



Rate Schedule Effective July 1, 2026



County of Santa Cruz Recycling and Solid Waste Disposal Facilities

Fee Schedule for Loads Coming from Unincorporated Santa Cruz County and City of Scotts Valley

HAZARDOUS WASTE IS PROHIBITED IN TRASH OR LANDFILL

Customer Notice	Requirement
Surcharge	Loads from the Cities of Capitola, Santa Cruz, Watsonville, and outside Santa Cruz County are subject to a 28% surcharge.
Residency	Proof of residency is required for all loads.
Payment	Accepted forms of payment: cash, checks, and major credit cards. Credit card fees apply.
Load checking	All loads may be checked for hazardous waste. Hazardous and other prohibited materials cannot be disposed of at County facilities. If these materials are found, the hauler must pay all costs to handle them. The County may report the issue to state or local agencies. Responsible parties may face civil or criminal penalties.
Unload deadline	Customers must finish unloading within 15 minutes after closing. If you cannot unload by then, the Special Handle rate may apply.

Facilities and Hours of Operation

Recycling and Solid Waste Services Administration	Ben Lomond Transfer Station	Buena Vista Landfill
701 Ocean Street, Room 410 Santa Cruz, CA 95060 (831) 454-2160	9835 Newell Creek Road Ben Lomond, CA 95005 (831) 454-3951	1231 Buena Vista Drive Watsonville, CA 95076 (831) 454-5153
8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday-Friday Except State and Federal Holidays	Open: Same as Buena Vista Landfill. ***Beginning August 31, 2026, please be advised of delays and possible closure due to construction. Call (831) 454-2430 for updated construction closure announcements***	Open: 7:30 AM-3:30 PM Mon., Tue., Thu., Fri., Sat.; 7:30 AM-2:30 PM Wed.; 7:30 AM-11:30 AM Christmas Eve. Closed Sunday, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day (subject to change).

Questions? (831) 454-2430 or visit www.SantaCruzCountyRecycles.org

RECYCLING SAVES YOU MONEY AND SAVES YOUR PUBLIC LANDFILL SPACE.

IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO MIX RECYCLABLES WITH YOUR REFUSE.

Disposal of hot ashes, recyclable materials, or e-waste is prohibited.

****Items are accepted at the discounted rate listed only when market conditions support recycling of the material. The Director of Community Development and Infrastructure will determine applicability of the discounted rate with 30 days advance notice; otherwise refuse rates apply. Check the fee schedule on the website or call (831) 454-5153 to get the rate currently in effect.**

