



Some hazardous products may be taken back to the store where they were purchased for recycling or proper disposal. Whether due to state law or marketing strategy, some retailers responsibly assume responsibility for their product at the end of its life.

### Take Back Medicines and Sharps

The **Sharp Solutions for Home Medicines Program** provides a safe, free and environmentally responsible way for residents to get rid of unused or outdated medications and hypodermic needles or other medical sharps.

These household medical wastes should never be flushed down the toilet or tossed in the garbage.

Dozens of convenient drop-off sites for waste medications and needles include most pharmacies and many medical facilities around Santa Cruz County, with primary funding by local governments.

For a complete list of take back sites call 454-2160 or visit: [www.sharpmedsolutions.org](http://www.sharpmedsolutions.org)



### Take Back Fluorescent Lamps



Burned out fluorescent tubes and compact bulbs must be handled carefully to avoid breakage because they contain a small but significant amount of toxic mercury. State law prohibits disposal in the garbage.

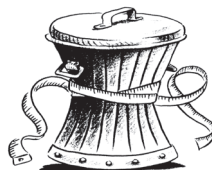
Many lighting and hardware stores in Santa Cruz County host lamp take back, funded by local governments. For a list of lamp take back sites, call 454-2160 or visit: [www.santacruzcountyrecycles.org](http://www.santacruzcountyrecycles.org)

### Take Back Other Products

- **Paint** – 5 retail paint stores in Santa Cruz County now accept unused latex and oil paint from the public.
- **Cell Phones** – state law requires all retailers who sell cellular phones to take them back at no charge.
- **Rechargeable Batteries** – all retailers who sell these batteries must take them back at no charge.
- **Motor Oil** – many auto parts stores and lube shops accept used oil & filters.
- **Tires** – tire dealers will recycle old tires when new tires are purchased.

Household Hazardous Waste Facilities or disposal sites also accept all materials listed in this **Take Back** section.

## Local Resources To Help Reduce Waste



**Santa Cruz County  
Recycling Information:**  
454-2333

**Household Hazardous  
Waste Services:**  
454-2606

**Earth's 911**  
(national recycling guide)  
**1-800-CLEANUP**  
[www.earth911.org](http://www.earth911.org)

**Note: 831 Area Code for all phone numbers unless otherwise specified.**

## Where To Recycle in Santa Cruz County



County of Santa Cruz  
Department of Public Works  
701 Ocean St., Room 410  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
[www.santacruzcountyrecycles.org](http://www.santacruzcountyrecycles.org)



## Where To Recycle in Santa Cruz County

### A Listing of Recycling Opportunities

**March 2014**

# Preparing Your Materials for Recycling

**GENERAL GUIDELINES:**  
Check with your recycling program for details



## Bag Your Plastic Bags

All curbside recycling programs in Santa Cruz County accept clean, dry plastic bags in your recycling cart. "Bag your bags" by stuffing plastic bags into a larger bag and knotting it at the top so it stays together during transport. Do not put loose bags in your cart. Stretchable clean plastic bags and film are acceptable such as bread and produce bags, stretch/shrink wrap, and bubble wrap. Bags are also accepted at some supermarkets and at several drop-off centers. When shopping, please reuse or bring your own.

## California Redemption

Receive money back for soda, beer, water, wine cooler, and sports drink bottles and cans at certified redemption centers. Look for "CA Refund Value" on label.

## Plastic Containers

Bottles, tubs and trays. Rinse and flatten to save space. Symbol with triangle of arrows and number imprinted on container bottom identifies plastic resin type, not its recyclability.

## Mixed Paper

Any color letter, copy, computer, fax, or NCR paper, envelopes, junk mail, newspaper, magazines, catalogs, phone books, paperboard, paper bags. No napkins, tissue, food-contaminated, or crosscut shredded paper.

## Cans

Aluminum and tin cans may be mixed with other containers in curbside programs. Separate aluminum and tin cans for drop-off and redemption. Rinse lightly.

