitors & other electronics • Business waste

April 2006

Apr 4 Rohnert Park
Apr 11 Healdsburg
Apr 18 Sonoma
Apr 25 Santa Rosa, NW

May 2006

May 2 Sebastopol
May 9 Bodega Bay
May 16 Santa Rosa, SW
May 23 Cloverdale
May 30 Petaluma

June 2006

Jun 6 Santa Rosa, SE
Jun 13 Guerneville
Jun 20 Windsor
Jun 27 Kenwood

July 2006

Jul 11 Rohnert Park
Jul 18 Santa Rosa, NE
Jul 25 Sebastopol

August 2006

Aug 1 Santa Rosa, NW
Aug 8 Glen Ellen
Aug 15 Healdsburg
Aug 22 Larkfield
Aug 29 Santa Rosa, SE

September 2006

Sept 5 Petaluma
Sept 12 Santa Rosa, SW
Sept 19 Cloverdale
Sept 26 Boyes Hot Springs

October 2006

Oct 3 Sebastopol
Oct 10 Santa Rosa, NE
Oct 17 Guerneville
Oct 24 Windsor
Oct 31 Forestville

November 2006

Nov 7 Santa Rosa, NW
Nov 14 Sebastopol
Nov 21 Santa Rosa, SE
Nov 28 Rohnert Park

December 2006

Dec 5 Petaluma
Dec 12 Cotati
Dec 19 Santa Rosa, SW

January 2007

Jan 9 Healdsburg
Jan 16 Santa Rosa, NE
Jan 23 Sebastopol
Jan 30 Sonoma

February 2007

Feb 6 Santa Rosa, NW
Feb 13 Monte Rio
Feb 20 Cloverdale
Feb 27 Santa Rosa, SE

March 2007

Mar 6 Windsor
Mar 13 Petaluma
Mar 20 Santa Rosa, SW
Mar 27 Guerneville

April 2007
Apr 3 Rohnert Park

Toxics Rover pick up service

Have your toxics picked up at your home. Services are provided on a first-come-first-serve basis. Each Wednesday the Toxic Rover will be serving a different region within Sonoma County. Allow several weeks advance notice.

Fee: \$35/pick up. Limited free pick up available for homebound seniors and the disabled.

Appointment required: Call **795-2025** or toll-free **1-877-747-1870**
Appointment line staffed M-F, 1-4 pm or leave a message.

Hours: Wednesdays, limited appointments available.



Cell Phone Recycling

Beginning July 1st, 2006 all retailers of cellular phones must have in place a system for the acceptance and collection of used cell phones for reuse, recycling, or proper disposal. What could be easier than taking your cell phone back to where you bought it for recycling? When you buy a new cell phone, leave your old cell phone at the store for recycling. Cell phones are considered hazardous waste, so please don't put them in your garbage. The Sonoma County Recycling Guide in your SBC phonebook yellowpages and www.recyclenow.org provide additional recycling options for your old cell phone in Sonoma County. Thanks for being a responsible cell phone user.

Rechargeable Battery Recycling

Starting July 1, 2006, stores selling rechargeable batteries must now take back used rechargeable batteries for recycling. Rechargeable batteries include Ni-Cad, NiMH (nickel metal hydride), lithium ion, or sealed lead-acid battery. These are the kinds of batteries you find in cell phones, laptops, power tools and a lot more. They can also look just like alkaline batteries, so read the label. All batteries are considered hazardous waste, so please don't put your batteries in the garbage. For more recycling options, see the Sonoma County Recycling Guide in your SBC phonebook yellowpages, or visit www.recyclenow.org. Thanks for being a responsible recycler.

Fluorescent Tube & Bulb Recycling

Fluorescent bulbs and tubes are considered hazardous waste, so please don't put them in your garbage. Fluorescents contain toxic mercury vapor and must be handled with care. Bring them to the Household Toxics facility or to a Community Toxic Collection event (see above). The Sonoma County Recycling Guide in your SBC phonebook yellowpages and www.recyclenow.org provide additional recycling options. Thanks for conserving energy by using fluorescents and for disposing of them properly.

