

RECYCLING resource

READY FOR RECYCLING

Preparing your Recyclables for Curbside Collection

RESIDENTS CAN HELP to increase recycling and reduce what is sent to the landfill by preparing recyclables correctly. Proper preparation of recyclables helps reduce contamination, ensuring the processing of these materials to make them into new things. Recycling plays a vital role in keeping our community clean and sustainable.

Mountain View's recycling cart is split into two sections: one side for mixed paper and cardboard (dark blue lid), and the other side for bottles and cans (light blue lid). Separating these materials keeps the cardboard and paper cleaner, improving its recyclability.

Below are some simple guidelines to properly prepare your recyclables.

PAPER RECYCLING

- ▶ **Flatten all cardboard** before placing it in the recycling cart to save space and improve processing efficiency. Remember to remove any Styrofoam from cardboard packaging, and place the Styrofoam in the trash.
- ▶ **Only clean paper and cardboard can be recycled.** Dirty paper soiled with food or liquid goes in the compost. Paper items like napkins, plates, towels, cups, egg cartons, and cardboard pizza boxes can't be recycled due to the food and grease residue on them.
- ▶ **Properly prepare shredded paper** by putting it in a paper bag, staple shut and place it in the paper recycling cart.



Flatten all cardboard before placing it in the recycling cart. ▶

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- ▶ **Keep it Loose! Please do not bag your recyclables.** Both containers and paper recycling should be loose. Plastic bags are not recyclable and get caught in the processing equipment.
- ▶ **No batteries or e-waste** are allowed in your curbside recycling carts. This includes e-cigarettes and vapes. Batteries, especially lithium-ion, contain toxic chemicals and are a fire safety risk. Visit **HHW.org** for proper disposal options.



- ▶ **Got Extra Recycling?** Set out no more than 2 extra containers of recycling next to the cart — cans and bottles in one paper bag or box and paper in another.

(Ready for Recycling, continued on page 2)

READY FOR RECYCLING, continued

CONTAINER RECYCLING

- ▶ **Keep it clean and dry.** Scrape or rinse recyclables to reduce contamination. Aim for no more than a **quarter-sized** amount of debris left behind. See FAQ below. Aluminum foil with minimal food residue can also be recycled.
 - A good test: If you shake a container and food or liquid comes out, it needs more rinsing.
 - Conserve water by using leftover dishwater to clean your recyclables. Place the water in the container with lid on, shake to remove excess food, drain the food/liquid in the sink, then place the empty container in your recycling.
- ▶ **Leave caps and lids on all glass and plastic bottles, tubs, jugs.** Empty containers of contents then put lids and caps on for recycling.



▶ Ball the foil with any remaining residue inside to keep the rest of the recyclables clean.

Not sure what goes where? Visit [Mountainview.gov/WhatGoesWhere](https://www.mountainview.gov/WhatGoesWhere) before placing items in the recycling cart.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: WHAT TO DO WITH THE LIDS?

A: Leave caps and lids on empty bottles, jars, and tubs.



Q: HOW MUCH FOOD RESIDUE IS OK TO LEAVE?

A: Less than a quarter-sized amount of food residue is acceptable. Be sure to scrape or rinse all recyclable containers.



▶ Not ready to recycle



▶ Ready to recycle

These pictures show an empty peanut butter jar viewed from above as an example of preparing container recyclables by removing food residue.

RECYCLING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

CITYWIDE GARAGE SALE AT HOUSEHOLDS THROUGHOUT MOUNTAIN VIEW

September 13 and September 14, 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Find great deals, keep reusable items out of the landfill, and help support the City's Zero Waste goals by participating in the Citywide Garage Sale!

Hundreds of residents will hold garage sales at their homes on September 13 and 14. Registration closes on Tuesday, September 2. On Monday, September 8, an interactive map and address list of participating sellers will be posted online and outside City Hall. Visit MountainView.gov/GarageSale for more information.



NEW & IMPROVED ONLINE MAP!

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF EVENT IN MOUNTAIN VIEW

Saturday, August 23
By appointment only



Safely dispose of household hazardous wastes, including paint, batteries, electronics, pesticides, cleaning and pool chemicals, propane tanks, fluorescent lights, unwanted or expired drugs and more. The event location in Mountain View is released once your appointment is booked. Reserve online at HHW.org or call **408-299-7300**.

PAPER SHREDDING EVENT

Saturday, November 8
8 a.m. – 3 p.m.
SMaRT Station
301 Carl Road, Sunnyvale
Limit five banker boxes or bags.
Line cut-off at 3 p.m. sharp
Questions? **408-752-8530**



FREE!

WORM COMPOSTING WORKSHOP

Saturday, October 4, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Heritage Park, 771 Rengstorff Avenue

Attend a free workshop and learn the basics of backyard and worm composting. Backyard compost bins available for purchase.

Registration required at ucanr.edu/compost or **408-918-4640**.

REPAIR CAFÉ EVENT

Sunday, October 26 • 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Mountain View Senior Center
266 Escuela Avenue

Don't toss your broken items! Bring them to be repaired for free by community volunteers. For more information visit repaircafesv.org.



FREE!

GET FREE COMPOST & MULCH

SMaRT Station, 301 Carl Road in Sunnyvale
Open 7 days per week, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Limits have increased; you can now get up to 200-gallons each of compost and mulch per visit! Proof of Mountain View residency is required. Please bring your own shovel and containers.

For more information, visit MountainView.gov/Composting.



DOUBLE YOUR SUPPLY!



CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW
 PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
 RECYCLING + ZERO WASTE
 500 CASTRO STREET
 MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA 94041

PRSR STD
 ECRWSS
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Mountain View, CA
 Permit No. 179

***** ECRWSEDDM *****
 POSTAL CUSTOMER

Trash and Recycling Collection Services

Recology Mountain View
 650-967-3034
 ContactUsRMV@Recology.com
 RecologyMountainView.com

- Missed pickups
- Service questions
- Clean up and bulky good collection services
- Business recycling
- Debris/Recycling boxes
- Recycling Center
- Larger or extra carts
- Cart Repairs

Utility and Trash Billing

City Finance Department
 650-903-6317
 RevenueStaff@MountainView.gov

- Start, stop or change accounts
- Billing inquiries
- Extra garbage tags

Recycling and Zero Waste Program

Public Works Department
 650-903-6311
 MountainView.gov/Recycle
 Recycle@MountainView.gov

- Resource newsletter
- Recycling questions
- Event details

HOLIDAY COLLECTION SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
23	24 Regular Collection	25 Regular Collection	26 Regular Collection	27 No Collection Office Closed	28 Thursday Customers Collected Office Closed	29 Friday Customers Collected

DECEMBER 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
21	22 Regular Collection	23 Regular Collection	24 Regular Collection	25 No Collection Office Closed	26 Thursday Customers Collected	27 Friday Customers Collected

DECEMBER 2025–JANUARY 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29 Regular Collection	30 Regular Collection	31 Regular Collection	1 No Collection Office Closed	2 Thursday Customers Collected	3 Friday Customers Collected



Collection occurs on all holidays except Thanksgiving (Nov. 27), Christmas (Dec. 25) and New Year's Day (Jan. 1, 2026).

If your collection day falls on or after the holiday, collection will occur one day later that week. For example, for a Thursday holiday, Thursday collection will take place on Friday and Friday collection will take place on Saturday.

Holiday tree collection occurs December 26–January 16 for homes with curbside cart collection. Multi-family property managers can schedule group tree collection with Recology.