

# WASTELINE

A Publication for GreenWaste Recovery Customers in the County of Santa Clara

Fall 2023



## Should I Use Compostable Bags for Food Waste?

*Please find answers below to common questions*

### Can I put compostable bags in my green residential organics cart?

No. Although compostable bags seem like a great way to keep your countertop bucket clean and to transport food scraps to your compost pile or green cart, the bags don't break down as quickly as food, and are therefore screened out as trash before the composting process. If you prefer to use a bag, leave it in your countertop bucket or put it in the garbage cart after you place the food in your organics cart.

### What should I do to keep my countertop bucket clean if I don't use bags?

You can still use compostable or plastic bags to line your bucket; just don't throw them in the green bin when you place your food scraps in the cart. You can line the bucket with food soiled paper, egg cartons, cereal boxes, other paperboard boxes, or paper bags, or skip the liner and wash the bucket with soap and water after you empty your food scraps.

### How do I keep my green curbside organics cart clean if I can't use bags?

To keep your green curbside organics cart clean, layer in yard waste or food soiled paper (pizza boxes work great), before putting in food scraps. If you don't have yard waste that week, you can place food scraps in cardboard cartons, or wrap in newspaper, paper bags or other compostable paper. Rinsing your cart periodically with a baking soda solution also helps to keep it clean and odor free.

### What goes in the GREEN cart?

**NO Bags**  
**NO Metal**  
**NO Glass**  
**NO Plastic**  
**NO Hazardous Waste**

**LEAVES**  
**MEAT BONES**  
**FOOD SCRAPS**  
**EGGSHELLS**  
**UNTREATED LUMBER**  
**YARD TRIMMINGS**  
**COFFEE GROUNDS**  
**PAPER COFFEE FILTERS**



# Fall Cleanup Event and Extra Services

***Greenwaste Recovery provides free and low cost services to help you dispose of large unwanted items and extra waste!***

Curbside pickup is available twice a year at no additional cost. Each cleanup allows you to set out up to (8) 32-gallon bags or cans not exceeding 50 lbs. each OR (1) bulky item such as a sofa, mattress, or desk; must be manageable by one person and be no larger than 6'x6'x6'. Fall community clean ups are coming soon, so watch for your invitation postcard in the mail and keep that postcard to bring to the event.

Residents in the GreenWaste service area also have two vouchers for self-haul of extra garbage to the Kirby Canyon Landfill, and two for extra yard waste disposal at the Z-Best Composting Facility each year, and can be used at any time during the valid dates stated on the vouchers.

Additional collection of bulky goods is available at your curb for a low fee. To schedule this service, please call Customer Service at **408.938.4970** (48) hours in advance of your regular service day.



Single-family residential customers of GreenWaste Recovery can recycle your evergreen tree curbside on your regular service day, December 26th through January 31, 2024.

- Remove all tinsel, decorations, and non-wood stands
- No flocked trees (fake snow), please!
- Cut trees to 6-foot lengths

Multi-family residential and commercial customers can request curbside tree pickup by calling Customer Service at **408.938.4970**.

Thank you for recycling your holiday trees into compost to support new plant growth!

## Holiday Pickup Schedule

Collection does not occur on Thanksgiving Day November 23, Christmas Day December 25, or New Year's Day January 1. If an observed holiday falls on a regular collection day, collection for the remainder of the week will be delayed by one day, with Friday collection taking place on Saturday. Please put your carts out for service by 6 a.m. on the collection day. For more information, please contact GreenWaste Customer Service at **408.938.4970**.



### NOVEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
19	20	21	22	23	24	25



### DECEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



### JANUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	1	2	3	4	5	6