

Free Yard Waste Disposal for District 5 Residents

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Who is eligible to participate in this program?

This program is designed for District 5 residents, which includes people living in San Lorenzo Valley and unincorporated areas of Scotts Valley.

2. What types of yard waste are accepted?

Yard 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 Yard Waste aka Organics here.](#)

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

3. What types of yard waste are not accepted?

Standard yard waste size and material restrictions apply:

- **Size restrictions:** yard 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 yard waste.

4. Is there a limit to how much yard 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 yard waste, a separate affidavit will have to be provided for each load.

6. Can I hire someone to haul my yard 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 yard waste on your behalf. One affidavit is required per load.

7. Where can I get an affidavit?

A downloadable affidavit form will be available on this webpage. You can print and fill it out at home or request a hard copy from the Office of Supervisor Monica

Martinez located at 701 Ocean Street, 5th Floor, Santa Cruz. 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?

We encourage all District 5 residents to 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. Will this program continue after August?

We are evaluating options for continuing or expanding the program in September, depending on demand, feedback, and available funding. Your participation and especially your feedback will help us decide how to proceed with this program.

You can provide feedback in a survey (survey coming soon).

11. Is there a cost for residents?

No. This service is free for District 5 residents.

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

If you are dropping off your own load, just bring your yard 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.

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

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

14. 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.