



Proud to be your service provider for the collection of **Recyclables**, **Garbage**, **Food Scraps**, & **Yard Trimmings**.

# Single Family Residential News

JANUARY - MARCH 2026

## Sort Your Food Scraps!

Organics like food scraps and yard trimmings make up half of what Californians dump in landfills. Organic waste in landfills emits methane, a powerful greenhouse gas. By reducing the landfilling of food & yard waste, you will help fight climate change by decreasing the amount of greenhouse gasses that contribute to climate pollutants.

**By law, all residents and businesses in California need to have organic waste collection services. If you properly use the MSI Garbage/Food Scraps split collection carts and the Yard Trimmings carts, you are already compliant!**

Use your kitchen scraps pail to hold food scraps, then empty it into the food scraps side of your **gray Garbage/Food Scraps** split cart. Any fresh, frozen, cooked or spoiled food goes into the **brown lid side** of your split cart. Place paper coffee filters and paper tea bags in as well! Do not set the pail at the curb for collection.

Plastic lined paper such as a to-go coffee cup is **NOT** compostable and belongs in the **gray lid side** of your **gray Garbage** cart. Plastic food ware (e.g.: plates, cups, utensils) also belongs in the garbage as it is not compostable, so make sure to remove your food scraps from any plastic containers and separate any plastic utensils before disposing of everything in the correct containers.

### Why Is It Important to Recycle Your Food Scraps?

Watch this short video to find out:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TQ3NytEL8zo>



**Gray = Garbage**

**Brown = Food Scraps**

**Blue = Recyclable Containers**

**Yellow = Paper/Fibers**

**Green = Yard Trimmings**

## Recycle Right - Support the Sort!

*The cleanest and most efficient sorting of materials starts with you.*

### KNOW WHAT TO THROW!

Please remember to only place recyclable materials in your **blue Recyclables** cart.

### MAINTAIN A CLEAN STREAM!

Make sure recyclable plastic, metal & glass food containers are empty and dry before placing them in the **blue lid side** of your **blue Recyclables** split cart.

### SORTING MATTERS!

**OUR SPLIT TRUCKS KEEP MATERIALS SEPARATE.**

Our collection vehicles that service the split carts **have split bodies that keep the materials separated**. The trucks empty the materials separately at the processing facilities.



Scan the QR code or visit **www.milpitassanitation.com/sorting/** for a video of a split truck in action!



## Collection Day Reminders

- Place carts out for collection by 6:00 am.
- Make sure cart wheels are facing your home.
- Make sure cart lids are fully closed. Overloaded carts can cause litter and attract critters like crows and raccoons.
- Place materials loosely inside carts so they will empty properly. Need more room? Milpitas Residents can request extra **Recyclables** split carts and **Yard Trimmings** carts at no additional charge.
- Leave at least three feet between each cart and avoid placing carts near obstacles (such as vehicles, basketball hoops, and mailboxes).



## Only Rain in the Storm Drains!



**Anything other than rain water is an illegal discharge in storm drains.**

For more information, scan the QR code or visit [www.milpitas.gov/358/Urban-Runoff-Program](http://www.milpitas.gov/358/Urban-Runoff-Program).



## Holiday Service Schedule

There are no holidays during January-March (with the exception of New Year's Day) that impact collection schedules. Please be sure to put your carts out for collection by 6:00 am on your regular service day.

**REDUCE & REUSE BEFORE YOU RECYCLE.** For tips on using less, scan the QR code or visit: [www.milpitassanitation.com/reduce-reuse-recycle/](http://www.milpitassanitation.com/reduce-reuse-recycle/).



## Cardboard Collection Tips

Please remember to flatten cardboard boxes and cut larger pieces to 3' x 3' or smaller before placing them in the **yellow lid side** of your **blue Recyclables** split cart with the lid closed. This helps:

- Maximize space in the recyclables cart
- Prevent blockages inside the cart
- Keep drivers safe and the collection program efficient

### Have extra cardboard?

Flatten and cut pieces down to 3' x 3' or smaller so they can fit in the hoppers of our split collection vehicles, then stack them next to your **blue Recyclables** split cart for collection.



**Remember to:  
Reduce, Reuse,  
Recycle, Rot, & Donate!**

### Contact us:

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