



Windsor Refuse and Recycling

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See us on the web at www.unicycler.com

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Windsor Recycling News

A Community Service Publication of Windsor Refuse & Recycling

Fall 2007

Collection Services Contract Awarded to Windsor Refuse & Recycling

The Town of Windsor recently awarded a new Franchise Agreement for the collection of solid waste, recyclables and yard waste to Windsor Refuse & Recycling (WRR). After a competitive

bid process, WRR was awarded the new 10 year contract to continue to provide collection services to the Town. There will be some new and enhanced services to customers as well as an all new collection vehicle fleet! Watch for the new "split-body" collection vehicles that will be serving Windsor neighborhoods. These vehicles are built with dual compartments so that garbage and recycling can both be collected in the same vehicle. This reduces truck trips through your neighborhood by 1/3, reducing greenhouse gas emissions as well as wear and tear on neighborhood streets. Included in the Agreement is a **new rate structure** that rewards customers who reduce waste and recycle more. The WRR website (www.unicycler.com) lists numerous resources available to customers to promote waste reduction. In addition, outreach staff are available to work with businesses to identify strategies for waste reduction, including site audits and staff training. Windsor Refuse and Recycling is proud to have been your service provider for the past 10 years and looks forward to continuing to



Brand new collection vehicles have two compartments. These vehicles can pick up recycling and garbage in one trip through your neighborhood.

provide high quality recycling and collection services to the Town. We are pleased that the Town elected to recognize Windsor Refuse and Recycling as the best value for the community.

Important Notice for Windsor Residents

A new rate schedule goes into effect January 1, 2008

Save money and help the environment by reducing your discards and recycling more. The new rate structure (see flier inside or on our website at www.unicycler.com) is designed to reward customers who recycle more and discard less. Take advantage of available cost savings:

- **Recycle what you can.** See the recycle guide on the back page of this newsletter or on our website at www.unicycler.com. By recycling more, you can reduce your solid waste cart size and pay less. To make it easier to recycle, all residential solid waste customers are entitled to two yard waste and two recycle carts at no additional cost.
- **Compost Your Veggies** Vegetative food waste can now be composted in your green yardwaste cart. See page 3 for more ideas about getting food waste out of the trash.
- **Examine your purchasing habits** Consider the availability of disposal or recycling options when making your product and packaging decisions. Visit our website for Go Green shopping tips.
- **Recycling Only Rate** How green are you? If you don't generate much trash and you self-haul to the transfer station, you can opt for recycle only service.

Have something that can't be recycled curbside but might find a home somewhere else? There are many resources available including:

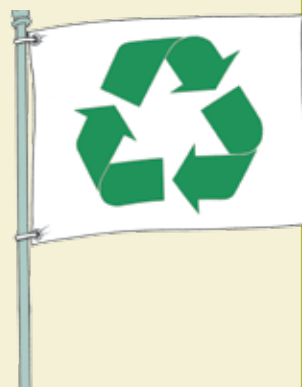
- **SonoMax** www.sonomax.org This online exchange helps connect people with stuff. List items you have available or search for items you want on Sonoma County's Material Exchange website
- **Sonoma County Recycle Guide** www.recyclenow.org or in the ATT Yellow Pages behind the tab under Recycling. An A-Z listing for directing materials away from the landfill. Also contains complete information for proper toxics disposal.

Take the Go Green Pledge

Take the Go Green pledge and commit to new ways to reduce, reuse, recycle and even compost. Residents and businesses can go to the Go Green link on our website at www.unicycler.com and select three or more of the Go Green steps listed. Participants will receive a cool "Love Your Mom" refrigerator magnet, or for businesses—a window sticker to publicly acknowledge your commitment to reduce waste. Kids can take the pledge and get a bookmark to remind them of their commitment to reduce waste and to notice how we impact the environment.



Decreasing waste means a greener world for all of us, and can mean significant cost savings on disposal fees for you. Take the Go Green Pledge and push the envelope in your waste reduction efforts. Choose the Go Green actions that are new to you and reduce your environmental impact even more. North Bay Corporation takes waste reduction and recycling seriously. Need help with some of the Go Green ideas? Have a few good ideas of your own you want to share? Call us at 585-5545 and ask for a Recycling Coordinator. Please visit our web site at www.unicycler.com for more Go Green action ideas!



Holiday Tree Collection

Curbside Collection- Week of December 31

Place your tree at the curb the night before your regular collection day. Trees in sections no longer than six (6) feet to be collected.

