



# Recycling Information Packet



# Recycling

## Accepted in Your Commingled Container

- Aluminum: cans, clean foil and containers
- Corrugated cardboard
- Glass: bottles, jars and containers
- Newspaper
- Paper: bags, catalogs, chipboard (cereal, cracker, shoe boxes), computer paper, construction paper, egg cartons, envelopes, junk mail, magazines, telephone books and white paper
- Plastic: containers #1—#7



- Tin and steel cans

## Not Accepted in Your Commingled Container

- TV's, computer monitors, laptops
- Plastic bags
- Hazardous Waste
- Liquids
- Foil lined drink boxes
- Greasy pizza boxes
- Food or moisture contaminated paper such as paper plates, cups, napkins, towels or tissues.
- Mirrors, ceramics, drinking glasses, dishes, safety or auto glass
- Large appliances
- Household garbage
- Non-container plastic such as plastic wrap, hoses, toys, plastic plates, cups, straws
- Medical waste



# Organics

## Accepted in Your Organics Container

- Food items including:
  - Bones
  - Egg shells
  - Meat
  - Food scraps
  - Coffee grounds
  - Vegetable/fruit cuttings
- Greasy pizza boxes
- Food or moisture contaminated paper such as paper plates, cups, napkins, towels or tissues.



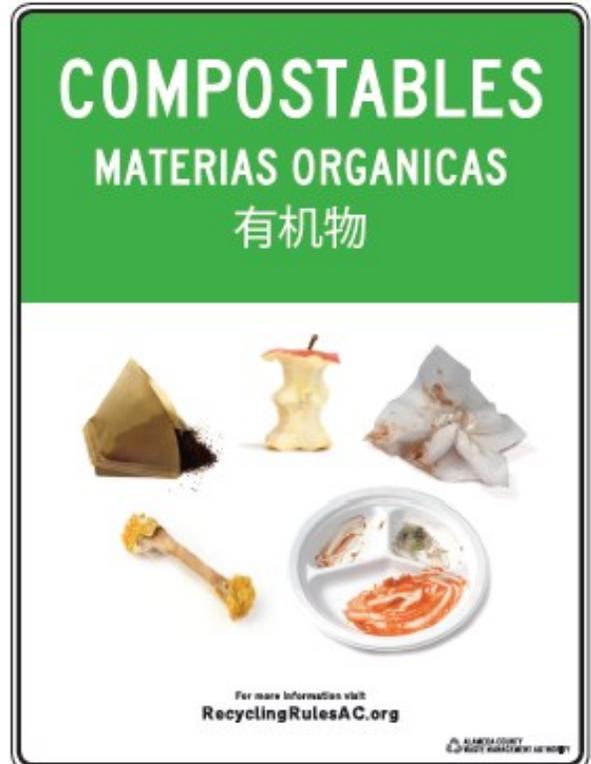
## Not Accepted in Your Organics Container

- TV's, computer monitors, laptops
- Plastic bags
- Hazardous Waste
- Foil lined drink boxes
- Mirrors, ceramics, drinking glasses, dishes, safety or auto glass
- Large appliances
- Household garbage
- Non-container plastic such as plastic wrap, hoses, toys, plastic plates, cups, straws
- Medical waste
- Light bulbs or fluorescent lights
- Styrofoam or packing peanuts
- Commingled recycling

## Need files only? Printable flyers at [recyclingrulesac.org](http://www.recyclingrulesac.org)

You can go to recycling rules website to print your own flyers for your break room, office, and mail/copy room.

<http://www.recyclingrulesac.org/businesses-and-institutions-support-materials/>





# Plastics Recycling

Plastics are commonplace. From shopping bags and food containers to drink bottles and packaging materials, we use plastics everyday. It is important to use them responsibly and dispose of them appropriately. Many people are confused by the different types of materials and what can or cannot be recycled.

