

Subsidized Green Waste Disposal Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Who is eligible to participate in this program?

All residents of the unincorporated area of Supervisorial District 5 are eligible to participate in this program. This includes those living in the San Lorenzo Valley, and some residents who live outside the city limits of Scotts Valley and Santa Cruz. Some residents living east of the Ben Lomond Mountain ridge and south of the Castle Rock Ridge are also District 5 residents. To check whether you live in District 5, check at the [Board of Supervisors](#) website.

2. What types of green waste are accepted?

Green waste includes yard trimmings, leaves, branches, brush, and other vegetative material. No treated wood, trash, dirt, or construction debris will be accepted. Standard size restrictions apply.

[See a full list of what is considered Green Waste \(aka Organics\) here.](#)

Green waste must be generated from the cleanup of their residential properties. (Green waste generated by a commercial enterprise is not eligible).

3. What types of green waste are not accepted?

Standard green waste size and material restrictions apply:

- Size restrictions: green waste is limited to 8-foot lengths by 2-foot diameter; 4-foot length by 3-foot diameter; or 2-foot length by 4-foot diameter.
- Material restrictions: No refuse, dirt, treated or painted lumber, poison oak, pampas grass, bamboo, yucca, palm or root balls accepted as green waste.

4. Is there a limit to how much green waste I can bring?

Yes. Each load is limited to 2 tons. No dump trucks or roll-off/drop-boxes will be admitted.

5. Can I participate more than once?

Yes. However, please note that if you have hired a contractor to haul the green waste, a separate affidavit will have to be provided for each load.

6. Can I hire someone to haul my green waste for me?

Yes. If you're using a landscaper or hauler, you'll need to provide them with a signed affidavit confirming that they are delivering green waste on your behalf. One affidavit is required per load.

7. Where can I get an affidavit?

You can download a blank affidavit to print and complete here. You can also obtain a hard copy from the Office of Supervisor Monica Martinez (located at 701 Ocean Street, 5th Floor, Santa Cruz) or from the locations listed at

<https://cdi.santacruzcountyca.gov/PublicWorks/RecyclingSolidWaste/GreenWasteDisposalProgram.aspx> . Affidavits must be presented at the transfer station for contractor drop-offs.

8. What happens if I don't have an affidavit for my hauler?

Fees will not be waived. Transfer station staff will collect and verify affidavits for all contractor or third-party deliveries. The affidavit ensures the service is being used appropriately and helps us track participation.

9. Do I need to show proof of residence?

District 5 residents should be prepared to show proof of residence (such as a driver's license or utility bill) if asked. Contractors do not need to show proof of residence but will need to provide a completed affidavit signed by the resident.

10. Is there a cost for residents?

No. This service is free for District 5 residents.

11. What should I bring with me to the transfer station?

If you are dropping off your own load, just bring your green waste and be prepared to share your ZIP code and proof of residence. If you're using a contractor, they must bring the completed affidavit with them.

12. Can I drop off other types of waste during my visit?

Yes, but this program covers green waste only. If you bring other types of materials, you will be charged regular disposal fees for those items. Non-green waste refuse and recyclable items will need to be separated, dropped off in the designated areas at the transfer station per standard procedure.

13. How will my feedback be used?

We're collecting survey responses to understand how the program works and whether it should continue. Feedback will be used to improve logistics, determine ideal drop-off days, and explore ways to expand access if funding allows.