

Rolling Hills Estates

Recycling News

Spring 2023

Earth Day Celebration & Shred Event Wednesday, April 19th

HAPPY
Earth
DAY



The City of Rolling Hills Estates, in partnership with WM, South Bay Environmental Services Center and Promenade on the Peninsula, is hosting its annual Earth Day Celebration on Wednesday, April 19th from 3:30 to 6:00 pm at the Promenade on the Peninsula Mall. This family-friendly event will feature activities, booths and exhibits for all ages! Free paper shredding services will also be available in the parking lot outside of El Pollo Inka. For more information, visit www.RollingHillsEstatesCA.gov.

Holidays

WM observes the following holidays. When your collection day falls on/or after one of these holidays, your collection will be delayed by one day that week only.

- New Year's Day
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day

Free Bulky Item Collection



Rolling Hills Estates residents may request four (4) free bulky item pickups per year (up to five items per pickup). Up to ten 32 gallon trash bags can also be accepted as a bulky item pickup.

Acceptable items include: sofas, chairs, washers, dryers, toilets, etc.

Non-acceptable items include: tires, batteries, paints, oils, construction debris, chemicals of any kind, Freon, rocks, sand, gravel, dirt, logs, carpet, hazardous, or medical waste.

Bulky items cannot exceed 8 feet in length, 4 feet in width, weigh more than 150 lbs each, or require more than two people to handle. Please call (800) 774-0222 at least 24 hours in advance of your collection day to schedule a pickup.



Want step by step instructions on how to quickly schedule your next bulky item pickup online?

Scan this QR code for a helpful video.



At Your Door Special Collection

Rolling Hills Estates residents can safely dispose of household hazardous waste and electronic waste using WM's At Your Door Special CollectionSM. The materials are collected right from your front door! Common items include pool chemicals, paint products, automotive products, garden chemicals, household chemicals, and electronics.

There are three easy ways to participate:

1. Schedule a collection online

(www.WMATYOURDOOR.com)

2. Call 1-800-449-7587

(Mon.-Fri., 5:00am- 5:00pm)

3. E-mail: AtYourDoor@WM.com

(with your list of items and your contact information)

Recycling Hero Contest

Every quarter, the City's top recyclers are nominated by their drivers to enter the WM Recycling Hero contest. A winner is selected at random during the quarterly City Council meeting. He or she will receive a year's worth of free residential trash and recycling services!

How to enter: All you have to do is recycle as much as you can to divert your trash from our waste streams. This saves energy and natural resources and reduces our dependence on landfills. Your driver will do the rest!



Tips to Recycle Right

WM collects and sorts a significant number of recyclables from households across Rolling Hills Estates every day. However, many of the items placed in recycling carts are actually considered trash. Recycling contamination is caused when trash items are introduced to the recycling stream. Contaminants can include items such as hoses, wires, yard waste, and food waste. Recycling contamination has the potential to jeopardize otherwise good recyclables. For example, food or liquids placed in the recycling cart will contaminate paper and cardboard by saturating the materials and making them impossible to recycle. If it can't be recycled, it unfortunately becomes trash.

You can prevent this problem by following these simple rules to recycle right:

- 1.** Empty all bottles, cans, and paper products before recycling.
- 2.** Keep food and liquids out of your recycling.
- 3.** Place items loosely in your recycle cart.

Valet Service for the Disabled

Did you know WM provides free valet service to disabled customers who cannot bring their carts to the curb and do not have anyone living with them who can do so? To learn more, please contact Customer Service at (800) 774-0222.

Recycling Food Waste at Home

As required by state law Senate Bill 1383 (SB 1383), Waste Management (WM) has launched an organic recycling program in partnership with the City of Rolling Hills Estates. All food scraps, food-soiled paper, and yard trimmings must be placed together in your organics cart. To help collect food scraps in your kitchen and transfer them to your organics waste cart, WM has provided each Rolling Hills Estates residential household with a kitchen food waste pail. These pails reduce the moisture and odor-causing bacteria.

How to Use Your Kitchen Food Waste Pail

1. **Keep your food pail on the kitchen counter top or under the sink. Placing your pail in a visible area will help you remember to recycle your organics.**
2. **Place food scraps, or your leftover food-soiled paper items, directly into the pail. The pail can be used as is, or lined with a paper bag or newspaper. Do not use plastic bags of any type, even if they are labeled as biodegradable or compostable. Compostable cups, plates, or utensils are also not acceptable.**
3. **Scrape food scraps and leftovers from your plate or cutting board into your pail. Spoiled or stale food from your fridge and cupboards can also be placed in the pail.**
4. **Empty your pail directly into your organics cart. DO NOT place your small food waste pail out on collection day. Only the full-size organics cart should be placed at the curb.**



✓ Acceptable Items



Food Waste & Food Soiled Paper



Yard Waste (Grass, Leaves, Brush, & Tree Branches)



Produce



Meat, Fish, & Poultry



Dairy



Bread, Pasta, Rice, Grains, Coffee Grounds, & Food Soiled Paper

DO NOT INCLUDE:
PLASTIC BAGS OR FILM
SERVEWARE/UTENSILS
PLASTIC CONTAINERS
FOAM CONTAINERS
HAZARDOUS WASTE
FATS, OILS, OR GREASES



Minimize the use of your garbage disposal

Garbage disposals increase waste that has to be treated at wastewater treatment plants, can clog sewer lines, and increase the amount of water used in your home.

Tips for Preventing Odor and Pests

There are easy things you can do to keep your food pail and organics cart odor and pest free:

Indoors

- **Avoid placing liquids** inside your food pail
- **Cut up citrus or bell peppers** to keep smells away
- **Empty your food pail** every day, or every couple of days, into your organics cart
- **Line your food pail** with a paper bag or newspaper to reduce having to clean it out so often
- **Sprinkle the inside with baking soda** to help absorb moisture and smells
- **Freeze or refrigerate** meat, fish, and dairy scraps before adding them your organics cart on collection day

Outdoors

- **Place food waste** in a paper bag
- **Layer items** like yard trimmings, newspaper, or a soiled pizza box on the bottom of your organics cart before emptying your food waste pail
- **Place your organics cart out on the curb** every week for service no matter how full it is to avoid pests and bugs
- **Rinse** your cart as needed

Frequently Asked Questions

What is organic waste?

Organic waste is any material that is biodegradable and comes from a plant or animal except for pet waste. Pet waste should be discarded in your black lid trash cart. Organic waste consists of food scraps, food-soiled paper, and yard waste.

Why is it important to recycle my organic waste and what is SB 1383?

SB 1383 went into effect January 1, 2022, and requires all California businesses, multifamily complexes, and residents to separate organic waste from trash. This bill was passed in order to divert more food waste and yard trimmings from our landfills, which will help to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions and slow climate change. For more information, visit www.calrecycle.ca.gov/climate/slcp.

What is food-soiled paper?

Food-soiled paper are paper products that have been in contact with liquid or solid food waste and cannot be recycled into other paper products. Examples of food-soiled paper include napkins, paper plates, and cups that do not contain any plastic lining, food paper wraps, stained pizza boxes, and used coffee filters.

Why can't biodegradable or compostable plastic bags be used to line food pails?

Biodegradable and compostable plastic bags do not decompose at the same rate as food, yard waste, and food-soiled paper wrap or bags. Since organic waste is processed to create compost, fertilizers, and biofuels, using biodegradable and compostable plastic bags will result in contamination.

What happens to your organic waste when it leaves your home?

Organic waste (food waste and green waste) is sent to WM's South Valley Compost Facility where it is processed to produce high-quality, nutrient-rich compost suitable for planting or crop growth.