

Pleasant Hill Business Community Newsletter

Recycling & Waste Solutions



**REPUBLIC
SERVICES**

Food Waste Composting Coming in 2017

State law AB1826 requires businesses to recycle organic waste. All businesses that generate 4 or more yards of organic waste per week must begin recycling it starting in January 2017. Anyone can participate! You will be contacted if you have to participate per state law. Food scraps recycling is available at no additional cost. Reduce, reuse, recycle and save money on your garbage bill. For more information on the law, visit

www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Recycle/Commercial/Organics/.

- Brush/Weeds
- Flowers/flower cuttings
- Garden trimmings
- House plants
- Lawn clippings
- Leaves
- Pruning/Shrubbery
- Twigs
- Cooked food scraps
- Veggies
- Meats
- Seafood
- Dairy Products
- Breads/Grains/Pasta
- Fruits
- Bones/Shells



Apartment & Condo Composting

State law AB1826 requires apartments and condos that generate 4 or more yards of yard waste must begin recycling it in January 2017. Tenants are encouraged, but not required to recycle food waste by placing it in yard waste carts, if available. Kitchen pails are also available for tenants. Contact the Recycling Coordinators at (925) 671-5860 or RecycleCoordinators@republicservices.com to order kitchen pails for your property.



Rate Increase

To cover the cost of the new services, a rate increase will go into effect on January 1. The rate increase will be 85% of the CPI plus 2% over the next three years.

Mandatory Trash & Recycling



Pleasant Hill Municipal Code 13.10 requires all businesses and apartments/condos to subscribe to garbage and recycling service. Recycling is included in the garbage rate so there is no additional cost. The more your business can reduce, reuse and recycle, the less goes in the trash, the more potential to save on your garbage bill. Republic Services offers free waste audits, educational materials for employees, and can provide the necessary recycling containers for inside your business. Call the Recycling Coordinators at (925) 671-5860 or email RecycleCoordinators@republicservices.com.

Compostable Bags

Plastic bags are not allowed in the food waste composting program. If you use plastic bags, the material will be serviced as garbage and you will have to pay the garbage rate. Try bagless! If you must line your containers, only the following bags are accepted:

- **Biomass Packaging**
www.biomasspackaging.com or
contact Allen King, (510) 501-3307
allen@excellentpackaging.com
- **Bio Bag**
www.biobagusa.com or
contact Tom Goldy, (727) 789-1646 x112
tom@biobagusa.com



Business Recycling

State law AB341 requires businesses that generate 4 cubic yards or more of waste per week to have a recycling program in place. Contact Republic Services for a free waste audit, educational materials and free indoor recycling bins. Call the Recycling Coordinators at (925) 671-5860 or email RecycleCoordinators@republicservices.com. For more information on the law, visit <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/recycle/commercial/>.



Apartment & Condo Recycling

Apartments and condos with 5 or more units are also required to have a recycling program. Contact Republic Services for free educational resources, including recycling tote bags for tenants to store and empty recyclables into outdoor containers. Call the Recycling Coordinators at (925) 671-5860 or email RecycleCoordinators@republicservices.com.



White Pony Express

Does your business have excess food at the end of the day that gets thrown out? Or imperfect produce that can't be sold? White Pony Express, a non-profit organization located in Pleasant Hill, will rescue surplus food and deliver to organizations in the area serving those in need. They will do the same with clothing, books and toys.

It's simple to donate! Call the hotline, (925) 322-0604 and leave a message, or email dispatcher@whiteponyexpress.org and let them know the details of your donation. Messages are checked between 9 AM and 9 PM, and a driver will be by within two hours to pick up the donation! More information at www.whiteponyexpress.org.

Can It Be Recycled?

Recycling in Pleasant Hill is easy! All recycle material goes into one cart/bin. So what can be recycled? Cardboard, all types of paper and paperboard (like cereal boxes), plastics with a #1-7 on the bottom, metal like tin cans and aluminum foil, and glass bottles. All items going into the recycling should be clean- no food or liquids please. Items that should not go into the recycling include wood, appliances or electronics of any kind, clothing, furniture, or hazardous waste.

Recycle Where?

Not sure how to recycle or dispose of an item? Visit recyclewhere.org. Simply enter the item and your zip code, and learn about reuse, recycle and disposal options.



Certified Green Business

Looking to show off your sustainability efforts and draw in more eco-conscious consumers? Become a certified green business! Learn more by visiting <http://www.greenbiz.ca.gov/AboutUsCCC.html> or register at www.greenbusinessca.org.

Reuse: Always Better Than Recycling!

Pleasant Hill is fortunate to have several fantastic thrift and consignment stores. Instead of buying new, give the world a break and consider outfitting your business with secondhand furnishings. There is no shame in the reuse game! And, if you have items in decent condition you no longer need, donate!

- **Estates Consignments**
1500 Contra Costa Blvd.
- **Goodwill**
1699 Contra Costa Blvd.
- **Salvation Army**
1806 Linda Dr.
- **St. Vincent De Paul Society**
2825 Contra Costa Blvd
- **Youth Homes Auxiliary Thrift Shop**
15 Vivian Dr.



Disposal of Hazardous Waste

Many common items contain mercury, heavy metals, and other toxic chemicals. Because these toxic materials will seep out and contaminate the environment, it is illegal to place them in the garbage or recycling. These include fluorescent lamps and tubes, batteries and paints. Small businesses can properly dispose of hazardous materials at the Household Hazardous Waste Facility for a nominal charge. While you're there, be sure to check out the free reuse room. You might just find some paint or cleaning products or other items you need. For more details, call (925) 228-9500 or visit www.centalsan.org.

Disposal of Electronic Waste

Electronics contain heavy metals and other toxic chemicals and must be disposed of properly. It is illegal to place electronics in the trash or recycling. Rapid Recycle in Pacheco accepts nearly anything with a plug, including appliances, for free drop off, or pick up for a small fee. For more information, call 671-8008 or visit www.rapidrecycle.net.

