

# HOW CAN WE RECYCLE & REDUCE WASTE IN CASTRO VALLEY?



**RESIDENTIAL CURBSIDE  
SERVICES GUIDE 2019-2024**



CVSan is a local public agency committed to providing safe, efficient, and effective zero waste and wastewater services. CVSan works on behalf of residents to plan and implement programs designed to meet state and local mandates for waste diversion through education and best practices.

**Alameda County Industries (ACI)**  
 CVSan has a 10-year municipal solid waste (recycling, organics, garbage, and construction and demolition debris) collection and processing agreement with Alameda County Industries (ACI) from May 1, 2019 - June 30, 2029. ACI currently contracts with the Cities of Alameda and San Leandro and has provided collection services since 1997. ACI's main office is located at 610 Aladdin Avenue in San Leandro. Learn more at [www.AlamedaCountyIndustries.com](http://www.AlamedaCountyIndustries.com).

**Below:** ACI collection vehicle in front of CVSan offices on Marshall Street.



# ZERO WASTE BY 2029



## WHAT IS ZERO WASTE?

Zero Waste means designing and managing products and processes to avoid and eliminate the volume and toxicity of waste and materials, conserve and recover all resources, and not burn or bury them. CVSan residents have been selecting their paths to Zero Waste by practicing the 4Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Rot). If given the choice, the best option is to prevent or reduce the amount of waste that is generated in the first place. The next best option is to reuse items.

CVSan residents play an important role in achieving Zero Waste by 2029.

## ON THE COVER

Reduce wasted fruit; make jam or preserves in small batches.

Use reusables instead of using single-use cups and serveware.



Shop for package-free groceries.



# THE 4Rs: REDUCE & REUSE



Less Stuff, More of What's Meaningful. Select Your Path to Zero Waste!

## REDUCE TO CONSUME LESS & MAKE LESS WASTE.

**No Thank You.** Skip the straw when ordering a beverage at a restaurant. Carry your own bag when shopping. Say, "no thank you" to plastic utensils, sauce packets, and other giveaways and use what you have at home or bring your own when traveling.

**Participate in CVSan's Zero Waste Week.** Every February CVSan hosts a week-long event to help residents learn more about reducing waste and living Zero Waste lifestyles. Event workshops vary annually. Visit [www.cvsan.org/ZeroWasteWeek](http://www.cvsan.org/ZeroWasteWeek) to learn about Zero Waste Week activities.

**Find ways to Select Your Path to Zero Waste.** Reducing your use is easy with CVSan's Zero Waste website, [www.SelectMyPath.org](http://www.SelectMyPath.org). Visit for tips and articles on how to reduce waste in every aspect of your life – from travel, to childcare, to cooking.



## REUSE TO USE AGAIN.

**Support local businesses that practice reuse.** CVSan has created Reuse Maps that highlight Castro Valley businesses that practice reuse by selling reused items, repairing items, or by providing other reuse services. Visit [www.cvsan.org/ReuseMaps](http://www.cvsan.org/ReuseMaps) to see the complete list of businesses and shop local.

**Attend a Fixit Clinic.** Fixit Clinic events are designed for residents to bring in their broken items and learn how to repair the item themselves. Instead of ending up in the landfill, fixed items can be reused. Workspaces, specialty tools, and coaches are available for participants. For event dates, visit [www.cvsan.org/RepairWorkshops](http://www.cvsan.org/RepairWorkshops).



# THE 4Rs: RECYCLE & ROT



## RECYCLE TO PROCESS AND REMANUFACTURE A RESOURCE INTO NEW PRODUCTS.

**Drop off items at a Recycles Day event.** Every April and August CVSsan hosts collection events for residents to drop off e-waste, household hazardous waste, and other items for recycling or proper disposal. For this year's dates and a list of accepted items, visit [www.cvsan.org/RecyclesDay](http://www.cvsan.org/RecyclesDay).

**Attend a processing facility tour.** What happens to your organics, garbage, and recycling once it leaves your curb? Find out by attending a tour of ACI's processing facility and the Davis Street Transfer Station in San Leandro. For details and tour dates, visit [www.cvsan.org/DSTSTour](http://www.cvsan.org/DSTSTour).



