



Happy New Year

All of us at Amador Valley Industries wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year.

We appreciate your support and look forward to serving you. Please visit our website or call our customer service department if we can be of assistance to you.



Why We Collect and Compost Food Scraps

- Food scraps and food-soiled paper are the largest single item in our waste stream and make up about 1/3 of what we throw away.
- Food scraps and yard trimmings collected from curbside bins are sent to a composting facility where they are turned into compost.
- Compost is a valuable resource used by landscapers, farmers, and gardeners to grow food in California. Quality compost is vital to a healthy food supply, and improves soil quality, water retention, increases crop yield, and reduces the need for fertilizers and pesticides.
- Food scrap composting reduces green house gases. Food scraps emit more methane than any other material in the landfill, and methane is 23 times more potent a GHG than carbon dioxide (CO₂).

What items can be composted in the green bin?

All food products: fruit, vegetables, breads, cereal, dairy, meat (including bones); coffee grounds, filters and tea bags.

Uncoated food-soiled paper: paper towels, plates, napkins, pizza boxes and paper lunch bags.

Plant waste and untreated wood

What items are not allowed in the green bin?

Plastic, glass, metal, liquids, and pet waste should never go in the green bin. When these items are put in the green bin, they contaminate the compost that we use to grow our food.



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

Amador Valley Industries

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Our New Years Goal: Reduce Waste Stream Danger

Causes Of Dangerous Conditions in Our Waste Stream

FIRE

What Causes “rechargeable” NiCad and Lithium Batteries to Catch Fire?

This problem typically takes place after years of usage, but it can likewise occur quickly due to a number of elements including: Overcharging, Excessive heat, Poor ventilation and



Excessive cold. A battery fire is caused by a buildup of excess heat inside the battery. The battery is designed to lose heat to the environment but when the heat tolerance level is exceeded, the battery internal resistance increases, increasing heat even further makes the battery experience thermal runaway. A thermal runaway phenomenon occurs in batteries of all the electrochemical systems. In the case of the thermal runaway occurrence, a battery heats up sharply and afterwards a battery body inflammation is possible followed by an explosion.



Source: The Reasons of Thermal Runaway in Nickel-Cadmium Batteries | Bentham Science (eurekaselect.com)

Other Fire Dangers

Fireplace and Barbecue ashes can look cold and grey but a hot ember can hide inside and last for days. Sometimes people put these ashes in foil thinking it is safe, but a hot ember can heat up the foil package and ignite surrounding fuel in the trash. The only way to guarantee there are no hot embers in your ashes is to completely soak your ashes in water in a metal pail or a foil baking pan.

Remember:

Fires can start in your trash cart and melt it and even catch nearby structures on fire. A fire in one of our trucks can not only destroy our truck and endanger firefighters but it can create noxious smoke that will poison the air.

CHEMICAL CONTAMINATION

Chemicals, especially if they accidentally combine, cause fires, toxic fumes/gasses and poison landfills. If this happens in your cart and you flip the lid open you could release a gas cloud that could damage your lungs or make you sick. (See below for a common list)



In California, it is illegal to put electronic equipment in the trash. Many electronic devices contain toxic chemicals that can leak from the landfill and contaminate groundwater and soil. Electronic devices are those that have a circuit board and/or LCD screen. Please be vigilant with phones, tablets and laptop computers and keep them out of the trash.



Please never put hazardous waste in any cart.

See StopWaste.org for disposal options.

StopWaste Phone: Office (510) 891-6500

Recycling Helpline (510) 891-6550

Website: <https://www.stopwaste.org/at-home/household-hazardous-waste>



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE WATCH LIST

Paint

Stain
Shellac
Solvents
Thinners
Additives
Oil Paint
Latex Paint

Adhesives

Putty
Caulk
Epoxy
Mortar
Stucco
Cement
Wood Glue

Auto

Fuel
Waxes
Batteries
Additives
Motor Oil
Oil Filters
Antifreeze

Garden

Sprays
Fertilizers
Ant Traps
Pesticides
Herbicides
Rat Poison
Gopher Bait

Misc.

Propane
Pool Chemicals
Photo Chemicals
Acids & Caustics
Household Batteries
Bleach & Cleaners
Fluorescent Bulbs

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