Disposal Rates

Type of Material	Rate	Minimum Charge
GARBAGE: Household, commercial and business refuse, upholstered furniture, painted lumber, dirt, stable waste. Call (831) 454-5153 for specific items.	\$105.50/TON	\$31.50
TREATED WOOD WASTE (TWW): Must be declared and documented. Charged at the garbage rate. See the summarized TWW policy in this document and visit SantaCruzCountyRecycles.org for more information.	\$105.50/TON	\$31.50
GARBAGE DROP BOX / ROLL OFF RENTALS: Hauler must be a Franchised Hauler with the County of Santa Cruz. Buena Vista Landfill only. Drop box reloading fee: \$172.50 per occurrence.	\$93.25/TON	\$31.50
SPECIAL HANDLE REFUSE: Includes agricultural plastics, large non-recyclable metal items, rancid waste, dead animals, waste requiring supervised burial, and any waste requiring special handling as determined by facility staff. Not accepted at Ben Lomond Transfer Station.	\$172.50/TON	\$45.25
CONTAMINATED / NON-COMPLIANT GARBAGE, REFUSE AND TRASH: Garbage loads containing sortable recyclable materials that are disposed of in the garbage and contain more than 5% recyclable material in violation of County Recycling Ordinance, as determined by County staff.	\$202.50/TON	\$55.25
CLEAN SORTED WOOD WASTE & YARDWASTE: No refuse, dirt, treated or painted lumber, poison oak, pampas grass, bamboo, yucca, palm, root balls, or materials over 8 ft. length x 2 ft. diameter, 4 ft. length x 3 ft. diameter, or 2 ft. length x 4 ft. diameter.	\$70.00/TON	\$22.50
FOOD WASTE (SCRAPS): Fruits, vegetables, dairy products, grains, bread, coffee grounds and filters, eggshells, cooked meats and bones. No plastic, grease, glass, metal, raw meats, compostable or non-compostable utensils/service ware, condiment packages, or Styrofoam.	\$103.50/TON	\$31.00
SHEETROCK / GYPSUM BOARD**: No refuse, dirt, or other contaminants.	\$57.75/TON	\$23.50
CLEAN CONCRETE: Maximum size 3.5 ft. x 3.5 ft. x 8 in. No dirt, no concrete with exposed rebar or pipe, and no oversized concrete. Must be able to unload by hand. LIMIT ONE CUBIC YARD PER TRIP.	\$103.00/TON	\$30.75
CLEAN ASPHALT: No dirt. Must be able to unload by hand. LIMIT ONE CUBIC YARD PER TRIP.	\$103.00/TON	\$30.75
BASE ROCK, BRICK, TILE & PORCELAIN: No concrete contaminated fees will apply. Must be able to unload by hand. LIMIT ONE CUBIC YARD PER TRIP.	\$103.00/TON	\$30.75
CARPET / FOAM CARPET PADDING**: Must be clean, dry, and rolled in 6 ft. sections, free of debris. Roll carpet and padding separately. Must be loaded into container to receive reduced rate.	\$57.50/TON	\$22.25

Type of Material	Rate	Minimum Charge
TIRES: Waste tire hauler certification and manifest are required for disposal of nine (9) or more tires. The CalRecycle California Uniform Waste and Used Tire Manifest tracks generation, transportation, and final disposal of used/waste tires in California.	See tire size rates below	
Tires: 27 inches or less	\$9.50 EACH	
Tires: 28 to 35 inches	\$15.25 EACH	
Tires: 36 to 48 inches	\$36.25 EACH	
Tires: 49 to 60 inches	\$71.75 EACH	
Tires: over 60 inches	\$179.25 EACH	
Bulk tire loads by weight over 25 tires. Per ton rate is used when tire count is unknown.	\$455.00/TON	N/A
APPLIANCES without Freon	\$17.50 EACH	
APPLIANCES with Freon	\$30.75 EACH	
REFRIGERATORS WITH AMMONIA	\$172.50/TON	\$45.25 minimum
PROPANE TANKS: 1 gallon to 5 gallons. Check local propane retailer for exchange policy.	\$18.50 EACH	
PROPANE TANKS: 6 gallons to 10 gallons. Check local propane retailer for exchange policy.	\$27.75 EACH	
MATTRESSES OR BOX SPRING.** LIMIT 15 PER TRIP PER HOUSEHOLD.	FREE	
MATTRESSES OR BOX SPRING FROM RETAILER OR BUSINESS.** LIMIT 15 PER TRIP. Call Bye Bye Mattress at 1-855-494-8400. See Mattress Disposal in California at byebyemattress.com .	\$7.25 EACH	
ELECTRONIC WASTE: Television, computer monitors, and all cathode ray tube, plasma, or LCD devices. Broken TVs and monitors must be contained in a garbage bag.	5 FREE per day	
UNCOVERED / UNSECURED LOADS	\$30.75 per load	

ALL LOADS MUST BE PROPERLY TARPED AND/OR SECURED

Vehicles arriving at the landfill/transfer station with loads that are not properly secured will be subject to a surcharge of the uncovered/unsecured load fee. Uncovered trucks are one of the primary sources of litter found along our roadways.

California Vehicle Code: VEH § 24002, VEH § 23114, and VEH § 23115.

Collection Service Reminder: Self-haulers in the unincorporated County save time and money by using curbside trash, recycling, and yard waste weekly collection service. To sign up, call GreenWaste Recovery at (831) 426-2711 or visit the GreenWaste Recovery Santa Cruz County service web page.

