



## What Doesn't go in Recycling Matters

Throwing non-recyclable items in recycling is just as bad as throwing recyclable items in the trash. Everyone has been doing a great job of separating their recyclable materials into their carts, even though sometimes it can be confusing. For example, not all plastics are recyclable; only narrow neck plastic bottles and tubs (such as yogurt, margarine and cottage cheese) with the tri angle arrows symbol with numbers 1-7 should be placed in the recycling cart. Unmarked plastics, like packaging on new products, that are not described above, are not recyclable and should be placed in the trash cart. A good addage is "If in doubt, leave it out" because missing one

recyclable would be better than conaminating an entire load of recyclable materials. It is important to understand that when items that are not recyclable get placed in the recycling cart it can contaminate the entire load of recyclable materials.

For a list of recyclables that can be put in your recycling cart please visit: [http://www.amadorvalleyindustries.com/r\\_recycling.html](http://www.amadorvalleyindustries.com/r_recycling.html). Also, see our summary below under "We want our service to be the best, and you can help" for a summary of what is accepted into your Organics Cart.

We appreciate all your efforts to properly separate out your recyclables and thank you for your cooperation.

### Everyone Needs To Follow The Recycling Rules. But Only Carl Gets The Donut!

Artwork provided by Angelina Casillas



### 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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# Garbage Truck Safety

Our drivers are the best in the industry and have excellent safety records. They are like artists when it comes to maneuvering their garbage trucks through obstacles on their neighborhood routes. Safety is our number one concern. We would like to share some of their ideas to help keep you and your kids safe.

## Be Careful When a Garbage Truck is Near:

- Especially dangerous; never walk alongside a garbage truck on the curb as the big arm comes down to grasp a cart. Additionally, if a customer has overfilled their cart to the point that the lid doesn't shut it is possible debris can fall on the street... if it is glass it can shatter. It is important that customers realize the hazards of overstuffed carts.

- Never walk or stand within 50 feet behind a garbage truck, there are blind spots in such a big truck.
- Bicyclists: be very careful when passing a garbage truck, you can appear "out of nowhere" to the driver. Due to the weight of the truck, empty or loaded, it takes 3 to 5 seconds to stop not counting the driver's reaction time.

Please discuss all the garbage truck safety rules above with your children. Especially, what the loud beeping noise is that a heavy piece of equipment makes when it backs up. Explain that a child can easily fit into a blind spot to the driver, so never get too close to the back of any big equipment.



# Stop Junk Mail



Junk mail is a waste, and it costs real money to handle and recycle unwanted mail. It takes 17 trees to make a ton of paper. That means nearly 100 million trees get used for

junk mail every year in the U.S. Let's keep the trees in the forest, and get the junk mail out of your home.

**Stop Junk Mail Kit:** It's quick and easy. Download includes two pre-printed postcards that take your name off of the two big marketing mailing lists in the U.S. You'll notice a dramatic difference in junk mail after just a few months! StopJunkMail.Org has sample "take me off your mailing list" letters, contact information for key junk mailers, and useful links.

**Yellow Pages Opt-Out:** Tired of getting unwanted phone books in the mail or left at your doorstep? To help you opt-out of receiving unwanted directories, the National Yellow Pages Consumer Choice & Opt-Out site offers a free tool to select only the directories you'd like to receive. Visit [www.yellowpagesoptout.com](http://www.yellowpagesoptout.com) to register.

**Catalog Removal:** Catalog Choice ([www.catalogchoice.org](http://www.catalogchoice.org)) to make opting out of unwanted mail and phonebooks easy. This service makes it easy to opt-out of catalogs, marketing mailings, donation solicitations and more.

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