## Glass Jars & Bottles

Clear, brown, green. Separate by color for drop-off and redemption; mix colors in curbside collection. Light rinse; labels OK. Bottles and jars only. No pyrex, drinking glasses, ceramics, windows, or mirrored glass.

## Wood & Yard Waste

Yard waste includes grass clippings, plants, weeds, leaves, tree trimmings, shrubs, ivy, wood chips, and bark. Acceptable wood waste includes unpainted and untreated lumber. No food waste, soil, plastics, bags of any kind, or trash. No pine pitch canker.

## Cardboard

Flatten boxes. No waxed cardboard. Corrugated cardboard and brown paper bags widely accepted. Some drop-off and all curbside programs accept paperboard (cereal boxes, shoe boxes, six-pack containers, notepad backings, paper egg cartons, etc.) with cardboard.

## Styrofoam Banned

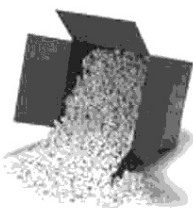
No recycling centers or curbside programs in Santa Cruz County can recycle Styrofoam. With the exception of packing peanuts reused by mailing services, Styrofoam is destined for landfill disposal. Local laws ban the use of Styrofoam cups and take-out containers by food service establishments in most jurisdictions in Santa Cruz County. Styrofoam products are no longer sold in stores in parts of the county.

## Hard Plastics

Rigid plastic buckets, bins, parts and toys are accepted in some curbside and drop-off programs. Check with your recycling program to verify which plastics they want. Remove metal parts.

## Foam Packing Puffs

The UPS Store and most mailing and shipping services accept clean foam packing "peanuts" for reuse. Call for UPS Store locations at 426-5762.



## Textile Discards

Many local thrift stores accept clean, dry textiles along with other saleable items including clothes, shoes, belts, handbags, household items, toys, books, and sometimes furniture. Old clothes can be used for a variety of purposes depending on their condition.



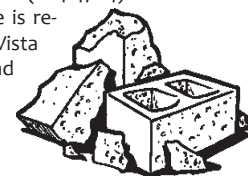
## Backyard Composting



Turn your leaves, grass and food scraps into a nutrient-rich soil amendment for your garden. Some classes and free or discount bins are available. For a wealth of information and tips, see: [www.compostsantacruzcounty.org](http://www.compostsantacruzcounty.org).

## Construction Materials

Habitat for Humanity ReStore accepts donations of used building materials (824-4704). Construction and demolition waste is recycled at the Buena Vista Landfill (454-2430) and City of Santa Cruz Resource Recovery Facility (420-6270).



**Santa Cruz County Recycling Information Line: 454-2333**

## Recycle your Used Motor Oil and Oil Filters



**Curbside:** Call your program to order a free oil jug. Drain filter and seal in a clear plastic bag. Place jug and filter next to (not inside) your blue cart for pickup day.

**Drop-off:** Oil and filters are accepted free at 20 oil recycling collection centers throughout Santa Cruz County.

For drop-off locations call:

**1-800-CLEANUP**

## Household Hazardous Waste

The County of Santa Cruz HHW program allows residents to properly dispose of harmful household products such as paints, cleaners, garden and automotive products that are no longer needed. The service is free to all residents of Santa Cruz County. Useful products are given away for free through the Second Chance Store. Call for a schedule of days and hours of operation of HHW facilities located at city and county disposal sites.



