

# THE CONNECTION

Keeping Us Connected to the Communities We Serve



**Composting champs: (left to right) Sakata Seed America Warehouse Technician Josie Bravo, Administrative Assistant Jacquelin Bogosian, and Senior Operations Manager Rhonda Jones**

Every year, Recology South Valley presents the **Morgan Hill Business Recycler of the Year Award** to a local business doing an exemplary job of recycling, composting, and preventing waste.

## THIS YEAR'S WINNER IS SAKATA SEED AMERICA!

Sakata Seed America is a leading producer of vegetable and ornamental seeds, so Waste Zero Specialist Diana Campo knew the company would be a good candidate for the Recology South Valley Organics Program.

Sakata Seed's Senior Operations Manager Rhonda Jones and Warehouse Technician Josie Bravo gave Campo a tour of their Morgan Hill facility last year. They discussed how to reduce the materials the business sends to landfill.

The company implemented an organics program, installing collection bins for food scraps and other compostables, distributing outreach materials, and

hosting Recology presentations for employees.

“The program's success is due to employee involvement in composting and recycling, creating a sense of community.”

—Minh Nguyen

Sustainability Coordinator Minh Nguyen said the Morgan Hill site has become a benchmark for other locations.

If you own or work at a business in Morgan Hill not yet participating in the organics program, call Recology at 408.842.3358 to get started.

## MEDICATION AND SHARPS DISPOSAL

Please do not flush prescription drugs or over-the-counter medications down the toilet. Medication does not dissipate completely after passing through wastewater treatment plants.

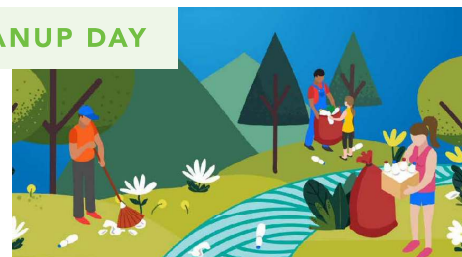
Medications AND sharps can be dropped off at the Morgan Hill Police Department, 16200 Vineyard Blvd., 8 AM to 5 PM Monday-Friday. Put sharps in a hard-sided container.

Another option is Med-Project's free mail-back service. Call 844.633.7765 or visit [med-project.org/locations/santa-clara/mail-backservices/](https://www.med-project.org/locations/santa-clara/mail-backservices/) to request pre-paid, pre-addressed, mail-back packages.

To find other locations that accept unwanted medications and sharps, visit [med-project.org/locations/santa-clara/find-a-location/](https://www.med-project.org/locations/santa-clara/find-a-location/).

## NATIONAL RIVER CLEANUP DAY

Enjoy working with friends and neighbors to improve the health of West Little Llagas and Edmundson creeks on National River Cleanup Day!



**WHEN:** 9 AM – Noon, Saturday, May 20

**WHERE:** City of Morgan Hill, Corporation Yard, 100 Edes Court

**BRING:** A water bottle. Water, gloves, litter bags, and grabbers will be provided.

**REQUIRED:** All participants must bring a signed volunteer waiver. Participants younger than 18 must have a waiver signed by a parent or guardian.

To register or download a waiver, call **408.310.4169** or email [Environ@MorganHill.ca.gov](mailto:Environ@MorganHill.ca.gov).

## CONTACT US!

Se Habla Español

Recology South Valley  
1351 Pacheco Pass Hwy  
Gilroy, CA 95020

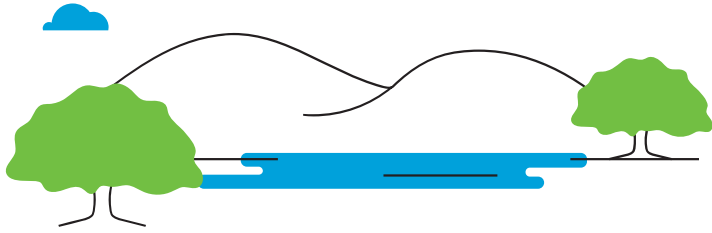
408.842.3358  
[Recology.com/SouthValley](https://www.Recology.com/SouthValley)  
[Facebook.com/RecologySouthValley](https://www.facebook.com/RecologySouthValley)

## OTHER RESOURCES

HHW.org  
[RecycleStuff.org](https://www.RecycleStuff.org)  
[ReduceWaste.org](https://www.ReduceWaste.org)

# Composting Changes Everything

- Boosts Soil Health
- Improves Water Retention
- Helps Fight Climate Change



## HOME COMPOSTING WORKSHOP

Learn how to compost at home by attending a free Community Composting Workshop organized by the University of California Cooperative Extension and the County of Santa Clara.

Santa Clara County certified Master Composters lead classes. One lucky participant will receive a FREE backyard composting bin.

**Dates:** October 21

**Time:** 10 AM – Noon

**Location:** Morgan Hill Community and Cultural Center, 17000 Monterey Road, Morgan Hill

Register at [bit.ly/3qVjNCF](https://bit.ly/3qVjNCF) or call 408.918.4640. Participants must be 18 or older.

## DON'T FORGET TO INCLUDE THE FOOD

Yard waste, such as leaves and grass clippings, is a common item to place in your green organics cart. However, don't forget to include the food!

Items such as food scraps, coffee grounds and filters, greasy pizza boxes, paper napkins, and uncoated paper plates can all be placed in your green organics cart.

To receive a free kitchen compost collection container, contact Recology South Valley at 408.842.3358. The collection container is dishwasher safe and has a lid to reduce odor.



## WHERE DOES IT GO?

Ever wonder what happens to the materials you place in your green organics cart? Below is a quick overview:

Recology delivers material to the organics processing facility. The 90-day process begins. Material is ground up, watered, placed into long piles, tested, and screened.



The finished product — nutrient-rich compost!



## COMPOST GIVEAWAY!



**WHERE:** Morgan Hill Corporation Yard, 100 Edes Court

**WHEN:** 8 AM – Noon, Saturday, May 13

**WHAT:** Pick up the equivalent of one 32-gallon can of compost.

**BRING:** Your own shovel, gloves, and containers.

**WHY:** Using compost improves the fertility and health of your soil by helping it retain water and reducing erosion.



**NEVER PLACE THESE ITEMS IN YOUR GARBAGE CAN**

- Sharps and Medications  
Morgan Hill Police Department, 408.776.7300
- Fluorescent Lamps  
Johnson Lumber/Ace Hardware, 408.778.1550

- Household Hazardous Waste and Electronic Waste, Santa Clara County, 408.299.7300