

AVI COMMERCIAL NEWSLETTER

Amador Valley Industries

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Proper Battery Disposal

It is dangerous and illegal to dispose of any type of battery in your garbage, recycling, or compost container. Dry cell batteries, including alkaline and lithium-ion batteries, are considered hazardous waste and can start fires when crushed and contribute to water and air pollution.

The picture below shows what happens when a rechargeable lithium-ion battery is improperly placed in the garbage, recycling, or compost collection container. The material in the collection truck ignites, putting the safety of the driver and environment at risk. Proper battery disposal is critical for public safety and environmental protection, preventing damage to trucks and equipment, and ensuring collection operations are not delayed.



Where to Dispose of Batteries

It is illegal to dispose batteries and other hazardous materials in garbage, recycling, or compost containers. Containers found to have these materials will not be collected until hazardous materials are removed.

Alameda County offers special programs for business hazardous and/or universal waste. Visit StopWaste.org/business-hazardous-waste or scan the QR code below for more information about local disposal options.



You can also check the City of Dublin Household Hazardous Waste Programs for local disposal options at Dublin.ca.gov/2011.



Items that Do NOT Belong in the Recycling Bin

The following items are often mistakenly put into the recycling bin. These items belong in the garbage. Placing them in the recycling contaminates other recyclable materials. This increases processing costs and leads to more material being landfilled.

1. Plastic Bags and Plastic Wrap

All plastic bags and flimsy plastic packaging go into the garbage.



2. Bagged Recyclables

Recyclables must be placed loose with no bags in your collection container.



3. Styrofoam and Plastic Peanuts

All Styrofoam products go into the garbage.



4. Drywall, Wood Pallets, and Other Construction Debris

Contact AVI for assistance with disposing of construction debris.



StopWaste Business Resources

Visit StopWaste.org/at-work for a variety of free assistance to businesses including free waste prevention assistance, green purchasing resources, and grants for waste reduction and recycling activities.

Posters and Signage

Free printable posters and decals for labeling indoor containers are available at Stopwaste.org/rules/resources.

Free Indoor Food Scraps Containers

Free indoor food scraps containers are available for Dublin businesses. Apply at Portal.stopwaste.org/freebins.

Hazardous Waste

Alameda County offers special programs for businesses generating small quantities of hazardous and/or universal waste. For drop-off locations and hours of operation call **800-606-6606** or visit StopWaste.org/business-hazardous-waste.

RE:source Guide

For a complete list of what can go into the garbage, recycling, and compost visit StopWaste.org/curbside.

Recycling and Composting in the Workplace

Recycling and composting in the workplace is not only the law, it can also save money and make for a happier team. According to the EPA, businesses and nonresidential locations are responsible for generating nearly half of what the United States throws away. If you would like assistance with setting up a recycling and composting program at your workplace call AVI for a **Free Waste Assessment**.

Below are steps you can take to reduce waste in the workplace:



1. Replace disposable cups with reusable mugs and glasses. Switching to a reusable mug or glass can save more than 200 cups from being thrown away per person each year.

2. Purchase recycled paper and other recycled-content products and green office supplies. Reduce waste at the source by implementing policies to reduce overall paper usage. Simple changes such as defaulting to double-sided printing and reusing scrap paper can make a big difference for the environment and your business's bottom line.

3. Implement a composting program for all food scraps, food soiled paper and plant debris. California business are required to keep organic waste out of landfill under SB 1383. To learn more about SB 1383, visit StopWaste.org/rules.

4. Place recycling bins in prominent locations, such as next to copy machines. Train all staff and janitors on how to recycle and compost correctly. AVI provides free trainings.

Interested in Learning More?



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