Important facts:

- The chasing arrows symbol found on the bottom of plastic products is an indication of the type of plastic, not that they are recyclable
- Most rigid plastics are recyclable through Davis Street's curbside programs



**Material:** Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET)  
**Used For:** Soda & water bottles, peanut butter jars and cooking oil bottles.  
**Recycled Into:** Fleece, carpet, polyester products  
**Where:** Georgia



**Material:** High Density Polyethylene (HDPE)  
**Used for:** Milk bottles; detergent bottles, some plastic bags  
**Recycled Into:** Plastic lumber, curbs, trash cans  
**Where:** China



**Material:** Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC)  
**Used for:** Salad dressing, detergent, shampoo bottles, toys, pipes  
**Recycled Into:** Vinyl flooring, billboards, carpet backing  
**Where:** China

Continued on next page.



## DID YOU KNOW?

Davis Street recycles over 14 million pounds of plastics per year.

## MATERIAL MATTERS

In 2008, over 234,000 pounds of plastic materials were deposited in Alameda County landfills.

**Recycling Tip:**  
Keep plastic lids on plastic bottles for recycling.

## Davis Street Resource Recovery Complex

2615 Davis Street  
San Leandro, CA 94577

Hours of Operation:  
MON - FRI: 7:00 am - 5:00 pm  
SAT: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm  
SUN: Closed

[davisstreet.wm.com](http://davisstreet.wm.com)

©2011  
Waste Management, Inc.  
Printed on post-consumer recycled paper.

**THINK GREEN®**



# Plastics Recycling (cont'd)



**Material:** Low-Density Polyethylene (LDPE)  
**Used for:** Produce and shopping bags  
**Recycled into:** Garbage bags  
**Where:** China



**Material:** Polypropylene (PP)  
**Used for:** Bottle tops and drinking straws  
**Recycled into:** Ice scrapers, trays, yard & garden tools  
**Where:** China



**Material:** Polystyrene (PS or EPS)  
**Used for:** Polystyrene foam meat and take-out trays, cups, packaging materials  
**Not Recycled**



**Material:** Other  
**Used for:** This is a catchall for plastics resins or mixes of all of the above in the same product.  
**Not readily recyclable**

**BIO  
PLASTICS**

**Material:** Plant-based resins often combined with chemical resins  
**Used for:** plastic bags, utensils, plates & cups  
Not Recycled in the traditional sense that it creates a new product; it breaks down in a relatively short period of time in landfills, something traditional plastic does not do. If composted, the resulting compost does not meet the Organic Materials Review Institute standard for use in organic farming.

**Davis Street Resource  
Recovery Complex**  
2615 Davis Street  
San Leandro, CA 94577

Hours of Operation:  
MON - FRI: 7:00 am - 5:00 pm  
SAT: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm  
SUN: Closed

[davisstreet.wm.com](http://davisstreet.wm.com)



©2011  
Waste Management, Inc.  
Printed on post-consumer  
recycled paper.

**THINK GREEN!**



# Glass Recycling

Glass containers are an environmentally responsible packaging choice; nontoxic, high in monetary value, infinitely recyclable with no loss in quality or purity as its structure does not deteriorate with reprocessing.

Glass containers like bottles and jars can go from the recycling bin to the store shelf in as little as 30 days in California. Other types of glass such as windows, ovenware, Pyrex, windshields and crystal must be recycled separately; they have different melting points. For this reason, we only accept glass bottles and jars in the curbside recycling program.

When curbside recycling arrives at Davis Street, our Material Recovery Facility breaks the glass bottles and jars into small pieces called cullet. We send the cullet to our glass-processing partner who sorts and cleans it to prepare it for the recycling process. Cullet is mixed with silica, sand, soda ash and limestone to make new glass. These materials are mixed and heated to temperatures up to 2800° Fahrenheit, then molded into the desired shape. The benefit of recycling glass is the reduction of energy. When glass is made from scratch, high temperatures are needed to melt and combine all of these ingredients. Since cullet melts at a lower temperature, the more cullet you add to a batch of raw materials, the less energy is needed to melt it.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Davis Street processes over 9 million pounds of glass each year for recycling.

## MATERIAL MATTERS

Nearly 80% of recyclable glass containers in California are turned into new products by in-state glass recycling facilities.

### Recycling Tip:

Remove metal and plastic lids from glass bottles and jars for recycling.

## Davis Street Resource Recovery Complex

2615 Davis Street  
San Leandro, CA 94577

### Hours of Operation:

MON - FRI: 7:00 am - 5:00 pm

SAT: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

SUN: Closed

[davisstreet.wm.com](http://davisstreet.wm.com)



©2011  
Waste Management, Inc.