## ROT THE CONTROLLED BIOLOGICAL DECOMPOSITION OF ORGANIC MATERIALS.

**Pick up free compost at a Recycles Day event.** Along with dropping off items for recycling, CVSsan residents can receive free bags of compost at CVSsan's bi-annual Recycles Day events. The compost given at these events is created from materials processed from our green organics carts.

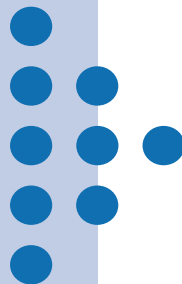
**Start food scrap recycling.** CVSsan offers one free food scrap recycling pail to all households. To receive your pail, visit our offices at 21040 Marshall Street, Castro Valley Monday - Friday, 7:00 – 11:00 a.m., 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

**Volunteer at CVSsan's Earth Day event.** Since 2003 CVSsan has hosted an annual Earth Day Clean-Up benefitting Castro Valley schools, parks, and public areas. Volunteers often remove litter and plant debris and spread new compost and mulch. Visit [www.cvsan.org/ED](http://www.cvsan.org/ED) to learn about volunteering.



# WHAT GOES IN MY BLUE RECYCLING CART?

Call ACI at 510-483-1400 to increase your recycling cart to a 96-gallon and/or request a second cart for free.



All plastics #1-7 (except foam)



Bundled plastic bags/wrap



Shelf stable (foil-lined) cartons



Scrap metal (up to 2 ft. & 40 lbs.)



Glass containers



Aluminum foil products & metal containers



Clean paper & cardboard

## WHAT DOES NOT BELONG IN THE BLUE RECYCLING CART?

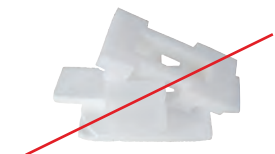
All of these items belong in the gray garbage cart, not the blue recycling cart:



Ceramics & glassware



Windows, mirrors, & sheet glass



Foam

Quality standards have increased. Effective March 1, 2018 China finalized a quality standard of 0.5% contamination for imported recyclables.

### 1. DEPACKAGE/EMPTY

Scrape food into the green organics cart first. Recycle empty aerosol cans.



### 2. RINSE/WIPE

Give containers a quick rinse.

### 3. KEEP RECYCLABLES LOOSE

Don't bag them! (except for bundled plastic bags/wrap).



## HOUSEHOLD (DRY-CELL) BATTERIES

Place AAA, AA, B, C, D, 9V, and small "button" batteries in a sealed heavy-duty plastic bag on top of your blue recycling cart. Liquid batteries such as automobile batteries and lithium-ion batteries are not accepted. **See page 15 for how to dispose of these batteries.**

## AUTOMOTIVE FLUIDS AND MOTOR OIL FILTERS

Call ACI at **510-483-1400** to request a free used motor oil jug and filter bag. Set out up to three one-gallon jugs and three filters curbside for pick-up on your regular collection day. Crankcase fluid, differential fluid, hydraulic fluid, lubricant oil, motor oil, and transmission fluid are accepted and can be combined in the jugs.

Anti-freeze and brake fluid are not accepted curbside. **See page 15 for how to dispose of these chemicals.**

In the spring and fall CVSan has a Filter Exchange Program where participants who recycle their used motor oil and filters can receive a coupon for a free filter. For program information, visit [www.cvsan.org/UsedOil](http://www.cvsan.org/UsedOil).

## OVERSIZED CARDBOARD

Cardboard that cannot fit in the blue recycling cart can be flattened up to 4'x 4' and placed beside the cart.



## COOKING OIL

Fats, oils, and grease can clog pipes and cause inconvenient and costly backups and sewer problems. Recycle used cooking oil instead of dumping it down the drain. Used cooking oil can be placed curbside next to the recycling cart in a screw-top plastic container that is no taller than 12 inches in height. The cooking oil's original container can be used if it meets these specifications. Label the container "Cooking Oil".

