



Summertime Recycling Tips

While recycling may seem to be a challenge during outdoor activities such as camping, hiking, picnics and parties, there are ways to help keep it in the daily routine. Some recycling tips to consider include:

- At picnics and BBQ's this summer, be sure to bring an extra bag with you to collect bottles and cans. Place the bag next to your trash can and mark it so that people know you are recycling all those cans and bottles. Throw the bag in the back of your car and empty it into your curbside recycling cart for collection and please remember not to put plastic bags in the recycling cart.
- Using sturdy and washable mugs, cups, utensils, tableware and cloth napkins at home and for picnics, outdoor parties and potlucks can save waste.
- Rinse bottles and cans before you put them in the recycling cart. (This helps prevent any unwanted bugs and odors during summertime heat!)

Easy Pay

As a convenience for those customers billed directly by AVI, Easy Pay services are available at no additional cost. With Easy Pay, you can have your payments automatically deducted from your checking account—saving you time and money! Please call AVI at 925-479-9545 to request an enrollment form or download one at www.amadorvalleyindustries.com.

- Consider replacing your large kitchen trash can with two smaller ones. Use one for trash and the other for recycling. This is a quick way to make sure you consistently recycle!
- Purchase food and beverage products that come in recyclable packaging, such as aluminum, plastic or glass drink bottles and cans, and paperboard snack boxes.
- When choosing between two similar products, select the one with the least unnecessary packaging.
- Talk to your family about recycling at home. Make a fun game for kids to collect cans and bottles and to put in the recycling cart.



Reminders...

Recyclable items should be placed loose in recycling cart and **plastic shopping bags are not accepted**. Most grocery stores have a collection box and will take them back. Also, there will be NO interruption in collection service for the Labor Day holiday, Monday September 7, 2009 however the office will be closed.

We Want Our Service to Be The Best and You Can Help

Please place your carts at the curb edge with at least 3 feet of clearance from other objects, including other carts, basketball hoops and motor vehicles.



What Do I Put Into the Organics Cart?

The reason Organics Carts are so important is that using them helps divert materials away from our landfills which is better for the environment. Here is a list to help you use your cart efficiently. Thank you for helping us provide you with the best possible service.

Organics Acceptable List

- Grass and weed clippings
- Shrubs and tree prunings (less than 4" in diameter)
- Leaves, plants and flowers
- Food scraps and food soiled paper products

Non-acceptable Organics List

- No household garbage
- No plastic bags**
- No dirt or rocks
- No overloading - lid must be closed



It's Good to Recycle Your Junk Mail

It's Even Better To Stop Getting It

Junk mail is a waste of time and resources. The average American household receives junk mail equivalent to 1.5 trees every year. That adds up to more than 100 million trees each year. Junk mail represents 3 percent of what Alameda County residents send to the landfill annually. Here are a few smart steps you can take to minimize unwanted mail and continue to receive the mail you really want.

Reducing your junk mail is as easy as 1-2-3

- 1** Call, write, or go online to the companies listed below and request your name be taken off their list.
- 2** Contact catalogs and tell them you want your name taken off their list; or remove your name from specific catalogs for free by visiting www.catalogchoice.org.
- 3** When you buy from catalogs over the phone or online, make sure to let the company know that you do not want them to sell, share, or trade your name or send you promotional materials.

Visit www.StopJunkMail.Org for more information on reducing your junk mail, including prewritten template letters and links to companies listed below. Remember to recycle your mail, catalogs, and magazines when you are done with them.

Direct Mail:

The Direct Marketing Association (DMA) is the single largest provider of direct mail lists. They charge \$1 to file the form online or by mail.

DMA Mail Preference Service
P O Box 282
Carmel, NY 10512

Credit Card Offers:

Remove your name from the lists of major credit card companies:
Equifax / Trans Union /
Novus / Experian
1-888-567-8688 (1-888-5-OPTOUT)
www.OptOutPrescreen.com

Catalogs:

Remove your name from specific catalog lists for free by visiting:
www.CatalogChoice.org.

Sweepstakes:

Publishers Clearinghouse
1-800-645-9242

Shopping Flyers:

ValPak Coupons
1-800-237-6266
Advo/Valassis
1-888-241-6760
www.advo.com/consumersupport.html
Harte Hanks Direct Marketing
1-800-422-4116
www.pennysaverusa.com/contactus

Junk Faxes:

Stop junk faxes by contacting the sender of the faxes. If you are unsuccessful, file a complaint with the Consumer Information Bureau of the Federal Communications Commission:
1-888-225-5322
www.fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/unwantedfaxes.html

In the spirit of conservation we are providing our newsletter online, but please feel free to print it out.