

April 2021 Recycling and Waste Newsletter

Let's celebrate Earth Day all year long!



Earth Day is celebrated around the world on April 22 every year. There are usually cleanup events, celebrations and environmental activities that remind us all of the importance of reducing our environmental impact and conserving our natural resources for future generations.

This year, let us celebrate Earth Day every day. There are lots of activities we can do at home to help sustain and protect the health of our planet, ecosystems and local communities. One of the greatest threats facing the sustainability of our planet is the impact of climate change.

Climate Change occurs partly due to greenhouse gas emissions released by human activities. When we place organic waste (food scraps, food-soiled paper, and yard waste) in our trash cart, these materials are sent to the landfill where they break down and produce greenhouse gases and short-lived climate super pollutants, such as methane gas.

California is focusing its efforts to reduce organic waste deposited into landfills and passed legislation which requires that all residents and businesses help divert organic waste. Senate Bill 1383 requires statewide reductions of organic waste going to the landfills by mandating that these materials be composted and that edible food be donated wherever possible. These actions will help significantly reduce the impact of greenhouse gases and help combat the effects of climate change.

At home, we can help to reduce the production of short-lived climate super pollutants by placing food waste, food-soiled paper and yard waste in the green waste cart. These materials are sent to a compost facility instead of placing them in the landfill.

You can also help our planet by saving natural resources. When you place recyclable materials, such as glass, cardboard, paper or cans in your recycling cart, these materials are processed in a material recover facility and will be reused to manufacture new products. Please remember that items need to be empty, clean and dry.

Finally, It is important that we properly dispose of our household hazardous waste. Call our HHW hotline at **707.438.8971** and make an appointment .

Fairfield residents recycled 18,014 pounds and composted 30,660 pounds of organics for a grand total of 48,674 pounds that were diverted from the landfill in 2020. Please contact Customer Service at **707.437.8900** or visit Republicservices.com/Fairfield for more information.

Let's keep up the good work and we will let you know how much more Fairfield recycles and composts in 2021!

Compost your food waste

Fairfield residents can help meet California's ambitious goals by placing food waste in the green cart. This simple action can help reduce our methane gas emissions and help combat climate change. It is easy, just collect food scraps while you are cooking, washing dishes or cleaning your refrigerator and place them in your green waste cart.

According to CalRecycle, organics like food scraps, yard trimmings, paper and cardboard make up half of what Californians dump in landfills. Organics also produce 20% of the state's methane gases, a climate super pollutant 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide.

Republic Services and the City of Fairfield will continue making progress towards State Law SB1383. While specific program details are still developing, Republic Services and the City will continue to provide information and updates. Please visit Calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/slcp for more information about SB1383.



What can be composted?



Food Scraps

- Fruit
- Vegetables
- Bones
- Coffee grounds
- Dairy products
- Egg shells
- Fish and meat
- Grains
- Baked goods

Food-Soiled Paper

- Pizza boxes
- Non-coated paper plates

Yard Waste

- Plant trimmings
- Grass clippings
- Leaves
- Weeds

Do not place in the green waste cart

Plastic bags, bamboo, dead animals, dirt, rock, sand, lawn sod, diapers, polystyrene foam, hazardous waste, manure or pet waste, palm fronds, oleanders, treated or pressure wood, coated or painted wood, recycled materials, burn material or ash, trash.

Help Us Serve You Better

Place carts at least **2 feet** apart and **6 feet** between any other objects at the curb.