## TEXTILES

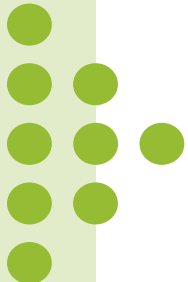
During the first full week in June and October on your regular collection day, place usable and nonusable bagged textiles (household linens, clothing, etc.) on the curb next to the blue recycling cart; they will also be collected at Recycles Day events in April and August. Textiles will be sorted for reuse. Do not set out textiles that are wet, moldy, or have human biowaste, blood, toxic chemicals, or motor oil on them. No light-up shoes or clothes. More information will be made available.





# WHAT GOES IN MY GREEN ORGANICS CART?\*

*\*Canyonlands residents do not receive organics service.*



Food scraps



Refrigerated cartons & egg cartons



Vegetarian (rabbit, hamster, etc.) pet feces



Shredded paper in paper bags



Yard trimmings, uncoated wood & chips, cactus & palm



Food-soiled paper containers

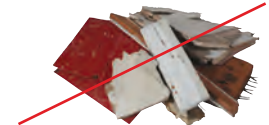


Paper towels, plates, napkins & cups

## WHAT DOES NOT BELONG IN THE GREEN ORGANICS CART?



Plastic (bags, flower pots, etc.), glass, metal, & aluminum belong in the blue recycling cart



Treated or coated wood belongs in the gray garbage cart



Rocks, dirt & concrete belong in a construction and demolition debris box (see page 16)

### HOW CAN I COLLECT FOOD SCRAPS?



Paper Bio-Bag Carton Pail

### EXTRAS?

- Upsize to a 96-gallon cart. Call **510-483-1400**
- Buy 30-gallon Paper Garden Bags. [www.cvsan.org/ExtraService](http://www.cvsan.org/ExtraService)



### SCHEDULE A BULKY AND REUSE PICK-UP

See page 13 for information.

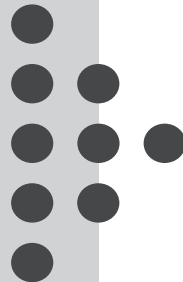






# WHAT GOES IN MY GRAY GARBAGE CART?

*Non-Recyclable,  
Non-Compostable,  
Non-Hazardous Items*



Foam



Pouches, straws & utensils



Non-fluorescent light bulbs  
(Turn the page for fluorescent disposal options)



Hoses & wire



Sheet glass  
(window, mirrors, etc.)



Treated wood  
(painted & stained)



Diapers & hygiene products



Glassware & ceramics



Cat litter & non-vegetarian  
(cat, dog, etc.) pet feces

## CAN'T FIT IT ALL IN YOUR CART?

For occasional extras, Extra Service Tags can be purchased from CVSan. For information and price, visit [www.cvsan.org/ExtraService](http://www.cvsan.org/ExtraService).

If you have large items to dispose of, turn to page 17 for Bulky and Reuse Pick-Up information.

## REDUCE YOUR WASTE SIZE

Reduce to a 20-gallon garbage cart and receive a one-time \$50 credit at [www.cvsan.org/ReduceYourWaste](http://www.cvsan.org/ReduceYourWaste)



## UPSIZE RECYCLING & ORGANICS

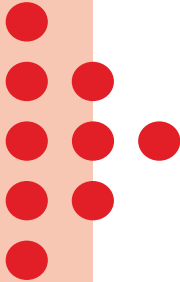
Call **510-483-1400** to increase your recycling and organics carts to a 96-gallon for free.

## GARBAGE EXEMPTION

Call **510-483-1400** to request a garbage service exemption. Recycling and organics services are still mandatory.



