

Happy Holidays!



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RethinkWaste Administrative Offices
610 Elm Street, Suite 202 | San Carlos, CA 94070

The Rethinker newsletter is dedicated to educating residents and businesses regarding waste reduction, reuse, and recycling. With your help, we can meet our goal of diverting waste from the landfill and maintain healthy, livable communities.

A Public Agency



GREEN YOUR SEASON!

Reduce food waste by freezing leftovers to reduce spoilage.

- Split leftover food into smaller portions and store in your freezer. Don't forget to add labels and dates!



COMPOST YOUR HOLIDAY TREE BETWEEN DECEMBER 26 – JANUARY 31.

- **REMOVE ALL DECORATIONS AND TREE STANDS** (flocked trees are accepted) before placing next to your **green Compost Cart**.
- **For apartments/condos**, have your property manager or owner call to arrange for collection of holiday trees. Trees can be collected in piles or in a debris box for no additional charge.

GOT NEW ELECTRONIC TOYS?

Below are free and convenient battery disposal programs for residents that live in a single-family home or an apartment/condo:

SINGLE FAMILY

HOUSEHOLDS:

Place used batteries and cell phones inside any clear zip-top bag and seal. Place sealed bag on the lid of your **black garbage cart** on your regular collection day.



MULTI-FAMILY (APARTMENT/CONDO) RESIDENTS:

Place bagged used batteries into an orange battery bucket. Buckets are often found in common areas, such as a lobby, multi-use room, mail room, or clubhouse. If you don't see one at your location, ask your property manager or owner to get a bucket for your building(s) from Recology San Mateo County for free!



Residents can also drop off used batteries for free at select neighborhood hardware stores and the Shoreway Public Recycling Center at 333 Shoreway Rd, San Carlos. For more information, visit: RethinkWaste.org/batteries

REDUCE PLASTIC USE AT HOME

Plastic can be found almost everywhere, but can threaten the environment and wildlife around us. A huge source of plastic comes from food packaging. Making small adjustments in the kitchen can spark big results in reducing plastic. Here are tips on how to store food without all the plastic:



- Use beeswax wraps, jars, or simply put a plate over your leftovers and refrigerate.
- Cut the ends off the stems of vegetables (such as kale, celery, or carrots) and store in glasses of water in the refrigerator or on your counter.
- Wrap broccoli, carrots, and cucumbers in a damp cloth and refrigerate.
- Keep reusable bags handy—in your car, purse, or backpack—for last-minute and weekly grocery runs.
- Switch to mesh bags to carry loose fruits, vegetables, and/or nuts.



ARE YOU RECYCLING AT HOME?

Tips about what to put in your blue cart or bin:

- All clean paper, including junk mail, magazines, catalogs and newspaper (remove all plastic bags or rubber bands first!)
- Clean and empty containers (includes bottles, jars, cans, etc.)

Not Recyclable

- Paper containers that have been food-soiled – these go into your green compost cart!
- Metallic wrapping paper – these contain multiple materials and can't be recycled. Save this paper for next year's gift giving!
- Aseptic containers - such as chicken broth containers and juice boxes - these have been lined with foil and plastic and can't be recycled.
- Film plastic - including plastic bags and plastic wrap

Thank you to everyone who consistently works to reduce, reuse, and recycle!

Keep up the good work and encourage others to do the same! When making purchases, look for items with minimal packaging, or make sure that the packaging is recyclable!



SHOREWAY PUBLIC RECYCLING CENTER

Have one of these hard to recycle items that need to be properly disposed of?

- Cooking Oil
- Electronic waste (computers, TVs, cell phones, VCRs)
- Fluorescent bulbs and tubes
- Household and auto batteries
- Paint (latex, oil-based)
- Sharps (in authorized sharps container)
- Used antifreeze, oil & filters
- Mattresses* (Free disposal at Transfer Station)

FREE disposal at the Shoreway Public Recycling Center!
Find more information about accepted materials at SBRecycling.net



Shoreway Public Recycling Center
333 Shoreway Road, San Carlos
Open Hours: Monday – Saturday 8:30 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

RethinkWaste is your regional public agency* that owns the 16-acre Shoreway Environmental Center in San Carlos and manages our two major contractors: Recology & South Bay Recycling.
[RethinkWaste](http://RethinkWaste.org) | (650) 802-3500 | rethinker@rethinkwaste.org | Rethinkwaste.org

For questions about your garbage bill or to schedule services:
Recology San Mateo County | 225 Shoreway Rd, San Carlos | (650) 595-3900
carts@recology.com | Recology.com

For questions about the Shoreway Environmental Center including hours of operations, materials accepted, rates, etc.:
South Bay Recycling | 333 Shoreway Rd, San Carlos | (650) 802-8355
SBRecycling.net

*RethinkWaste
Member Agencies:
Atherton
Belmont
Burlingame
East Palo Alto
Foster City
Hillsborough
Menlo Park
Redwood City
San Carlos
San Mateo
County of San Mateo
West Bay Sanitary Dist.



Our Contracting
Partners:



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