Waste Diversion and Recycling in the RecycleSmart Service Area

Contra Costa Taxpayers Association

July 22, 2020
RecycleSmart Service Area
Board of Directors

- Franchise Procurement
- Rate Setting
## Contra Costa Rate Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
<th>32-gal. $/Mo.</th>
<th>Recycling Frequency</th>
<th>Yard Waste Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Piedmont</td>
<td>$87.57</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orinda*</td>
<td>$51.05</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Cerrito</td>
<td>$49.63</td>
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<td>Weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kensington</td>
<td>$47.61</td>
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<td>2x per month</td>
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<tr>
<td>Livermore</td>
<td>$38.85</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hercules</td>
<td>$38.63</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moraga*</td>
<td>$38.50</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lafayette*</td>
<td>$37.29</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richmond</td>
<td>$37.09</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pinole</td>
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<td>Weekly</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concord</td>
<td>$35.15</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
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<tr>
<td>West CC County</td>
<td>$34.73</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
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<tr>
<td>San Ramon</td>
<td>$32.20</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
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<tr>
<td>San Pablo</td>
<td>$32.20</td>
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<td>Weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danville*</td>
<td>$31.15</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
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<td>Antioch</td>
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<td>Pleasant Hill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brentwood</td>
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<tr>
<td>County*</td>
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<td>Weekly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walnut Creek*</td>
<td>$24.94</td>
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<td>Weekly</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Reflects 2020 Rates; All other rates are subject to increases during 2020
At Home, At Work, At School

Recycling
- YES Mixed Plastics, Metal, Glass, and Paper
- NO Food Scraps, Garbage, Green Waste, Styrofoam, Hot Ashes, Hazardous Waste, Batteries or Electronics

Organics
- YES Yard Trimings, Fruits, Vegetables, Dairy Products, Breads, Meat, Seafood (including bones and shells), and Food Soiled Paper
- NO Plastic, Glass or Metal, Treated or Painted Wood, Rocks, concrete, sod or dirt Ashes

Landfill
- YES Plastic Utensils, Packing Peanuts, Juice Pouches, Chip Bags, Snack Wrappers, Broken Dishware, Styrofoam, Food Trays or Containers, Diapers, Pet Waste, Other Trash
- NO Recyclable Items, Electronic Items, Shards, Medicines, Batteries, Fluorescent Bulbs, Motor Oil Filters, Hazardous Materials

Cart Setout Instructions
- Set carts on the street next to the curb and away from vehicles. Place carts out by 6 am on your collection day.

Extra Collection Services
- 1 scheduled non-recyclables collection
- 4 scheduled collections for yard trimmings and/or extra recyclables

Recycle Smart - Landfill Less
- You can switch your 64 gallon blue recycling cart and green organics cart to a larger 96 gallon size at no extra cost.

Remember - Republic Services is proactively evaluating the need to adjust to changes in recycling markets. Here is how you can help:

Extra Collection Services
- 1 scheduled non-recyclables collection
- 4 scheduled collections for yard trimmings and/or extra recyclables

For more information or to schedule an extra collection call Republic Services at 925-683-4711. For more detailed information, visit recyclesmart.org/resedays.

Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority
Single Use During Covid
CNG Trucks
Diversion Programs
Avoid the Spark; Battery Recycling

Over 346 processing facility fires in 2019: 13 Injuries: 1 Death
Reducing Organic Waste

40% of the material going to local landfills is organic.

• Compost all food scraps (backyard bin or your green cart)
• Grocery stores, restaurants and food providers can donate food.
• Recycle or compost all paper
Where does it all go?

- Recyclables are processed in Pittsburg, then sent to the Port of Oakland for export
- Reusables are sold or donated locally
- Organics go to EMBUD or Forward Compost facility
- Landfill goes to Keller Canyon
- But.... If you live in west county.....
National Sword
China Trade Restrictions

- Ban of certain material types
- Requiring 0.5% contamination threshold
- Affected value of materials, most notably mixed paper and plastics

Keep your recyclables clean.
Make it your mantra: empty, clean and dry!
Those three words tell you everything you need to know to recycle smart.

- Place loose recyclables in blue cart (do not bag).
- Keep containers empty, clean and as dry as possible.
- Keep paper clean and dry.
- Bundle your clean and dry plastic bags inside a larger plastic bag.
- Empty food containers. Scrape with a spoon, or wipe with a paper towel and put the paper towel in the green cart for composting.
- Toss food-soiled paper (like napkins, uncoated paper food boxes and more) into your green cart for composting.
- If it’s greasy, wet, dirty or you’re not sure, toss it in your black landfill cart (garbage).
- And most of all... NO garbage in the blue cart!

RecycleSmart.org
2018 Exports from CA Ports

Recyclables Exported from California Ports

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>China</th>
<th>All Other Countries</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
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<td>2017</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
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</table>
Plastics Production
Statewide Initiatives
How CA Communities are Responding

- Cost for processing RecycleSmart recyclables
- More communities are considering and moving to “dual stream” collection
- Some communities are eliminating harder to handle plastics
- Bans on single use items such as straws and single use “to go” items
Commercial Recycling-AB 341

• Since 2012, businesses generating 4 cubic yards of waste per week must recycle
• Multi-family properties with 5 or more units must also recycle
Commercial Organics Recycling-AB 1826

- Businesses that generate 4 cubic yards of solid waste per week must compost or otherwise recycle their organics.
- Multi-family properties with 5 or more units must also recycle organics.
SB 1383 – Organics Recovery  
(Organic Waste Methane Emissions Reductions)

• 50% reduction in the level of the statewide disposal of organic waste from the 2014 level by 2020
• 75% reduction by 2025
• At least 20% of currently disposed edible food recovered for human consumption by 2025
Jurisdiction Responsibilities

- Provide Organics Collection Services to All Residents and Businesses
- Conduct Education and Outreach to Community
- Secure Access to Recycling and Edible Food Recovery Capacity
- Establish Edible Food Recovery Program
- Procure Recyclable and Recovered Organic Products
- Monitor Compliance and Conduct Enforcement
SB 1383 Requires 50-100 New or Expanded Organic Waste Recycling Facilities
Things You Can Do

• Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Repair
• Compost organics
• Think about purchasing choices

1. Carry a reusable bottle.
2. Choose aluminum cans over plastic when possible.
3. Recycle all plastic bottles.
   – National Geographic, August 23, 2019
Some Final Thoughts

There is no such thing as "away".

When we throw anything away it must go somewhere.

- Annie Leonard

If it can't be reduced, reused, repaired, rebuilt, refurbished, refinshed, resold, recycled or composted, then it should be restricted, redesigned or removed from production. ~ Pete Seeger
Questions?

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