## WHAT ITEMS CANNOT GO IN MY CURBSIDE CARTS?



### HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE



**Paint:** additives, latex paint, oil paint, shellac, solvents, stain, thinners



**Adhesives:** caulk, cement, epoxy, mortar, putty, stucco, wood glue



**Drugs:** old, expired, or unneeded prescription and non-prescription drugs



**Sharps:** injectors, lancets, needles



**E-Waste:** computers, phones, printers, radios, TVs, other consumer electronic devices with circuit boards



**Auto:** additives, antifreeze, batteries, fuel, motor oil, oil filters, waxes



**Garden:** ant traps, fertilizers, gopher bait, herbicides, pesticides, rat poison, sprays



**Misc.:** acids & caustics, bleach & cleaners, fluorescent & LED bulbs, household batteries, pool & photo chemicals

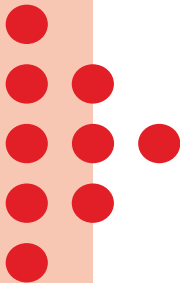


## WHERE CAN I DISPOSE OF CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION DEBRIS?

Construction and demolition (C&D) debris boxes can be requested by calling ACI at **510-483-1400**. Material can also be dropped off at the Davis Street Transfer Station in San Leandro. Vouchers for 2 cubic yards of free C&D debris drop-off are available at each April CVSsan Recycles Day event. Visit [www.cvsan.org/CandD](http://www.cvsan.org/CandD) for more information on debris disposal options.



## WHERE CAN I DISPOSE OF THESE KINDS OF WASTE?



All items listed above are accepted at Alameda County Household Hazardous Waste Facilities. For locations and hours, visit [www.cvsan.org/HHW](http://www.cvsan.org/HHW).

Visit [www.cvsan.org/Pharms](http://www.cvsan.org/Pharms) for additional pharmaceutical drop-off locations and information on approved sharps containers.

Additionally every April and August, CVSsan hosts Recycles Day events to collect items listed to the right. For this year's event dates, visit [www.cvsan.org/RecyclesDay](http://www.cvsan.org/RecyclesDay).

## ITEMS ACCEPTED/DISTRIBUTED AT RECYCLES DAY EVENTS

| CVSan Recycles Day Events | Textiles | Household Hazardous Waste | E-Waste | Tires or Mattresses | Documents for Shredding | Cooking Oil | C & D Vouchers | Compost Giveaway |
|---------------------------|----------|---------------------------|---------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------|----------------|------------------|
| April Events              | X        |                           | X       | X                   | X                       | X           | X              | X                |
| August Events             | X        | X                         | X       |                     |                         |             |                | X                |

**Note:** Event months and accepted items are subject to change. Visit [www.cvsan.org/RecyclesDay](http://www.cvsan.org/RecyclesDay) for the most up-to-date information.

## WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH ITEMS THAT ARE TOO LARGE FOR THE CARTS?

Call ACI at **510-483-1400** to schedule a Bulky & Reuse Pick-Up. Single-family residences are eligible for one pick-up per calendar year at no additional charge.



## WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO MY BULKY ITEMS?

Before being landfilled, items will be sorted and salvaged for reuse or recycling.

## SCHEDULE A PICK-UP

Call ACI to schedule a pick-up. Appointments are not available during the two week period in January beginning with the first Monday or the first week of June and October. Requests made at the end of the calendar year may not be fulfilled within the calendar year, so schedule appointments in advance.

## SET OUT ITEMS FOR PICK-UP

Place items within 3 feet of the curb by 6:00 a.m. on the scheduled pick-up day. Do not set items out more than 24 hours in advance. Do not block the street or sidewalk. **Canyonlands residents** - please contact ACI to coordinate a collection location.

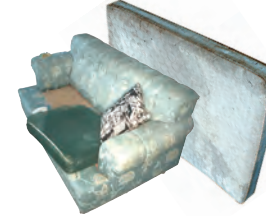
## WHAT CAN BE SET OUT FOR BULKY & REUSE PICK-UPS?

Residents are limited to 7 cubic yards (such as 3' x 3' x 21') per set-out. You will be charged for excess materials. No items over 75 pounds except for furniture and appliances. For a more detailed list of accepted items, visit [www.cvsan.org/BulkyPickup](http://www.cvsan.org/BulkyPickup).