For info call:

**454-2606**



# Where To Recycle

in Santa Cruz County  
Updated March 2014

View or print an  
up-to-date  
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[www.santacruzcountyrecycles.org](http://www.santacruzcountyrecycles.org)

● = Material Accepted  
(see preparation guidelines on reverse)  
\* = Conditionally Accepted  
(see notes below)

Notes ( \* ) and  
Other Materials ( + )

Sponsor	Location	Mode	Hours	Phone	CA Redemption	Glass Containers	Aluminum Cans & Foil	Tin Cans	Scrap Metal	Plastic Containers	Hard Plastics	Plastic Bags	Milk Cartons & Aseptics	Corrugated Cardboard	Mixed Paper	Wood & Yard Waste	Motor Oil & Filters	Dry Cell Batteries	Electronic Waste (E-Waste)	Household Hazardous Waste	Styrofoam	
<b>Countywide</b>																						
GreenWaste Recovery of Santa Cruz & County of Santa Cruz	residents of unincorporated areas of Santa Cruz County by subscription	curbside collection	weekly on garbage day	426-2711 800-665-2209		●	●	●	*	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	*				
<b>San Lorenzo Valley</b>																						
County of Santa Cruz & Valley Women's Club	Ben Lomond Transfer Station Recycling Center Newell Creek Rd.	\$ CA redemption & drop-off	7:30-3:30 Mon-Sat 10-3 for CA redemption	336-3950 335-1728	●	●	●	●	●	*	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	*		
Valley Women's Club	Boulder Creek Redemption and Recycle Center, 12890 Hwy 9 behind Village Wash & Dry	\$ CA redemption & drop-off	24-hr drop-off; redemption 11-5 Tues-Sun, closed 1-2	335-1728	●	●	●	●		*			●	*	*							
Valley Women's Club	Felton Redemption and Recycling Center corner of Hihn & Gushee	\$ CA redemption & drop-off	24-hr drop-off; redemption 11-5 Thurs-Tues, closed 1-2	335-1728	●	●	●	●		*			●	●	●							
<b>Scotts Valley</b>																						
GreenWaste Recovery of Santa Cruz & City of Scotts Valley	all residences in the city	curbside collection	weekly on garbage day	426-2711		●	●	●	*	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	*				
RePlanet Recycling Center	Nob Hill Foods parking lot 222 Mt. Hermon Rd.	\$ CA redemption	10-4:30 Tues-Sat, closed 1-1:30	877-737-5263	●																	
<b>Santa Cruz</b>																						
City of Santa Cruz Recycling Program	all residences in the city	curbside collection	weekly on garbage day	420-5220		●	●	●		*		●		●	●	●	●					
City of Santa Cruz Recycling Program	Resource Recovery Center Dimeo Lane 3 mi. north on Hwy 1 Santa Cruz city and north county residents only	drop-off	7:30-3:30 Mon-Sat	420-6270		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	*		
NexCycle Recycling Centers	Costco Gas Station, Harvey West Blvd. at Sylvania Ave. behind Costco	\$ CA redemption	10:30-5 Wed-Mon, closed 1-2	800-883-2274	●																	
RePlanet Recycling Center	1201 Fair Ave. next to New Leaf Market	\$ CA redemption & buyback	9-4:30 Tues-Sat, closed 1-1:30	877-737-5263	●				●										●			
Grey Bears	2710 Chanticleer Ave. off Soquel Dr. at Sutter hospital	drop-off	7:30-3:45 every day	479-1055		●	●	●	●	*	●	●	●	●	●				●			

\* small scrap metal items under 18"  
\* seal batteries in a clear plastic bag & place on lid of blue cart

\* plastic containers sorted into #1, #2, and #3-7  
\* HHW drop-off Thurs only  
+ antifreeze & auto batteries  
+ fee for tires, mattresses, large appliances, wood & yard waste

\* plastic containers sorted into #1, #2, and #3-7  
\* due to small size of site, take large amounts of cardboard and paper to Ben Lomond or Felton sites

\* plastic containers sorted into #1, #2, and #3-7

\* small scrap metal items under 18"  
\* seal batteries in a clear plastic bag & place on lid of blue cart

\* plastic bottles, jars and tubs, #1-7; no styrofoam or trays

\* HHW drop-off Sat only  
+ auto batteries, antifreeze, toilets  
+ fee for large appliances, tires, mattresses, wood & yard waste

