



# AVI News

www.AmadorValleyIndustries.Com

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## Happy New Year to All!

All of us here at AVI wish you a happy and prosperous new year. We would like to thank you for your continuing efforts to work with us to keep our community clean, green and safe. If you have any recycling ideas that you would like to share please email us at: [info@AmadorValleyIndustries.com](mailto:info@AmadorValleyIndustries.com) so we can share your idea in our newsletter.

## Sharps Safety Protects People in Our Community

Sharps is the medical term for hypodermic needles, syringes, lancets and anything that is used for medical treatment of people and animals. More than three billion injections and other skin punctures using sharps occur outside of healthcare

settings every year to treat numerous conditions. Only a fraction of these needles are disposed of properly and advances in healthcare and the desire of patients to receive medical care in their home are causing a rise in the legal use of self-injected drugs. This increase is expected to multiply dramatically over the next decade.

This rise in self-care poses a potential threat to community members. Janitors, housekeepers, waste workers and even neighborhood children are at risk of injury and infection when needles are discarded improperly inside or outside of the waste stream. As a result, communities are faced with the growing need to provide a means for self-injectors to safely dispose of their used needles and syringes.

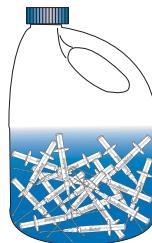
Please note that in **September of 2008**, new legislation will go into effect prohibiting sharps from being placed in any solid waste or recycling cart. At that time, the "Household Bleach Bottle" method of disposal will no longer be acceptable. For more information on the proper disposal of sharps, go to [www.StopWaste.org](http://www.StopWaste.org) or call 1-877-STOPWASTE (786-7927).



*Please, never put a sharps by itself "loose" in your cart.*

### Proper Household Sharps Disposal

1. Place all "sharps" in an empty plastic bottle such as a 2-liter soda bottle or plastic bleach bottle, (do not fill the bottle to the top with sharps).
2. When bottle is approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  full, place  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of household bleach and add water until solution has completely covered all "sharps".
3. Recap bottle and carefully shake a few times, until all contents have been touched by the solution.
4. Remove cap and dispose of bleach solution in the toilet or sink.
5. Replace cap, place bottle in paper bag and dispose of it in your garbage cart.



## 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 they help divert tons of materials away from our landfills which saves costs and is better for the environment. Here is a list to help you utilize 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

## Amador Valley Industries

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## Do You Have Hazardous Materials Around the House That You Would Like to Dispose of Safely?

Are there various materials you want to get rid of but you think they might contain toxins that are poisonous, corrosive or flammable? Are there materials that you have been throwing away that recent EPA legislation has now designated as hazardous waste and unlawful to put in your trash receptical? Please join us in our goal to divert all these harmful materials from our landfills.

We have two great resources that you can call to answer all your questions regarding hazardous waste disposal. Call the Alameda County Household Hazardous Waste Program (HHWP) at **1-800-606-6606** or StopWaste.Org at **1-877-STOPWASTE (786-7927)** to speak to a well trained staff member. They can provide you the information you need to safely and legally dispose of the specific materials you have.

Hazardous materials may have different drop-off locations. For example the HHWP accepts most types of hazardous waste but no electronic equipment. Other drop-off sites accept electronic equipment but no hazardous wastes.

Electronic equipment should be taken to a business or site specifically designed to accept electronic equipment for recycling or proper disposal, for example, the Pleasanton Transfer Station at 3110 Busch Road in Pleasanton, **925-846-2042**, will accept your electronics for a fee (no hazardous wastes). For more locations call StopWaste.Org at **1-877-STOPWASTE (786-7927)** or logon to [www.StopWaste.org](http://www.StopWaste.org) and use the new Recycling Wizard.

### StopWaste.org's Recycling Wizard is a Wealth of Information

On the Web site of StopWaste.org is a great searchable database of recycling information. The Web pages found here list where you can recycle a huge variety of items, from aerosol cans to mattresses and beyond. Also included is information about where items can be reused or donated. Where there are both reuse and recycling options, resources for both are noted. Finally, please pay attention to the

information about proper disposal of common items such as motor oil, batteries, and needles that are potentially harmful or toxic when improperly managed. Logon to [www.StopWaste.org](http://www.StopWaste.org) today and see how easy it is to find the information you need fast.



Another free resource available is StopWaste.org's annual Recycling Guide which is chockfull of ways to recycle almost any type of household material, from audio tapes to zippers. The Recycling Guide is well written with feature articles and pieces on Services and Information. Included is a comprehensive A-Z resource of what is recyclable and locations to recycle. The Recycling Guide is free as a pdf file download from their site or you can order a printed copy from StopWaste.org by calling **1-877-STOPWASTE (786-7927)**.

## How do I dispose of my hazardous materials safely?

