



Happy New Year

All of us at Amador Valley Industries wish that all the good things of life be yours in abundance throughout the coming year. We appreciate your good will and look forward to serving you this year. Please visit our Web site or call our customer service department if we can be of assistance to you.

New Year's Greensolutions

I will keep the lid on my cart down at pickup time.

Trash from an overstuffed cart can be blown out before the service truck arrives or spill on the street as the cart is lifted and tipped into the automated service truck, even if it is in bags. Sharp objects that fall from the top of an overstuffed cart can cause a safety hazard for pedestrians and vehicles. We appreciate your help to keep your home and our city safe and clean.

I will use my own shopping bags to cut down on plastic throw away bags.

In the United States we use over 88 billion plastic throw away bags that take 12 million barrels of oil to make. Less than 1 percent of these will be recycled, according to Worldwatch Institute, and each bag can take up to 1,000 years to decompose.

I will put more food scraps in my green cart this year.

Food scraps and food-soiled paper are the largest unrecycled portion of the residential waste stream. By recycling food scraps we are able to help save landfill space and create compost.

I will do my best to keep household batteries and fluorescent lamps out of my trash cart.

As of February 9, 2006 State law requires all types of household batteries and fluorescent lamps to be recycled. They can no longer be thrown in the trash. Please collect batteries in a non-leaking sturdy plastic container and take to the Household Hazardous Waste drop-off site nearest you. For information and schedule please contact Alameda County Household Hazardous Waste at: **(800) 606-6606** or on the Web at: www.household-hazwaste.org or www.StopWaste.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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**HEY,
YOU DONE
WITH THAT?**



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

Why we recycle food scraps

Food scraps and food soiled paper are the largest single item in our waste stream - making up approximately 35% of what we throw away in Alameda County. Food scraps are a resource, not a waste. By participating in the food scrap recycling program, food scraps and food soiled paper are sent to a composting facility. Instead of taking up space in the landfill, your food scraps become compost - a valuable resource used by landscapers and farmers.

Recycling food scraps is easy

1. Collect food scraps in kitchen pail
2. Empty the contents of your kitchen pail into your green yard waste cart
3. Set out your green yard waste cart for weekly pickup, but please don't set your little pail out at the curb.

Helpful hints:

Line your pail with a paper bag or newspaper to help keep it clean. Using the pail is not required. You can collect your food scraps in paper ice cream cartons, take-out containers, milk cartons paper bags or

any other paper container that works for you.

What to include:

- All Food Products
- Fruit, vegetable, breads, cereal, dairy
- Meat, fish (including bones)
- Leftovers & table scraps
- Coffee Grounds, filters & tea bags
- Food-Soiled Paper
- Paper towels, plates & napkins
- Pizza boxes

What not to include:

- Plastic (bags, containers, Styrofoam etc.), Glass, Metal and Liquids

How Do I Get Rid of Stuff that Does Not Belong In The Trash? The StopWaste.org Recycling Wizard Can Help!

On the Web site of StopWaste.org is a great searchable database of recycling information. The Web pages found here list where you can recycle a huge variety of items, from all types of electronics to mattresses and beyond. Also included is information about where items can be reused or donated. Where there are both reuse and recycling options, resources for both are noted. Finally, please pay attention to the information about proper disposal of common items such as motor oil, batteries, and needles that are potentially harmful or toxic when improperly managed. Logon to www.StopWaste.org today and see how easy it is to find the information you need fast.

Recycling Wizard

Buying Recycled/Green Products <input type="text" value="Select a material..."/> <input type="button" value="GO"/>	What Can I Recycle Curbside? <input type="text" value="Select a city..."/> <input type="button" value="GO"/>
Where Can I Recycle? <input type="text" value="Select a material..."/> <input type="button" value="GO"/>	Garbage/Recycling Pickup Problems <input type="text" value="Select a city..."/> <input type="button" value="GO"/>

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