\* plastic containers sorted into #1, #2, and #3-7  
+ reusable clothes & household goods accepted at Thrift Store 10-2 M-Sat



# Where To Recycle

in Santa Cruz County  
Updated March 2014

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(see notes below)

Notes ( \* ) and  
Other Materials ( + )

Sponsor	Location	Mode	Hours	Phone	CA	Glas	Alumi	Tin	Scrap	Plas	Hart	Plas	Milk	Con	Mix	Woo	Mot	Dry	Elec	Hou	Styr	Notes ( * ) and Other Materials( + )	
<b>Capitola</b> GreenWaste Recovery of Santa Cruz & City of Capitola	all residences in the city	curbside collection	weekly on garbage day	426-2711		●	●	●	*	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	*					* small scrap metal items under 18" * seal batteries in a clear plastic bag & place on lid of blue cart
NexCycle Recycling Centers	Nob Hill Foods parking lot 809 Bay Ave.	\$ CA redemption	11-6 Tues-Sat, closed 2-3	800-883-2274	●																		
<b>Soquel</b> NexCycle Recycling Centers	Safeway parking lot 2720 41st Ave.	\$ CA redemption	10-5 Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun, closed 1-2	800-883-2274	●																		
<b>Aptos</b> RePlanet Recycling Center	Deluxe Foods parking lot 783 Rio Del Mar Blvd.	\$ CA redemption	10-4:30 Tues-Sat, closed 1-1:30	877-737-5263	●																		
<b>South County</b> County of Santa Cruz & Grey Bears	Buena Vista Landfill Recycle Center, 1 mi. south of Hwy 1 on Buena Vista Drive serves unincorporated county, Capitola & Scotts Valley	drop-off	7:30-3:30 Mon-Sat	454-2430 479-1055		●	●	●	●	*	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	*		* plastic containers sorted into #1, #2, and #3-7 * HHW drop-off Wed, Fri & Sat only + antifreeze & auto batteries, + fee for large appliances, tires, mattresses, asphalt, concrete, tile, brick, toilets, sheetrock, wood & yard waste
Watsonville Metals Company	213 Dias Lane near Casserly & Webb	\$ buyback & collection	8-5 Mon-Fri, 8-4 Sat	728-1551 800-750-9732			*		●														* aluminum cans only; no foil + junk cars, pickup by appointment
State Recycling Company	56 Porter Dr. in Pajaro	\$ CA redemption & buyback	8-5 Mon-Sat	724-7111 800-447-7117	●				●										●				
<b>Watsonville</b> City of Watsonville	all residences in the city	curbside collection	every other week on garbage day	768-3133		●	●	●		●	●	●		●	●	*	●						* yardwaste and recycle carts picked up on alternate weeks
City of Watsonville Waste and Recycling Drop-Off	320 Harvest Dr. Watsonville city residents only	drop-off	9-3:30 Mon-Sat	768-3133		●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	*	*			* residential e-waste only * HHW drop-off Tues, Wed & 2nd Sat of month only + antifreeze, auto batteries + fee for large appliances, mattresses, tires
Ed's Alloy Recycling	1705 Freedom Blvd.	\$ buyback	8-4 Mon-Fri	408-472-4726					●														
RePlanet Recycling Center	Crestview Shopping Ctr. 1424 Freedom Blvd.	\$ CA redemption	10-4:30 Tues-Sat, closed 1-1:30	800-266-2453	●																		
RePlanet Recycling Center	2010 Freedom Blvd. behind Ralphs	\$ CA redemption	10-4:30 Tues-Sat, closed 1-1:30	800-266-2453	●																		
RePlanet Recycling Center	Barsi Liquor 375 Hushbeck Ave.	\$ CA redemption	10-4:30 Tues-Sat, closed 1-1:30	800-266-2453	●																		
A&S Metals	1080 W. Beach St.	\$ CA redemption, buyback & drop-off	9-5 Mon-Sat	722-3597	●				●					●	●				●				+ auto batteries