



NEW SHARPS DISPOSAL LAW

On September 1st 2008: the “Household Bleach Bottle” method of disposal of healthcare related “sharps” will no longer be acceptable in your trash cart.



Every year more than 2 billion needles and syringes are used nationwide outside of healthcare settings and most end up in the trash or recycling containers or flushed down toilets, posing serious health risks to children, workers, and the general public.

This SB 1305 bill revises a section of the state’s Medical Waste Management Act to make it a violation of state law home-generated sharps to be placed in solid waste collection containers, including recycling and greenwaste containers. SB 1305 would also require sharps to be transported in an approved sharps

container and managed by a specified facility (i.e., hazardous waste, medical waste generator facility, or a facility managed as part of a mail back program).

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE PROPER DISPOSAL OF SHARPS, GO TO WWW.STOPWASTE.ORG OR CALL 1-877-STOPWASTE (786-7927)

DISPOSE OF SHARPS FREE

The Alameda County Department of Environmental Health now provides a better, safe and practical solution for residents that generate “sharps” waste. As of July 1st, 2005 the HHW program is accepting home generated “sharps” waste from Alameda County residents. Alameda County residents can now dispose of their own home generated “sharps” waste safely and conveniently at any of Alameda County’s Household Hazardous Waste facilities, FREE!

This program is applicable to home generated “sharps” waste only. All businesses that generate sharps are required by the Medical Waste Management Act to have their biohazardous waste picked up by a registered biohazardous waste hauler.

**FOR MORE DETAILS
CALL 510-670-6460 OR TOLL-FREE 1-800-606-6606 OR
EMAIL HHWSHARPS@ACGOV.ORG**

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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BATTERIES AND BULBS

Batteries, household electronic equipment, and fluorescent bulbs can no longer be disposed of in the trash. These materials contain hazardous substances including corrosive chemicals and toxic metals, such as mercury and lead that cause harm to people and the environment. You have a number of options to recycle or properly dispose of these materials. Please contact:



www.household-hazwaste.org
or 1-800-606-6606

For the most up-to-date listings of drop-off locations for Household Hazardous Waste, visit the Recycling Wizard at www.StopWaste.Org/recycle or call the Alameda County Recycling Hotline toll-free at 1-877-STOPWASTE (786-7927).



FOOD SCRAP RECYCLING. MAKE IT SECOND NATURE. WWW.STOPWASTE.ORG

It's easy to collect food scraps and food-soiled paper in your kitchen pail or another container, such as a milk carton, ice cream carton or paper bag. Empty your food scraps into your green waste cart and set it by the curb for the weekly pick-up. For more information please see www.StopWaste.Org



WHAT ARE
FOOD SCRAPS?

ALL FOOD PRODUCTS, including fruit, vegetables, breads, cereal, dairy, meat (including bones), coffee grounds, filters, tea bags, and food-soiled paper such as paper towels, plates, napkins, pizza boxes and lunch sacks.

NO PLASTIC, GLASS, METAL OR LIQUIDS.

OTHER
CONTAINERS
TO COLLECT
FOOD IN

TAKE ME TO
YOUR LEFTOVERS

- Ice Cream Cartons
- Milk Cartons
- Newspaper
- Paper Bags



FILL TIME, NOT LANDFILLS THIS SUMMER

Camping. Vacations. Family. Eating out. It's summertime, but are you thinking about recycling? Here are some hints to help you produce less waste this summer:

- Provide a clear plastic bag or marked container for recycling cans and bottles and place it next to the trash bag. Have kids collect the containers and recycle them at the camp or picnic area or bring them home to recycle.
- Instead of purchasing paper products (plates and cups), give each person his/her own reusable plate and cup with his name on it.
- Serve drinks in bulk, liter containers or even larger water jugs. Cans of soda or water are often left half full because we can't remember which one is ours or there was just too much to drink.
- Buy food in bulk. Send a clear message to manufacturers that you prefer to purchase items with less packaging. If your favorite products are over-packaged, write to the manufacturers and stress the importance of producing less waste.



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