Still have questions about toxics?

Visit www.recyclenow.org on the web or call the Eco Desk at 565-3375

Spring Cleaning Tips to Help Reduce Waste!

This spring, take a little time to sort out and pass on some of those reusable items, or to recycle just a little bit more. Spring cleanup projects can generate a lot of extra waste. Some extra effort on your part can help Bay Area landfills avoid tons of extra waste.

Fortunately, there are some easy ways to get rid of some of your trash (another person's treasure) without sending it all to the landfill.

Here are some suggestions:

- Type up an email list of your goodies and send it out to friends. This gives friends first shot at items that you value but are ready to let go of. Knowing that your "treasures" are going to a friend may help you let go of stuff you have been hanging on to.
- Take reusable items to a local thrift stores.
- Place an ad in the Gazette (listings for materials under \$2000 are free)
- List items on SonoMax, a material exchange program that list available and wanted items for free. This free online resource allows members of the community to search for used items they need or give up items they have no use for or might otherwise dispose of. Find them online at SonoMax.org

Thrift & Second Hand Stores

- Bloomin' Kids

Quality clothing, toys & furniture
Consignment only
8499 Old Redwood Hwy.
Open daily. 838-1561

- Materials Reuse Yard

Building materials, hardware & general goods accepted. Many Star Wars collectibles in stock. Dropoff or pickup available.
470 Caletti Avenue
Open Mon-Sat 838-8947

- Healdsburg Transfer Station

Many items accepted and sold to public. Building materials, household goods, books, clothing and other items accepted
166 Alexander Valley Road, Hbg
Open Daily 433-0321

Look under "Thrift Stores", "Second Hand Dealers" and "Consignment" in the yellow pages for other additional locations to drop off (or seek out) new treasures.

Durable Medical Equipment Sought for Reuse

Walkers, canes, and bath equipment are thrown away daily by nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Wheelchairs, crutches and canes sit unused in garages and backyards. Meanwhile, many people struggle to afford this very same equipment that can improve their mobility, dignity and safety. Access to necessary medical equipment by those in need has been becoming increasingly difficult.

Home CARES is a local, nonprofit program

that has been collecting durable medical equipment and giving it to individuals in need since 1996. They are committed to increasing access to durable medical equipment while reducing needless environmental waste.

They have a central location in Petaluma where serviceable medical equipment and supplies can be dropped off. Please call Marcie at 695-0861 and leave a message. Best times are evenings between 7-10 pm or on weekends.

From Customer Service

Contaminated Recycling

- Your recycling and yardwaste will not be collected or you may be charged additional fees if contamination is found in your yard waste or recycle carts. Keep all trash and plastic bags out of the green and blue carts. Styrofoam, plastic bags, non-container plastics such as toys, baby bathtubs and nursery pots, carpeting and clothing do not belong in the recycle or yard waste carts. See Recycle Guide on back page or call 586-5545.
- Reusable items should be taken to thrift or second hand stores. They do not belong in recycle carts and will be disposed of as garbage.

Billing

- Delinquent accounts are subject to late fees. Please be sure to pay your bill in a timely manner.
- Residential customers are billed quarterly; three months in advance. Commercial accounts are billed monthly in arrears.

Damaged Cart?

- If your cart is damaged, please call Windsor Refuse & Recycling at 586-5545 to request a replacement. Carts are exchanged or repaired the day after your regular collection day so be sure to leave it out after it is emptied for exchange the following day.

Windsor High School Students Step Up Recycling

Windsor High School students are stepping out in the community to show their support for recycling and the environment. For their junior and senior high school projects, some students have chosen to help promote recycling in Windsor. With the assistance of Windsor Refuse & Recycling outreach staff, four Windsor High School students worked with Cali Calmecac Charter School, Mattie Washburn Elementary School, and the Boys and Girls Club, with the goal of providing recycling education and improving recycling. Windsor High School is unique in that the school has an environmental core option for juniors and seniors that has significantly helped raise environmental awareness of students on campus.