Tree Drop-off- Dec 26 - Feb 1

Drop-off your whole tree any day between Dec 26 and Feb 1 at the Windsor Corporation Yard. Place trees inside collection boxes. Flocked trees cannot be composted and must be disposed of at the landfill.

Tree Recycling Guidelines

- Remove all lights, tinsel, ornaments and metal or plastic stands.
- Do not place your tree inside a plastic bag.
- Flocked trees cannot be composted and will not be collected.

Non-profit Tree Pickup Fundraiser:

A local non-profit will pick up your tree for a small fee. Call 565-3333 to schedule an appt.

Greenwaste Cart Collection

Unflocked holiday trees may be cut into four foot sections and placed inside your greenwaste container.



From Customer Service

Contact Us:

Windsor Refuse & Recycling
www.unicycler.com
 (707) 586-5545
 PO Box 1916
 Santa Rosa CA 95402



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.
- Do not place carts in areas 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 whenever 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.

New Services for Windsor Residents

New Bills

Watch for a new billing system coming soon from Windsor Refuse & Recycling. The new bill is printed on stationery and has a return envelope. No more flimsy carbon paper envelopes. Be sure to check out the inserts that contain important information regarding your solid waste and recycling service as well as periodic special bulletins from the Town.

Online/Auto Pay

Like the convenience of on-line payments? Pay your bill from our website at www.unicycler.com or sign up for auto-pay with your bank. Need more information? See your bill for more information or call your lending institution.

12th Month Free

Pay for 11 months in advance and get the 12th month free. From December 1 through January 15 each year, residents may elect to pay their garbage bill in advance and get one month of free service. You must call our office prior to January 15 each year to take advantage of this offer. If you change your can size during the year, there will be an adjustment to accommodate your new service level on your bill.

Recycling Only Rate

Windsor Refuse and Recycling offers a Recycling Only rate to super residential recyclers who self-haul their garbage to the transfer station but want the convenience of weekly recycling pickup at home.

Senior Citizen Rate

Senior citizens are eligible for a reduced rate for collection services. Pick up an application at the Senior Center, the Town Hall offices or at our office in Santa Rosa. We need a copy of a valid photo ID and a completed application. Save 15% on collection costs!

Walk-In Service

Seniors or disabled individuals who do not live with an able-bodied person may be eligible for free side yard service. This service requires a written request from an MD.

Bulky Item Pickup

Need a couch or stove hauled away? Have an item that you need to dispose that is too large for your trash cart? Thrift store doesn't want it? Call Windsor Refuse and Recycling for year-round Bulky Item Pickup. Call our office at 585-5545 for pricing.

Curbside Battery Recycling

Windsor Refuse & Recycling now offers curbside recycling of household batteries. Call us for a bright yellow heavy duty ziplock bag or pick one up at the Town Corporation Yard or Town Hall offices. Place your household batteries in the bag and seal securely. Place the bag ON TOP of your residential curbside recycle cart and our driver will collect it on your regular collection day. Residents can also take household batteries to all Longs Drug Stores. See our website for more battery recycling options.

Compost Your Veggies

Vegetative food waste can now be placed in your residential yard waste cart for curbside collection. Over 30% of residential waste is food waste. Placing vegetative food waste to the yard waste bin (or your own backyard composter) can help save you money and create compost and mulch to enrich Sonoma County soils. Include vegetables and peelings, bread and pasta (no sauce). Please, no meat, bones, oil or



cheese. **Commercial accounts:** You can get a special rate for directing food waste to the compost program instead of to the landfill. Call our office for more information or see our website for details.

Street Sweeping Maps Online

To find out your sweep day, click on the streetsweeping link on our website and you will be directed to a map that shows the sweep schedule for your neighborhood. To help assure the cleanest streets, park in your driveway the night before sweep day and be sure to remove all obstacles from the street such as basketball hoops and bicycles.

Hazardous Waste Disposal

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.

