

West Valley Recycles!



Free E-Waste Drop-Off Events Coming Soon

SARATOGA	LOS GATOS	CAMPBELL
April 16th, 2011 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Saratoga Prospect Center 19848 Prospect Road Saratoga, CA	April 16th, 2011 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Los Gatos United Methodist Church 111 Church Street Los Gatos, CA	April 23rd, 2011 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Campbell Church of Christ 1075 West Campbell Ave Campbell, CA

Accepted items: television and computer monitors, CPUs, laptop computers, external computer hard drives, computer keyboards, computer mice, computer printers, DVDs and VCRs, phones, fax machines, electronic toys, typewriters, cameras, stereos and speakers. **PLEASE No hazardous waste or appliances.** Please call customer service at (408) 283-9250 for more information.



Proper Cart Setout

Here are some tips to ensure smooth collection on your next service day.



Place your carts at the curb by 6am on your collection day, and they will be picked up by 6pm that day.

Cart Spacing

→ Place carts at least two feet apart with

wheels against the curb to allow the truck arm to maneuver.

→ Make sure your carts are at least 5 feet away from vehicles, basketball hoops and other obstructions.

Overstuffed and Heavy Carts

→ The lids on your carts must be completely closed to avoid littering your streets. Closing the lids securely will also prevent coyotes and domestic pets from getting into the carts.

→ Large items can be picked up for a fee. Call 408.283.9250 to schedule.

→ Remember that dirt and concrete are not allowed in your garbage or recycling containers.

How to Show Your Own Style: Bring Your Own Bag

As cities adopt bans, shoppers adapt style

In a landmark decision, San Jose's City Council voted to impose a ban on single-use carry out bags last year. County officials have high hopes that San Jose's ban will pave the way for other cities in Santa Clara County to follow suit—cities just like yours. The goal is to persuade shoppers to bring their own reusable bags when it's time to shop.

When other cities will jump on the ban-bag bandwagon is still to be determined, but the fact remains that changes are coming, and if you live in Santa Clara County, they are coming to a store near you. The era of BYOB, or Bring Your Own Bag, has officially arrived.

So how to prepare? First off, you don't want to be caught without your bags, or it'll cost you, (a dime each, and that can add up). So employ whatever clever techniques you can to remind yourself to grab those bags on your way out the door. Some favorites strategies include, writing "bags" on the top of your shopping list, hanging bags on the knob of your front door, or keeping them on the front seat of your car. Another idea is to task your children to remember your bags for you. You'll be surprised how environmentally-

conscious little ones can be when there are rewards involved.

Next, you are going to make sure the bags you are packing are good looking, yet practical totes. Boutiques all over are catching on to the bag craze, so it's easy to find one to match your own personal style. You can also check out Whole Foods; they offer a nice selection of bags from recycled materials for those with discriminating tastes, and Trader Joes has a large selection of colorful bags for under \$5.00. You can even get bags thermally lined for hot and cold foods. Chico bags are foldable bags that tuck inside a purse or hang from a keychain, available online at www.chicobags.com.

The San Jose ban calls for a complete ban on plastic bags, which are not only a huge litter problem and a danger to wildlife, but also notorious for jamming recycling equipment. And because paper bags have environmental problems of their own—trees and other resources are consumed to make them—San Jose has chosen to limit both plastic and paper, by banning the plastic and charging a 10 cent fee for paper ones. Hooray for San Jose! The ban goes into effect January 1, 2012.

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Ask Randy

Have questions about your recycling service?



Dear Randy: If something is made from recycled paper or plastic, can it be recycled again?

Absolutely. While it's true that recycling paper and plastic over and over will degrade the quality, that doesn't mean you can't recycle it. Many recycled products contain a percentage of both virgin and post-consumer recycled content.

To submit a question for "Ask Randy" send him an e-mail at customerservice@westvalleyrecycles.com with "Ask Randy" in the subject line.

S H C S R O R R I M B
I T S O Z B I E P T U
T R I D N T R R N E B
W E B C Y C N M Y S B
Q C M O K A R L H U L
T B Y R B E C E N S E
S E S O H I R M T Y W
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S P U A I Z T W Q C J
A R E Q Z N K S O E M
I G S C R E W S W S P

WORDSEARCH:

Which items can NOT be recycled?

- | | |
|-------------|----------|
| SEARCH: | screws |
| napkins | hoses |
| straws | dirt |
| stickers | rocks |
| tissues | concrete |
| bubble wrap | mirrors |
| syringes | keys |
| nails | |

Electronics Superstore is Super Socially Responsible

Best Buy's Amazing e-Waste Program

Consumer electronics are the fastest growing waste stream on the planet. Now, one of the world's largest retailer of electronics, Best Buy is providing the appropriate end of life solutions for the gadgets and gizmos they sell. Regardless of where you bought it, what brand it is, or how old it is, you can bring your e-waste to your neighborhood BestBuy and as part of BestBuy's Greener Together™ program, they'll make sure your electronic waste is properly disposed of. The stores will accept just about anything electronic, including TVs, DVD players, computer monitors, audio and video cables, and cell phones.

Every U.S. Best Buy store has free kiosks, just inside the door, where you can drop off inkjet cartridges, rechargeable batteries, CDs and DVDs in addition to electronics. Most things are recycled absolutely free, with just a few restrictions. There is a charge of \$10 for some TVs, CRTs and monitors that is usually offset by a \$10 gift card, depending on the store. The charge does not apply to Best Buy private label products.

If you have electronics to dispose of that are still usable, Best Buy also offers in-store and online trade-ins of your old electronics. These require you to have bought your electronic item at Best Buy and still have the receipt. An on-line option allows you to trade in usable electronics purchased anywhere. Check it out at www.bestbuy.com/tradein.

your community. Call **(408)283-9250**.

How to Eliminate Litter: Remember to place all loose light items such as shredded paper, plastic grocery bags, styrofoam packing peanuts and any other items in a tied plastic bag before placing in your cart.

Household Hazardous Waste: Call the Santa Clara County Household Hazardous Waste Program at **(408)299-7300**. For more about WVC&R's e-waste and universal waste residential drop off program call **(408)283-9250**.

West Valley Collection & Recycling has made it easier than ever to pay your bill. Choose the method that works best for you.

Make your check payable to West Valley Collection & Recycling. Be sure to include the payment stub to get credit for your payment right away. Use the pre-addressed envelope included with your bill.

We accept payments at our office Monday through Friday from 8 AM – 4:30 PM.

Deliver checks to:

West Valley Collection & Recycling
1333 Oakland Road,
San Jose, CA 95112

Visit our new online payment system at www.wasteconnections.com; click on "Online Bill-Pay" and follow a few simple instructions. You must have your current invoice and credit card or debit card information available.

Home banking customers continue to use the remit address:

West Valley Collection & Recycling
PO BOX 60248
Los Angeles CA 90060-0248

You must have your current invoice available.

Bill Pay the Easy Way

Important to Note

1333 Oakland Road
San Jose CA 95112-9894
(408) 283-9250
www.westvalleyrecycles.com
customerservice@westvalleyrecycles.com

Roll-Off and Debris Box
West Valley Collection & Recycling is the exclusive roll-off and debris box provider in



Clean Yard Trimmings: Keep your yard trimmings "Green" and your recyclables clean by keeping all garbage out of your yard trimmings and recycling cart. Garbage contaminates recyclable materials. **Palm fronds must be 3 feet or shorter in length before placing in your green waste cart.**