Alyssa Rizo works on recycle mural at Cali Calmecac to promote recycling awareness

These four students could have chosen any project, but instead chose to focus on recycling. This branching out into the community helps the high school students take environmental education to the next level, they do not merely receive information, they need to process it in a manner where it can be effectively shared with others. This method of older students mentoring younger students is an effective way to inspire and engage younger students.

When students talk to

other students about what they have learned, they understand recycling even more while making a difference for the environment.

Mattie Washburn Elementary School

Georgia Anton, a senior at Windsor High School, worked with the elementary school to help the school recycle food and beverage containers from lunch. Before Georgia got involved, the school recycled paper and cardboard, but nothing from lunch. Georgia began by talking to students during lunch about recycling and then gave numerous presentations on

recycling to classes on campus. Finally, Georgia put out recycling containers during lunch and guided and monitored the students through the new recycling process.

The response from both teachers and students has been very positive.

Teachers are happy to see the kids recycling and the students enjoy working with Georgia and learning about recycling. School staff report that they have noticed a decrease in the number of trash bags from lunch by almost half thanks to Georgia's work!



Nykky Caughell works with children at the Boys and Girls Club in Windsor.

Cali Calmecac Charter School

Alyssa Rizo and Natalie Carranza, both juniors at Windsor High School, worked together at the elementary school to help improve the charter school's recycling program. Cali Calmecac has had a recycling program in place for many years recycling paper, cardboard, and items from lunch. Alyssa and Natalie both previously attended Cali Calmecac Charter School and wanted to help the school strengthen their recycling program and raise awareness. The two began by visiting numerous classrooms to talk to kids about both the importance of recycling and what they should and should not recycle. Alyssa and Natalie looked in recycling and trash cans with students to discuss items they found and where they should go. Natalie and Alyssa also painted approximately 15 different recycling symbols on the ground of the school's quad. The symbols are paintings of either planet earth or the "recycling symbol." The symbols serve two purposes: first to designate where recycling containers on campus belong, and second to promote an awareness of the environment and recycling on campus. Staff at

See "High School" ... continued next page

Single Stream Recycling Guide

**No garbage, plastic bags or styrofoam please!
Clean and empty containers and paper only.**

*Residential recycling is picked up on your **regular garbage day**. Depending on service type, multifamily and commercial may have a different collection schedule.*

Businesses can arrange for a free recycling service by calling 586-1478.

Place all materials together in recycle container:

Cardboard and Mixed Paper

Flatten or cut boxes if needed to fit loosely inside cart. Place shredded paper in paper bags.

YES

- ✓ White & Colored Paper
- ✓ Office Paper & Envelopes
- ✓ Newspaper
- ✓ Junk Mail & Envelopes
- ✓ Magazines & Catalogs
- ✓ Paperback & Phone Books
- ✓ Small Pieces of Cardboard
- ✓ Single Layer Cardboard (cereal, shoe boxes, etc.)
- ✓ Corrugated Cardboard

NO

- ✗ Plastic Bags
- ✗ Food Contaminated Paper
- ✗ Pizza Boxes
- ✗ Waxed Cardboard or Paper
- ✗ Photographs or Blueprint Paper
- ✗ Napkins, Towels, Tissues



Milk Cartons and Juice/Rice/Soy boxes

Empty containers only. Remove plastic straws & tops

YES

- ✓ Milk Cartons
- ✓ Drink Boxes
- ✓ Juice Concentrate Cartons
- ✓ Frozen Food Packaging

NO

- ✗ Plastic Lined Cartons
- ✗ Straws or Pop Tops
- ✗ Plastic Bags



Glass Bottles & Jars

Remove caps to recycle. Empty containers only.

YES

- ✓ Clear & Colored Glass
- ✓ Food & Beverage Jars
- ✓ Leave Labels On

NO

- ✗ Window or Mirror Glass
- ✗ Ceramic, Dishes or Stemware



Plastic Containers

Remove caps to recycle. Empty containers only.