## ACCEPTABLE ITEMS FOR BULKY & REUSE PICK-UPS



Up to 4 car or light truck tires (rims must be separated from the tires)



Household furniture, pillows, & mattresses



Yard trimmings & wood (up to 6" in diameter tied in bundles not longer than 4')



Clothing, textiles, shoes, belts, purses, & craft/sewing items



Scrap metal



Housewares, TVs, electronics, & appliances (remove or seal doors)



Trash that is bagged, boxed, or bundled



Books, CDs, VHS, DVDs, magazines, & framed pictures

## DO NOT INCLUDE



Hazardous waste



Construction or demolition debris & dirt

See page 15 for how to dispose of these items.



# WHAT SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT COLLECTION SERVICE?

## SCHEDULE & SET-OUT INFORMATION

Wheel carts to street curbside by 6:00 a.m. on your collection day. Residential collection will be provided Monday through Friday from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. **Exception:** Canyonlands service begins at 5:00 a.m. so carts must be curbside before then.

Remove your carts following service. Carts may not be left out for more than 24 hours.

Do not overload carts; the lids must close. Overage fees may apply to overflowing carts.

## NO ONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD IS ABLE TO TAKE OUR CARTS TO THE CURB. WHAT SHOULD I DO?

If you have physical difficulty taking your carts to the curb, call ACI at **510-483-1400** or visit **www.AlamedaCountyIndustries.com** for a street curbside exemption form. Upon approval, ACI will access carts from your backyard or side yard. You will need to submit a doctor's letter or certificate from the Department of Motor Vehicles each year to qualify.



## HOLIDAY INFORMATION

No service will be provided on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day. Services will be one day later than usual (through Saturday).

Holiday trees may be set out curbside on your regular collection day during a two-week period in January, beginning the first Monday of each year. At the end of this period, clean unflocked holiday trees may be cut up and placed inside the organics cart for collection.

Before setting out a tree for collection, remove ornaments, tinsel, nails, and stands. Flocked trees will be collected, but not composted. If necessary, cut the tree into a maximum of 6-foot lengths.



## IMPORTANT CONTACTS

**For service related matters, contact:**

### ALAMEDA COUNTY INDUSTRIES (ACI)

**510-483-1400**

[www.AlamedaCountyIndustries.com/CVSan](http://www.AlamedaCountyIndustries.com/CVSan)

Monday - Friday,  
7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**For more information on Castro Valley's Zero Waste programs, contact:**

### CASTRO VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT (CVSan)

**510-537-0757**

[www.cvsan.org](http://www.cvsan.org)

Monday - Friday,  
7:00 – 11:00 a.m.  
& 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

### REPORT ILLEGAL DUMPING

**Alameda County Public Works Agency**

**510-670-5500**

[www.acpwa.org](http://www.acpwa.org)

### REDUCE

**Select Your Path to Zero Waste**

[www.SelectMyPath.org](http://www.SelectMyPath.org)

**Stop Wasted Food**

[www.stopfoodwaste.org](http://www.stopfoodwaste.org)

### REUSE

**Repair Items**

[www.fixitclinic.org](http://www.fixitclinic.org)

**Donate Items**

[www.cvsan.org/Reuse](http://www.cvsan.org/Reuse)

### RECYCLE

**Dispose of Household Hazardous Waste**

800-606-6606

[www.household-hazwaste.org](http://www.household-hazwaste.org)

**Find a Beverage Container Recycling Center**

800-RECYCLE

[www.bottlesandcans.com](http://www.bottlesandcans.com)

### ROT

**Bay-Friendly Landscaping**

510-444-SOIL

[www.rescapeca.org](http://www.rescapeca.org)

**Buy Compost or Mulch**

Davis Street Garden Center

510-639-7342

[www.dsgardencenter.com](http://www.dsgardencenter.com)





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**CVSan**



**CASTRO VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT**

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Castro Valley, CA 94546-6020  
510-537-0757  
[www.cvsan.org](http://www.cvsan.org)

**ALAMEDA COUNTY INDUSTRIES (ACI)  
COLLECTION AGREEMENT BEGINS ON MAY 1, 2019**