

# County of Santa Barbara

Residential Trash, Recycling, and Organics News

Fall/Winter 2023



**Tips** - Place food scraps in paper bags; keep scraps in the refrigerator during the week or cover food scraps with yard waste in the green cart. Visit [www.LessIsMore.org/organics](http://www.LessIsMore.org/organics) for more information.

## Organics Recycling is Happening Now!

**Residents of the Santa Maria and Lompoc Valleys** can now place food scraps and food-soiled paper in their green carts along with their yard waste. No plastic or wax-lined paper products (such as paper cups and juice cartons). This material will be turned into compost at a local facility. This program will help reduce harmful greenhouse gases generated by organics entering landfills, save valuable landfill space, and produce beneficial compost to be used in local agriculture.

To make this easier, the County is providing **FREE** kitchen pails which are available for residents to pick up at **620 West Foster Road and at the Lompoc Library**.

**If you live in the Santa Ynez Valley**, you should continue to place your food scraps in the trash. It will be separated out and turned into compost at the County's new ReSource Center. The ReSource Center has a state-of-the-art Materials Recovery Facility and an Anaerobic Digestion Facility that together recover an additional 60% of material from the trash. Learn all about the new facilities at [www.LessIsMore.org/ReSourceCenter](http://www.LessIsMore.org/ReSourceCenter).

Even with these programs, it's best to compost as locally as you can, plus you'll create a great soil amendment to use in your garden. Check out the County's Backyard Composting resources at [www.LessIsMore.org/compost](http://www.LessIsMore.org/compost).

## Keep Holiday Tangles Out of Your Recycling

String-like items such as ribbons, bows, and tinsel are considered "tangles" and can end up wrapped or tangled in heavy machinery during the recycling process and should not be placed in your recycling carts. Place these items in your trash cart.



**Reminder:** Holiday lights are e-waste and require special handling. Do not place them in your trash or recycling carts. Please

drop them off at the e-waste locations listed on the other side of this flyer.

## Holiday Tree Recycling

WM will collect live Christmas trees at the curbside from December 26, 2023, through January 13, 2024. Please remove all decorations including tinsel, lights, ornaments and tree stands. Trees and wreaths can also be placed in residential green carts, regardless of your region. Trees should be cut so green cart lids can close completely. No metal frames.

## Winter Holiday Schedule

WM observes the following holidays:

Thanksgiving Day | Christmas Day | New Year's Day  
If a holiday falls on a weekday, collection will be delayed by one day for the rest of the holiday week.

[home.wm.com/santa-ynez-valley](http://home.wm.com/santa-ynez-valley)

[home.wm.com/santa-maria-valley](http://home.wm.com/santa-maria-valley)

[home.wm.com/lompoc-valley](http://home.wm.com/lompoc-valley)

WM Customer Service: (805) 922-2121





### Free Bulky Item Pick-Up

Need to make room for all those holiday gifts? Schedule a free bulky item pick-up! Customers can schedule four (4) bulky item pick-ups per calendar year at no additional charge. These items are picked up on service days and need to be placed at the curb by 6 a.m. in order to be retrieved. To schedule a bulky item pick-up, visit [home.wm.com/santa-barbara](http://home.wm.com/santa-barbara) and click on the "Bulky Collection" tab under "Useful Guidelines." Pickups must be scheduled at least 24 hours in advance of your service day.

### Let's Get Back to The Basics of Recycling.

Remember these three simple rules each time you recycle:



Recycle empty and dry bottles, cans, paper and cardboard.



Keep food and liquid out of your blue bin.



No loose plastic bags and no bagged recyclables.

[home.wm.com/santa-ynez-valley](http://home.wm.com/santa-ynez-valley)  
[home.wm.com/santa-maria-valley](http://home.wm.com/santa-maria-valley)  
[home.wm.com/lompoc-valley](http://home.wm.com/lompoc-valley)

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### Keep Batteries and Electronic Toys Out of Your Cart



Batteries can inadvertently cause a fire when they come in contact with other material in a cart or when compacted

inside a collection truck and electronics can leach toxic heavy metals into the ground if disposed of improperly. Help prevent trash-related fires this holiday season and keep our community safe by properly disposing of old batteries and e-waste.

### Proper Battery Disposal

- Tape the ends of your batteries so the poles are not exposed.
- Place the batteries in a zip-top plastic bag.
- Put the bag on top of (not inside) your recycling cart on your collection day.

### E-waste Disposal

You can drop your e-waste off at the

- **County's Santa Ynez Valley Recycling and Transfer Station** located at 4004 Foxen Canyon Road
- **Buellton Yard** located at 97 Commerce Drive
- **Santa Maria** at 1850 West Betteravia Road

Visit [www.LessIsMore.org/ewaste](http://www.LessIsMore.org/ewaste) for a full list of locations.

### Sharps Collection Home Delivery Program

Residents are able to conveniently and responsibly dispose of needles, lancets, and other sharps from their own homes.



1.4 quart available

To order a sharps container, please call WM Customer Care at (800) 423-9986 to have one hand-delivered to your front door.

Once the container has been filled, simply place it in the mail-back box and give it to your mail carrier.