YES

- ✓ Plastic Household Containers
- ✓ Milk & Water Jugs
- ✓ Soda & Juice Bottles
- ✓ Shampoo & Detergent
- ✓ Yogurt & Deli Tubs
- ✓ Vitamin Bottles

NO

- ✗ Plastic Caps
- ✗ Plastic Bags
- ✗ Styrofoam



Metal Cans

Remove caps to recycle. Leave labels on. Empty containers only.

YES

- ✓ Aluminum Cans
- ✓ Steel & Tin Cans
- ✓ Bimetal Cans
- ✓ Empty Paint/ Aerosol Cans

NO

- ✗ Scrap Metal
- ✗ Pots/Pans
- ✗ Frames/Windows
- ✗ Car Parts



Yardwaste Recycling

Compost Program Provides Many Benefits

Although putting your clean yard trimmings in your green can and placing it at your curb are simple actions, they set off a chain of events that provides many local benefits.

The contents of your green cart are delivered to Sonoma Compost which runs the countywide Organic Recycling Program. Sonoma Compost converts your yard waste

into organic compost and mulch that's coveted by farmers, landscapers and backyard gardeners.

Since the Organic Recycling Program began,

approximately 700,000 tons of yard trimmings, brush and tree trimmings have been put to beneficial use. This significant organic recycling effort is an important part of how our county and local cities, through the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency, have been able to meet state mandated diversion goals.

In addition to making these premium quality products available for sale, Sonoma Compost donates soil products to local schools and community gardens. Local cities get free compost and mulch for special projects such as park development, landscaping and erosion control.

When you apply compost, you not only improve your garden or landscape, but also help replenish our County's valuable topsoil. Compost returns valuable organic matter to the soil as well as essential nutrients and microorganisms that are lost through erosion and the leaching effect of irrigation.

By using mulch you suppress weeds, conserve soil moisture and moderate soil temperatures. As mulch slowly breaks down, it becomes incorporated into the soil and creates a haven for earthworms that concentrate nutrients and help aerate your soil.

A critical benefit of compost and mulches is that they can help eliminate the need for toxic chemicals in both food production and landscaping. Research shows that healthy soils and vigorous plants are not as vulnerable to soil and plant pests and diseases.

You can get more information about the Organic Recycling Program and the products made from your yard trimmings by visiting Sonoma Compost's web site at www.sonomacompost.com or calling them at (707) 578-5459.

They also have an attractive demonstration garden at their site at 550 Mecham Road near Cotati.



Keep your green clean!
Don't place plastic bags and other contaminants in your curbside yard debris container. Yard debris only.

High School ... continued from Page 3

Cali Calmecac have reported a difference on campus with the recycling program, stating that students seem more aware and involved with the recycling program since Natalie and Alyssa worked at the school.

Boys and Girls Club

Nykky Caughell, a junior at Windsor High School, attended the Boys and Girls Club most of her life and now works there part-time while going to school. Nykky actually started the first recycling program at the Boys and Girls Club. She states that approximately 100 kids go through the Boys and Girls Club daily and none were recycling. She felt that the Boys and Girls Club provided a good opportunity to create awareness and change by providing recycling and recycling projects for the kids that use the program. Nykky started by placing recycling containers, signs, and posters throughout the site. Next she started talking to the kids about the effects and implications of recycling and reported that many kids were astonished by some of the information about garbage and recycling. Nykky pioneered the "Torch Club" at the Boys and Girls Club that invites kids from the program

to approach businesses in the community to talk to them about recycling. Nykky suggested the Club have a "Green Week" during spring break with activities and games focused around recycling, beginning a worm bin to compost food scraps, and starting an organic garden. Nykky hopes to take advantage of her time working at the Boys and Girls Club to create environmental awareness and involvement of kids in the community.

Windsor High School students are showing their commitment to the environment and providing a benefit to the community. Trash going into landfills affects everyone in California. The more resources we conserve ensures a better future for everyone. As the students at Windsor High School learned, recycling has many benefits and is one of the easiest things we can all do.

If you would like to know more about what you can do to promote recycling in the community or in your home or business, feel free to call our Recycling Outreach and Education Specialist at (707) 765-6424 for information and assistance.