Printed on post-consumer recycled paper.

**THINK GREEN®**



# Metal Recycling

Metals can be recycled indefinitely without losing any of their properties. Recycling also reduces greenhouse gas emissions and the amount of energy used to make metal from virgin ore. For example, recycled aluminum uses 92% less energy compared to virgin ore metals.

The Davis Street Resource Recovery Complex has a variety of programs to collect metals. Our Appliance Program as well as the Residential, Construction & Demolition and Public Area Materials Recovery Facilities each capture metals for recycling. Monthly, we divert an estimated 1,000 pounds of metal from the landfill.

There are two main types of scrap metal: ferrous and nonferrous. Ferrous includes materials like tin, iron and steel. Objects like cars, appliances, and some food packaging are made from ferrous metal. Nonferrous metals include aluminum, copper and brass. Objects like soda cans, plumbing fixtures, nickels and dimes are made of non-ferrous metals.

Once recovered, Davis Street delivers the metals to recyclers. The cans and other materials are often shredded, then melted to turn into metal casts or ingots. The ingots are sold to manufacturing plants where it is rolled into sheets. At this point, the metal is ready to be turned into new products such as cars, cans, boats, etc.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Over 12 million pounds of metal are processed at Davis Street each year.

## MATERIAL MATTERS

For every 2,000 pounds of tin cans, 95% are made from steel and the remaining 5% are made from tin.

If you ever wonder if a chip or snack packet is made from recyclable aluminum, use this simple test: scrunch it and if it spring back then it's not recyclable.

## Davis Street Resource Recovery Complex

2615 Davis Street  
San Leandro, CA 94577

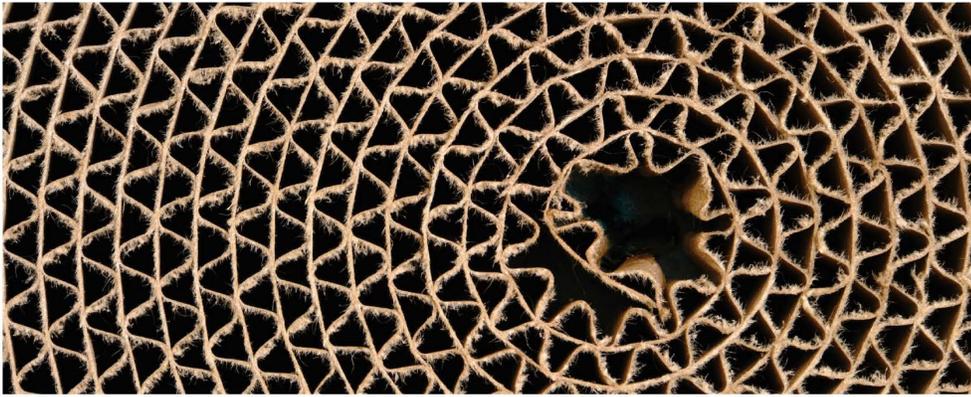
Hours of Operation:  
MON - FRI: 7:00 am - 5:00 pm  
SAT: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm  
SUN: Closed

[davisstreet.wm.com](http://davisstreet.wm.com)



©2011  
Waste Management, Inc.  
Printed on post-consumer  
recycled paper.

**THINK GREEN®**



# Cardboard & Paper Recycling

Paper, cardboard and newspapers come to the Davis Street Resource Recovery Complex from schools, businesses and households throughout Alameda County. Here we separate them into like materials and bundle them into bales for sale to mills for recycling.

Mills follow a specialized process to recycle paper products. Products generated from wood pulp, like paper, cardboard and newspaper are generally referred to as "fiber." Fiber recycling produces clean pulp that is used to make recycled content paper and paperboard.

1. Mills mix the fiber with water, drain and blend it into a pulp slurry using a giant blender called a pulper.
2. Following pulping, the pulp mixture is diluted with water. Through a system of cleaning equipment and screens, large contaminants like wood, plastic, staples, glass and paper clips are removed.
3. The resulting pulp is pressed to remove excess water and strip any residual inks.
4. During the brightening process, chemicals are added to create white fiber.
5. The final screening process removes any remaining glue particles or small contaminants.

