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

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Impact of Recycling on the Municipal Solid Waste Stream from 1960 to 2011

Over the last few decades, the generation, recycling, and disposal of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) have changed substantially. Annual MSW generation continued to increase from 1960, when it was 88 million tons, until 2007, when it was 257 million tons. After 2007, the tons of MSW generated started to decrease until 2011, when it was 250 million tons. The generation rate in 1960 was just 2.68 pounds per person per day; it grew to 3.66 pounds per person per day in 1980, reached 4.74 pounds per person per day in 2000, and decreased to 4.69 pounds per person per day in 2005. Since 2005, MSW generation per capita rate has continued to decrease. The generation rate was 4.40 pounds per person per day in 2011.

Over time, recycling rates have increased from just over 6 percent of MSW generated in 1960 to about 10 percent in 1980, to 16 percent in 1990, to about 29 percent in 2000, and to over 34 percent in 2011. Disposal of waste to landfills has decreased from 94 percent of the amount generated in 1960 to under 54 percent of the amount generated in 2011.

Source: epa.gov (Municipal Solid Waste in the United States, 2011 Facts & Figures)

Currently California has achieved a statewide diversion rate of 48 percent. The state plans to achieve the additional 2 percent waste diversion of recyclables from landfills by using existing authorities and mandates, collection infrastructures, and recycling processes.

Source: epa.gov (Overview of State and Local Climate and Waste Reduction Initiatives)

Here are some more tips for recycling, reusing and reducing to keep California ahead of the national recycling average.

**Coffee grounds:** Used coffee grounds are great for controlling ants, spread grounds around your foundation and in your yard. They make a good air deodorizer in the kitchen while you save them too.

**Plumbing:** Do you cut vegetables and fruits and end up with a pile in the sink? Consider scooping them up and putting them into your greenwaste cart, it may prevent clogged pipes… especially during the holiday season.

**Plastic Bread Bag Ties:** Save up some of these plastic bread ties and use them to mark the cords on the back of your electronic components, use a permanent marker to make labels on them.

**Plastic Bags:** Do you miss the white plastic bags we got at the grocery store for those nasty pickup jobs around the house like the litter box? A great alternate is to save up your plastic bread bags and some large food storage bags can be rinsed off and saved for clean up jobs.

**Party Utensils:** Use reusable products such as plates, glasses, napkins, dinnerware and tablecloths that may be washed and reused. Many products that are labeled disposable such as plates, cups and silverware are durable enough and can be placed in your dishwasher.