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 • Business waste (except syringes) • TVs, computer monitors & other electronics • Business waste

The Household Toxics Facility will be closed Dec. 25-29, 2007

Appointment: Not required

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

Location: **Central Disposal Site (Building 5)**
500 Mechem Rd., Petaluma

Community Toxics Collections Schedule

Every week there is 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	Hours: Tuesdays 4-8 pm
October 2007	December 2007	February 2008
2 Santa Rosa, SE	4 Petaluma	5 Santa Rosa, NW
9 Santa Rosa, NE	12 Santa Rosa, NE	12 Monte Rio
16 Larkfield	18 Santa Rosa, SE	19 Cloverdale
23 Windsor	January 2008	26 Santa Rosa, SE
30 Forestville	8 Healdsburg	March 2008
November 2007	15 Santa Rosa, NE	4 Windsor
6 Santa Rosa, NW	22 Sebastopol	11 Boyes Hot Springs
13 Sebastopol	29 Sonoma	18 Santa Rosa, SW
20 Cotati		25 Guerneville

BUSINESS HAZARDOUS WASTE

Services are available for businesses that qualify as Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators per regulations (CCR Title 22 9962.260, 10), which are businesses that generate 100 kilograms (27 gallons liquid or 220 pounds solid) or less of hazardous waste per month.

Call 795-2025 or toll-free 1-877-747-1870

Don't put toxics in the garbage.

Home Composting: Reduce Waste and Enrich Soils

Do you want to learn more about reducing discards from your home that are landfill bound? Take a look at what is left in your trash and you will likely find a lot of food waste that could be composted. To cut back on sending these resources to the landfill, consider setting up a compost routine at home. It's easy and will work for all types of households—whether you have a yard or not.

Preliminary waste sort statistics in Sonoma County indicate that nearly 50% of the materials sent to landfills is organic waste. This material includes food scraps (nearly 30% of the residential waste stream), compostable paper and yard debris. When put into landfills, these products create methane, a greenhouse gas 21 times stronger than carbon dioxide. By setting up a compost pile, you can keep these materials from being sent to the landfill and create a nutritious compost to enrich your garden.

Here's how:

❖ **Backyard composting:** Windsor Refuse and Recycling made a special purchase of the Smith & Hawken BioStack home compost bin and is making them available to customers at a reduced rate of \$69. It comes with a booklet that describes the ABC's of composting. There are also many other backyard composters available on the market, or you can build your own. Contact Windsor Refuse & Recycling customer service at 586-5545 to order. See box below for more details.

❖ Apartment Composting:

Check out the Happy Farmer Kitchen Composter at www.scdworld.com or build your own worm bin out of Tupperware. See www.nyccompost.org to learn how.

❖ Green Cart Composting:

Home composting not for you? Residential customers may now include all vegetative food waste in the green yard waste cart for weekly collection. Feel free to place veggie peelings and fruit, cooked pasta (no sauce) and bread products in the yard waste bin along with garden and yard trimmings. Wrap food waste in brown paper bags or newspaper if you like. Please, no meat or bones, cheese or oil in the green cart.



BioStack Composter On Sale Now

Got yard cuttings to dispose? Food waste from your kitchen? Instead of sending these organic materials to the landfill, choose to compost in your own backyard with the Smith & Hawken BioStack Composter. This stackable compost bin is durable and easy to use, and will break down your yard and food waste materials into a fine soil amendment to use for all types of gardening.

Get familiar with the fourth R: reduce, reuse and recycle and ROT. Compost is nature's way of recycling. Windsor Refuse & Recycling is pleased to offer this sturdy composter to customers at our cost of \$69. This is a significant savings over retail prices. Give our office a call at 586-5545 to arrange to pick up your composter today!

❖ Other Resources:

♦ **Sonoma County Master Gardeners** at <http://groups.ucanr.org/sonomamg/>. This site is an excellent place to learn more about composting and gardening. They have classes and workshops and are available by phone to answer your gardening and compost questions.

♦ **California Integrated Waste Management Board:**

www.ciwmb.ca.gov/FoodWaste. This site has lots of good information about the volume of food being disposed, a hierarchy for addressing food scrap management and practical help for setting up compost programs.

♦ **Windsor Refuse & Recycling website:** www.unicycler.com. Check out our site to learn more about what you can do to Go Green.

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, carpeting and clothing do not belong in the recycle or yard waste carts. See the Recycle Guide on back page or call 586-5545 for more information.
- 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.

Missed Trash?

- **Garbage service begins at 7 am. Be sure to have all carts at the curb the night before your regular collection day.**

Drive Safely

- With continued growth and road construction in Sonoma County, please drive and park with extra caution, especially on garbage days. Your safety and the safety of our employees is our highest concern.

