

RETHINKER

SPRING/SUMMER 2022

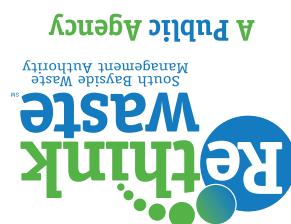
This Rethinker issue brings you tips on how to reduce your waste and maintain your compost kitchen pail, along with information about the Shoreway Public Recycling Center.



Printed on recycled paper with soy-based inks.

The Rethinker newsletter is dedicated to educating residents and businesses regarding waste reduction, reuse, and recycling. With your help, we can meet our goal of diverting waste from the landfill and maintain healthy, livable communities.

RethinkWaste
Administrative Offices
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REDUCING IS EASY!

According to a 2018 study by the U.S. EPA*, the average person generates 4.9 pounds of waste every day. On top of properly sorting materials into the recycle, compost, and garbage carts, we can all make small changes to reduce the amount of waste we produce. Here are some helpful tips!

1 Refuse single-use cutlery.

Plastic utensils are not recyclable and are deemed contamination at the RethinkWaste facility. Bring your own reusable utensils and be sure to say “No utensils please!” when ordering takeout.

2 Store your reusable bags in a convenient location.

A common issue with reusable bags is that we forget them when we’re out! Store your reusable bags in an easy-to-grab spot, such as near the front door, in a bag, purse, or in the car.

3 Repurpose containers.

Containers you receive from takeout or from the store are incredibly versatile and can be used in creative ways. Use them to store food, pens, art supplies, or grow plants in them.

4 Ditch plastic water bottles.

Plastic water bottles can be completely avoided if you have your own reusable water bottle.

5 Rethink your purchases.

Ask yourself while shopping

- Do I already have this?
- Do I need this?
- Will I use it more than once?
- Could I borrow or rent this?
- Can I buy this secondhand?

These questions will help in reducing unnecessary purchases.

*Source: National Overview: Facts and Figures on Materials, Wastes and Recycling, United States Environmental Protection Agency, 2020 <https://bit.ly/3sdlyfl>



NO
utensils
please!



WHAT GOES WHERE?

Unsure about which items belong in your recycle, compost, and garbage carts?

Visit [WhatBin.com](https://www.rethinkwaste.com/whatbin) to brush up on your proper sorting knowledge!

FREE DROP-OFF

AT THE SHOREWAY PUBLIC RECYCLING CENTER

The Shoreway Public Recycling Center (PRC) accepts select items for FREE residential drop-off. Check the list below for accepted items at the PRC:

- ➔ Batteries (household, lithium-ion, car)
- ➔ Cardboard
- ➔ Cell phones
- ➔ Compact fluorescent lights (CFLs)
- ➔ Electronics (computers, TVs, copiers, and other consumer electronics)
- ➔ Fluorescent light tubes (household only, up to 6 tubes, must be less than 6 feet)
- ➔ Latex & oil-based paint with original labels (up to 10 gallons)
- ➔ Mattresses (up to 5 mattresses)
- ➔ Sharps/Needles (in sealed container)
- ➔ Small appliances
- ➔ Used motor antifreeze (up to 10 gallons)
- ➔ Used motor oil (up to 15 gallons) & oil filters

The PRC is open Monday – Saturday 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. at 333 Shoreway Road in San Carlos.

For more information, visit [RethinkWaste.org/PRC](https://www.rethinkwaste.org/PRC)

KITCHEN COMPOST PAIL MAINTENANCE

Looking to keep your kitchen compost pail clean? Here are five easy ways to care for your kitchen pail for a great composting experience!

- 1 Line your kitchen pail with a BPI-certified bag, newspaper, or paper bag to keep it clean.
- 2 No liners? No problem! Rinse or wipe pail clean as needed to keep it smelling fresh.
- 3 Prefer to use the dishwasher? Go right ahead! This kitchen pail is dishwasher safe, but just make sure to avoid the heat dry setting.
- 4 Empty the contents of your kitchen pail every few days to prevent odors. Every household may be a little different depending on how quickly you fill it up.
- 5 Place food scraps in the freezer to prevent any leaks and smells.

Find more tips at [RethinkCompost.org](https://www.rethinkwaste.com/rethinkcompost)



PROGRAM INFORMATION

RethinkWaste is your regional public agency* that owns the 16-acre Shoreway Environmental Center in San Carlos and manages two major contractors: Recology & South Bay Recycling.

RethinkWaste
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[RethinkWaste.org](https://www.rethinkwaste.org)



Questions about your recycle, compost or garbage service? Contact Recology:

Recology San Mateo County
225 Shoreway Rd, San Carlos
(650) 595-3900
[Recology.com](https://www.recolgy.com)



Questions about the Shoreway Environmental Center, including hours of operation, materials accepted, disposal, etc? Contact South Bay Recycling:

South Bay Recycling
333 Shoreway Rd, San Carlos
(650) 802-8355
[SBRrecycling.net](https://www.sbrrecycling.com)



Sign up to receive the Rethinker newsletter electronically! Visit [RethinkWaste.org/rethinker](https://www.rethinkwaste.org/rethinker). Follow us on social media to get the latest eco-tips and information.



*RethinkWaste Member Agencies: Belmont, Burlingame, East Palo Alto, Foster City, Hillsborough, Menlo Park, Redwood City, San Carlos, San Mateo, County of San Mateo, West Bay Sanitary District