The finished recycled pulp is either prepared for paper-making or formed into sheets for shipment and sale to another manufacturer.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Nearly 44 million pounds of fiber are processed at Davis Street each year.

## MATERIAL MATTERS

Breaking down cardboard boxes saves room in your recycling cart and helps with the sorting process at the other end.

## Davis Street Resource Recovery Complex

2615 Davis Street  
San Leandro, CA 94577

Hours of Operation:

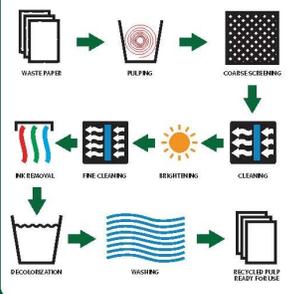
MON - FRI: 7:00 am - 5:00 pm

SAT: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

SUN: Closed

[davisstreet.wm.com](http://davisstreet.wm.com)

## FIBER RECYCLING PROCESS



©2011

Waste Management, Inc.

Printed on post-consumer recycled paper.



**THINK GREEN®**

# Glossary of Terms

---

Residual/trash: Object or material that cannot be recycled or composted or that would not be recovered for recycling by our current sorting technologies.

Organics/compost: Biodegradable waste that can be broken down in a commercial composting operation or digester. This includes green waste (yard trimmings) as well as food waste. We accept any food scraps, bones, coffee grounds, food soiled paper/cardboard and in some areas may be able to accept approved bioplastics.

Comingled/Single-stream recycling: Recyclable materials mixed together into one recycling bin. This is done in areas where there is a material recovery facility (MRF) that receives the comingled materials and sorts them by like material.

Recyclables: Approved items with an end market for recycling into a new product. We accept the following in our comingled recycling receptacles:

Mixed paper: Recovered paper not sorted into categories such as old magazines, old newspapers, junk mail, and phone books.

Office paper: Refers to high-grade papers such as copier paper, computer printout, and stationery.

Metals: Aluminum (cans), Tin, cooper, stainless steel, and brass are all accepted for recycling.

Plastics:

#1 Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET), used for soda & water bottles

#2 High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) used for Milk bottles, detergent bottles

#3 Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) used for pipes, shampoo bottles, and toys

#4 Low-Density Polyethylene (LDPE) used for produce and shopping bags. In order for film plastic to be recycled it must be clean and bagged inside of another clear plastic bag.

#5 Polypropylene (PP) used for bottle tops and drinking straws

#6 Polystyrene (PS or EPS) used for polystyrene foam meat and take-out trays, cups and packaging material.

#7 Other is a catch-all for plastic resins or mixes of all of the above in the same product, and not all are readily recyclable. However, we do accept them in our comingled stream as this prevents confusion for the consumer that may not be able to distinguish a #7 from other plastics.

Paperboard: This material is made from a wide variety of recycled fiber materials, similar in composition to paper but thicker and stiffer in character. Packaging boxes, notepad backing and inserts are some examples.

Glass: We accept drink bottles and jars only- no drinking glasses/stemware or ceramics are sorted for recycling.

OCC/Cardboard: Old corrugated cardboard.

Carts: 35, 64 or 96-gallon plastic containers on wheels, which are serviced by garbage trucks.

## Glossary of Terms (cont)

---

Bin/containers: Metal dumpsters. They come in variety of sizes, range from 1 yard to 10 yards. 1- 4yards are usually on wheels.

Composite items: Objects made from a variety of materials. Exemptions to this would be a composite where one material is less than 10% of the makeup of the object. Examples of this would be a letter with a plastic window, a glass bottle with a metal cap or a plastic bottle with a label.

Roll off Containers: Large metal dumpsters. They come in variety of sizes, range from 10-50 yards. Due to their size, these dumpsters are picked up one at a time by a specially designated truck.

Compactor: is a machine that crushes and compresses material into small convenient bundles. You can attach receiving containers to a compactor where the materials are compacted into and then hauled away.

Contamination: to make impure or unsuitable by contact or mixture with something unclean, bad. This could be liquid spilling on paper in the recycling, but would also refer to a non-recyclable item in the recycling container.