General Acceptance Requirements

Topic	Requirement	Customer Note
Vehicles and VIN-Bearing Items	Mobile homes, trailer homes, cars, trailers, boats, motorcycles, and other vessels or items with a Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) <u>are not accepted</u> for recycling or disposal.	Do not bring VIN-bearing vehicles or vessels to the landfill or transfer station.
Airspace / Water Weight	Discounts are not provided for airspace or water weight, including excess rainwater or wet loads.	Customers are responsible for load condition at the time of disposal.
Commercial Hazardous Waste and Asbestos	Commercial hazardous waste and asbestos are not accepted. Businesses needing hazardous waste guidance should contact County Environmental Health at (831) 454-2022.	County Environmental Health: scceh.com/NewHome/AboutUs/ContactUs.aspx
State Disposal Fee	All refuse disposal loads include the applicable California Integrated Waste Management Fee of \$1.40 per ton.	Fee is applied to refuse disposal loads.
Scale / Computer Outage	If the scale or computer system is inoperable cubic yard (CY) rates apply: Compacted Refuse: \$52.75/CY; Wood/Yard Waste: \$22.50/CY	Loose Refuse: \$31.50/CY; and Special Handle Waste: \$45.25/CY
Mixed Loads / Contaminated Loads	The higher unit rate applies to mixed loads and contaminated wood waste loads.	Customers should sort loads before arrival when possible.
Senior Citizen Discount	A senior citizen discount of \$2.00 per load is available for customers age 65 or older. The discount applies only to self-hauled residential refuse and yard waste.	Discount does not apply to commercial, industrial, or non-eligible materials.
Load Inspections	Commercial, industrial, and residential loads are subject to periodic inspection for hazardous or unacceptable wastes. Commercial or industrial loads containing hazardous waste will be turned away, and incident information may be referred to County Environmental Health for further action.	Loads must comply with posted acceptance policies and staff direction.
Dead Animals	Every effort should be made to deliver dead animals to the landfill between 9:00 AM and 2:30 PM. Dead animals must be double bagged.	Contact the facility if special handling is needed.
Special Handling - Wood Waste	The Special Handle rate applies to wood waste loads containing dirt, refuse, wood waste over 8 feet in length or over 4 feet in diameter, or other non-acceptable materials identified in the Wood Waste and Yard Waste Acceptance Policy.	Oversized or contaminated material may be charged at a higher rate.

Treated Wood Waste (TWW) Disposal Policy

TWW must be declared at the scale, documented, pre-sorted, and hand-unloaded into the designated bin. Mechanical dumping is prohibited unless authorized by County staff.

Requirement	Policy
Eligible source area	Santa Cruz County addresses only, including unincorporated areas and Capitola, Scotts Valley, Santa Cruz, and Watsonville.
Pre-sort / segregate	Separate TWW from all other material before arrival. Mixed or unsegregated loads may be rejected.
Scale declaration / tracking	Declare TWW at the Scale House. County staff will weigh the load and collect required customer/load information per DTSC requirements.
Hand unload / payment	Hand unload into the designated TWW bin, then return to the Scale House to complete payment.
Transport compliance	Customers are responsible for applicable DTSC ID, transporter, or variance requirements when required.

Customer Type and Delivery Requirements

Customer Type	Where / When	Documentation	Steps
Residents self-transporting home-generated TWW	Buena Vista & Ben Lomond: Monday-Saturday Ben Lomond: 500 lbs/day max	Up to 50 lbs: no Waste Manifest Profile. Over 50 lbs: TWW ID, transporter compliance, or variance may apply.	1. Pre-sort 2. Declare/weigh at Scale House 3. Hand unload in TWW bin 4. Return to pay
Small/large quantity generators, transporters, and haulers	Buena Vista only: Tuesday-Thursday	Completed Waste Manifest Profile required before arrival and must be provided at the Scale House.	1. Pre-sort and complete profile 2. Declare/provide profile at scale 3. Hand unload in TWW bin 4. Return to pay

Note: Disposal charges apply at the garbage rate unless otherwise specified. Loads must follow staff direction and posted acceptance requirements.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Disposal

HHW includes paint, solvents, pesticides, auto fluids, cleaners, aerosols, pool chemicals, and similar products. Use approved HHW collection services. Details: HHW.SantaCruzCountyCA.gov.