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 extra charge. 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 vegetative food waste in your yard waste can (or backyard composter). Freeze food waste and place in cart when you set your cart at the curb.

Garbage rates are Going Up.... but what you pay could actually go down by reducing your discards and recycling more.

The enclosed flier (also available at www.unicycler.com) provides notice of the upcoming rate schedule that will go into effect January 1, 2008.

Please note 20 gallon cart size will realize a significant cost savings instead of an increase.

For example, if you presently subscribe to a 68 gallon garbage cart and you reduce to a 32 gallon cart you can save \$10.25 per month. You can save even more by downsizing to a 20 gallon cart. All solid waste customers are entitled to two yard waste and two recycle carts at no additional cost.

Recycling saves valuable natural resources and reduces dependence on landfills. We appreciate your participation. Please give us a call at 586-5545 to reduce your can size and to learn more about how you can reduce waste.



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 586-5545.

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



Organics Recycling

Did you know that the contents of your yardwaste cart is turned into compost and mulch? It is placed on home gardens and on school grounds, and is used by farmers and landscapers. Please be sure to keep garbage, plastic bags and plant pots, as well as glass and all other debris out of the green cart. It could end up on a garden growing tomorrow's supper!

1) Place only *clean green* in your green cart:

- grass cuttings
- prunings
- leaves
- weeds
- berry vines
- garden waste
- **New!** vegetative food waste from your kitchen
- tree trimmings less than 4 inches in diameter

2) These are *not allowed* in your green cart:

- Garbage
- Plant Pots
- Plastic Bags
- Dirt
- Rock
- Wood Items
- Glass
- Metal
- Pet Waste
- Bamboo
- Palm Fronds
- Poison Oak
- Cooking Oil or Fat
- Meat

3) Green carts are collected each week:

- Set container at curb the night before your regular collection day.
- Leave three feet of space between containers.
- All yard waste must be inside container. Loose material will not be collected.
- Do not put yard waste in plastic bags.
- **Contaminated yard waste won't be collected.**

Got Cooking Oil?

Do you cook with oil? Not sure what the proper disposal method is when you are done? Cooking oil (and other liquids) doesn't belong in garbage recycling or yard waste carts, it is not hazardous waste, and you can't pour it down the drain, so what's a chef to do?

When cooking oil or other liquid waste is placed in garbage carts, it can squish out of collection vehicles and cause slick and icky messes on the roads. In order to protect stormwater drains and Sonoma County creeks, we need to be careful to avoid such messes.

Fortunately, there is an environmental solution. Several Sonoma County restaurants accept clean, liquid vegetable oil that is mostly free of any solids, meat scraps or water. Yokayo Biofuels, a CDFA-licensed grease collection center based in Ukiah, collects the used vegetable oil and processes it into biodiesel.

So when you are done cooking that turkey, making french fries or other oil intensive foods, run the liquid through a strainer or cheese cloth, bottle it up and call one of the following locations. Most accept up to 10 gallons of clean vegetable oil that is mostly free of solids or water. Call for hours and delivery instructions.

Zin Restaurant & Wine Bar

344 Center Healdsburg -473-0946

Puerto Vallarta

3333 Cleveland Ave. SR - 575-4374

Pick's Drive Inn

117 S. Cloverdale Blvd. Cloverdale 894-2962

Can't make it to one of these locations? Saturate kitty litter or some other absorbent with the oil and bag securely in plastic before disposing in trash.

Visit www.recyclenow.org for additional Sonoma County locations that accept cooking oil.

Motor Oil Recycling

If you change your own oil, you probably know that the only legal way to dispose of used oil and oil filters is to recycle them.

- Never place used oil or filters in recycle carts or in the garbage.
- Never allow used oil to enter storm drains.

Used Motor Oil Dropoff:

The following Used Oil Collection Centers accept oil filters and up to five gallons of used motor oil. There is no charge. When you transport oil, be sure to put it in a tightly sealed plastic container, and put your filter in a sealed bag. Take your oil to

collection centers only during business hours.

Used Oil Collection Centers

Kragen Auto Parts
6500 Hembree Lane | M-Sa 8-8, Su 9-6 | 838-2217

Pick N' Pull
10475 Old Redwood Hwy. | Daily 8:30-5 | 838-4691

Town Corporation Yard
8400 Windsor Rd. | 24 hr. | 838-1006

Wal Mart Tire & Lube Xpress
6650 Hembree Ln. | Daily 8-7 | 836-7400