



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