Eligibility: Residential HHW is free for unincorporated County, Scotts Valley, Capitola, and Santa Cruz only; proof of residency required. Watsonville residents call (831) 768-3133. Business/VSQG is appointment-only at Buena Vista Wed./Fri.; Santa Cruz County waste only; monthly limit under 100 kg / 220 lbs. hazardous waste and under 1 kg extremely hazardous waste. Over limit: (831) 454-2022.

Material / Service	Rate / Limit	Conditions
Residential HHW	Free; maximum 15 gal. liquid or 125 lbs. solid per trip; 5 gal. maximum sized containers.	Buena Vista: Wed. 7:30 AM-2:30 PM; Fri.-Sat. 7:30 AM-3:30 PM. Ben Lomond: Closed for construction. Questions: (831) 454-2606.
Business / VSQG	Fee-based; appointment required; must meet VSQG limits.	Buena Vista only, Wednesdays and Fridays.
Sharps / Needles	Free through MED-Project; red sharps container required.	Not accepted at the HHW. No loose, bagged, or improperly contained needles.
CFLs / Fluorescent Tubes	Free for residential; maximum 25 per visit.	Resident drop-off during HHW operating days.
PaintCare	No material charge for eligible products; \$35 minimum may apply.	Quantity/container limits apply; use PaintCare retail take-back sites.

Transport: Keep HHW labeled and upright; do not mix chemicals. Unsafe, leaking, unlabeled, unknown, excessive, commercial, or non-accepted waste may be refused. Emergencies: call 911.

Waste Type	Unit	Price	Waste Type	Unit	Price
Sorting/handling fee*	-	\$35.00	Paint materials / adhesives	gal.	\$4.50
Absorbent	lb.	\$1.00	PCB ballast / transformer	lb.	\$3.50
Absorbent	bag	\$15.00	Photo chemical liquids	gal.	\$8.50
Aerosol cans, <=16.4 oz.	ea.	\$1.50	Toxic liquids / pesticides	gal.	\$6.00
Antifreeze / coolant	gal.	\$1.50	Toxic solids / pesticides	lb.	\$1.50
Inorganic cleaners	gal.	\$5.00	Solar panels - broken	ea.	\$100.0
Organic cleaners	gal.	\$10.00	Solar panels - intact	ea.	\$65.00
Gas cartridge / pepper spray / CO2	lb.	\$3.50	Household batteries	lb.	\$1.50
Gas / kerosene / diesel	gal.	\$4.00	Lithium-ion batteries	lb.	\$5.00
Flares / fuses (no projectiles)**	ea.	\$8.50	Fire extinguishers	ea.	\$30.00
Freon cylinders	ea.	\$19.00	CFL / D / U / misc. fluorescent lamps	ea.	\$4.00
Mercury (Hg) / thermometers	lb.	\$10.00	Fluorescent tubes, <=4 ft.	ea.	\$2.00
Hg thermostats / switches	ea.	\$1.00	Fluorescent tubes, >4 ft.	ea.	\$4.00
Motor / lube / hydraulic oil	gal.	\$1.00	HID lamps / headlights	ea.	\$4.00
Oil filters - auto / light truck	ea.	\$1.00	LED lamps	ea.	\$2.00
Oil filters - heavy equipment	ea.	\$10.00	Shatter shield lamps	ea.	\$3.00
1-lb. gas cylinders	ea.	\$8.00	Toner / ink cartridges	lb.	\$2.00
Oxidizers / bleach	gal.	\$7.00	UV / neon lamps	ea.	\$5.50
			Latex architectural paint*	ea.	\$0.00

Notes: Hazardous waste limit is 220 lbs./month. Universal Waste and PaintCare are not subject to limit.*Sorting/handling fee applies where required**No explosives, ammunition or fireworks accepted