

GreenWays

THE QUARTERLY COMMERCIAL NEWSLETTER FROM GREENWASTE OF PALO ALTO WINTER 2013/14

FRONT OF HOUSE SORTING Let Customers Know Your Commitment

Compost service is available to all restaurants in Palo Alto, and about 70% of Palo Alto restaurants participate in the program. You may not always know which restaurants are composting because a lot of the work takes place behind the scenes. Some restaurants have waste sorting stations for customers to sort their waste into the appropriate container. This is called 'front of house sorting' since it is done in the public area. Restaurants that make front of house sorting available maximize waste sorting while communicating to the customer their environmental responsibility.

- The Asian Box at Town & Country does not provide the customer with any materials that have to be landfilled. There is a two-sort container available to customers for compostable and recyclable materials. The waste containers include custom signage with images of Asian Box materials.
- The Melt at Stanford Shopping Center also has landfill-free waste disposal stations. There are front of house receptacles for the collection of recyclables and compostables. Food is also served on reusable trays for additional waste reduction.
- Jamba Juice at Town & Country has rolled out front of house sorting with a receptacle for separate collection of recyclables, compostables, and garbage. These receptacles will eventually be available at all Jamba Juices in Palo Alto.

If you own or manage a restaurant in Palo Alto and would like to set up front of house waste stations, please call us – we would be happy to get you started!



Holiday Service Schedule

GreenWaste of Palo Alto is closed on Christmas (December 25th) and New Year's Day (January 1st). If your regular collection day falls on or after one of these holidays, your collection day will be moved to the following day for the rest of the week. Regular collection schedules will resume the following week.

DECEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

JANUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1	2	3	4



Contact Information

GreenWaste
Customer Service
(650) 493-4894

City of Palo Alto
Zero Waste
(650) 496-5910

SMaRT
Station
(408) 752-8530

New Compost Champions

Palo Alto has 284 commercial compost customers. Two new members to this environmentally-conscious club are Ananda Church/Living Wisdom School and Momentum for Mental Health.

Ananda Church and Living Wisdom School are on the same property and share waste service. Ananda Church was interested in adding compost service and the school willingly hopped onboard. Outreach Coordinators worked with church staff and educated students with sorting presentations and truck showings.

Momentum for Mental Health staff contacted GreenWaste of Palo Alto with questions on how to improve their existing recycling efforts. Outreach Coordinators spoke to them about compost service and Momentum staff was eager to get involved. Outreach Coordinators met with Momentum to discuss logistics such as central waste stations, under desk recycling, and exterior sorting containers. Outreach Coordinators also presented to Momentum clients to make sure the new sorting process was understood.

Both of these newly composting businesses had a staff that was excited to take their sorting efforts to the next level and took the steps necessary to make sure facility users understood how to effectively participate. Thank you Ananda/Living Wisdom and Momentum for your hard work!



Greener Schools Conference

Inspired by the Green Apple movement (a global movement to put all children in schools with clean air and conserved resources), PAUSD Energy Specialist Rebecca Navarro and JLS PTA Executive Vice President Nancy Smith coordinated a Greener Schools Conference in October. Parents of PAUSD students attended the conference and ideas were shared regarding how to improve waste reduction and sorting district-wide. The conversation reenergized passionate parents who intend to drive these concepts home at their children's schools. The conversation will continue at monthly Sustainable School Committee meetings.



Make a Swap It! Pledge



GreenWaste of Palo Alto has another Swap It! Pledge to challenge you with. This winter, change as many bills as possible to electronic bills. Pay online and avoid the extra paper in snail mail. Encourage coworkers to make this effort at home as well!

Remember to complete the following pledge, cut it out and place it in the break room for everyone to see!

We, _____, pledge to paper bills for electronic payment options.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

DAILY TABLE

According to a new report on expiration dates and sell-by dates, nine out of ten Americans needlessly throw away food. This occurs mostly because people are confused by what the date means. Doug Rauch, the former president of Trader Joe's is addressing this problem through his new market that will open in early 2014 in Dorchester, Massachusetts. This market, called the Daily Table, will prepare and repackage food that is normally wasted because it is thrown out by grocers and growers.

E-Waste in Your Blue Bin

In Palo Alto, electronic waste can be placed directly in your blue recycle container. Televisions and computer monitors are not accepted, but please remember to recycle other electronics, including:

- Appliances (e.g. coffee makers, microwave oven)
- Camera
- Calculator
- Cell Phone (inside clear tear-resistant bag)
- Computer
- Home entertainment



Remember, recycling is not at the top of the waste hierarchy – so before your toss an old electronic device in your blue container, see if you can repair it! If you need help repairing an item, be sure to visit Repair Café Palo Alto held at the Museum of American Heritage. Four events will take place in 2014, be sure to check one of them out!

Juice & Milk Cartons

You can buy your milk and juice in two types of cartons – shelf stable (aseptic) or refrigerated (gable top). The main difference between these types of cartons is that shelf stable cartons contain a layer of aluminum. If compost service is available to you, you can compost your gable top/refrigerated cartons. However, the aseptic/shelf stable cartons have to be landfilled. The fused plastic, paper, and metal that constitute these cartons is virtually impossible to separate and recycle.

GABLE TOP-COMPOST

ASEPTIC-LANDFILL



Note: Plastic milk and juice jugs can be placed in the recycling container.

PLASTIC-RECYCLE





2000 Geng Road
Palo Alto, CA 94303

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
SAN JOSE, CA
PERMIT NO. 498

www.greenwaste.com/paloalto

What to do with Christmas Trees

Christmas trees must be undecorated, unflocked, cut to four-foot lengths, with stands removed in order to be collected.

Multi-Family Dwellings

For the four weeks following Christmas Day, Christmas trees will be collected curbside on your regular collection day. Place tree next to garbage, recyclables and compostables collection containers.

Businesses

Cut your holiday tree to fit within your compostables collection container or take your tree to the SMaRT Station in Sunnyvale (for a fee).

