

# ZEROWASTE

Santa Cruz County  
GreenWaste Recovery

## News

A publication for County of Santa Cruz GreenWaste Recovery  
Commercial Customers

Spring 2020

## COUNTY BATTLES LITTER AND POLLUTION

Santa Cruz County, along with some local cities, have taken further steps to address problems with litter, waste and pollution. One of the largest sources of litter and pollution in our county is from single use cups. There are an estimated 50 million disposable cups we use every year for a few minutes and then throw away. Most cannot be recycled, and far too many end up as litter on our streets and beaches.

The County is using a strategy that was very effective with disposable bags, adding a charge for disposable cups to help remind everyone to bring their own. As of July 1, 2020, all single-use disposable cups will cost an additional 25 cents over the cost of the beverage. All funds collected stay with the business, although the County is exploring the possibility of allocating some of these funds for litter cleanup and prevention.

Here's what you need to know:

- The ordinance requires that businesses which provide beverages in single-use disposable cups charge an extra 25 cents for each cup.
- The requirement applies to both paper and plastic cups, and to hot and cold beverages.
- The ordinance does not apply to restaurants that provide dine-in service only.
- Use of reusable cups is encouraged.
- Cup charges may not be waived or absorbed.
- Any cup charges must appear on any receipts provided to the customer.
- Businesses must keep records of cup charges and provide these upon request.



- Cup charges should be waived for any customer who provides a current WIC or SNAP card.
- Cup charges are not taxable.
- Businesses may decline to use any refillable cup that is dirty, damaged or otherwise unsuitable.
- This ordinance applies to restaurants, grocery stores, convenience stores, farmers markets, food trucks, special events and any other business or event where beverages are sold or provided to go.
- Similar ordinances are being considered in local cities.

For more information, please contact Recycling and Solid Waste Services Team at [Zerowaste@santacruzcounty.us](mailto:Zerowaste@santacruzcounty.us) or (831) 454-2160



## HOLIDAY REMINDER

GreenWaste will provide regular collection services on the following holidays:  
**Memorial Day** Monday, May 25, 2020 🇺🇸 **Independence Day** Saturday, July 4, 2020



Remittance Address:

GreenWaste Recovery, P.O. Box 11089, San Jose, CA 95103-1089

We at GreenWaste "Think Differently" and appreciate your suggestions and comments. Please call us today and let us know how we are doing at (800) 665-2209 or (831) 426-2711, or visit us on the web at [www.greenwaste.com](http://www.greenwaste.com)





# Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day in Santa Cruz

Saturday, April 18 • 11 AM – 4 PM  
San Lorenzo Park, Santa Cruz

## NEW STATE LAW REQUIRES RECYCLING AND COMPOST BINS IN BUSINESSES AND APARTMENT COMPLEXES

While existing state and local laws require all businesses and apartments to recycle, and those that sell food to compost, many confine these activities to the “back of the house,” out of the sight of customers. AB 827 requires that by July 1, 2020, all businesses that are open to the public must also offer convenient recycling bins for their customers' use, and must also offer compost bins for food waste.

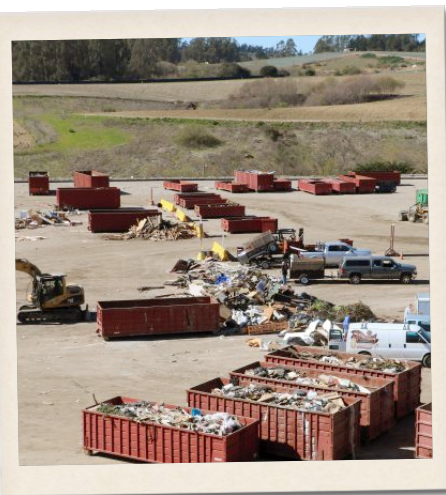
What you need to know:

- Recycling bins should be placed adjacent to all trash bins for convenient access (except in rest rooms)
- If you do not already have food waste collection, you must sign up for the service from GreenWaste and place food waste bins next to your trash and recycling bins (not required if you serve only dine-in)
- Post clear signage to inform your customers of what goes where (CalRecycle will be offering model signage)

- Businesses are responsible to ensure that all material goes in the proper bins, and
- Space constraints are not a reason for an exception (small recycling and compost bins are widely available)

To order service changes, or for more information, contact GreenWaste Customer Service at 831.426.2711.

Full text of the new law is available at:  
[www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov)



## SOMETHING NEW AT THE BUENA VISTA LANDFILL

### Level 2 is now the - RECOVERY & DIVERSION AREA

This area was designed with convenience in mind for the public and County staff to maximize efforts in recycling, diversion recovery, saving resources and saving our landfill limited space.

The purpose for the Recovery & Diversion area is to extend the life of our County Landfill that has a life expectancy of approximately eight to ten years.

The Recovery & Diversion Area will serve as a training ground for the public by promoting individual responsibility and working hand in hand with County staff. Together we will meet our goal of a statewide mandated 75% diversion of solid waste.

