

Materials Management Guide

Responsible Recycling and Disposal



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Welcome to the City of Arcata’s Materials Management Guide. The purpose of this guide is to inform residents on where they can recycle items they may not be able to reduce or reuse.

In an effort to minimize paper waste, this guide will be printed as requested and accessible digitally. If you’re finished with your guide, consider passing it on to someone else instead of recycling or throwing it away. Here are a few ideas for increasing the lifetime of your Materials Management Guide:

- Give it to family, friends, or a roommate
- Give it to a coworker or leave it in your office or break room
- Donate it to a local café or restaurant for their customers to read
- Return it to the City of Arcata Environmental Services Department for redistribution

To track the journey of this Materials Management Guide, sign your name and date below! Feel free to leave any relevant notes.

Name	Date	Notes

Do you have any ideas or tips on how we can improve this guide? We would love to hear from you! Contact the City of Arcata Environmental Services Department at (707)822-8184 or email eservices@cityofarcata.org

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Why is Materials Management Important?

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the total municipal solid waste (MSW) generated during 2018 was approximately 292.4 million tons. Living in a consumptive society results in many of us acquiring and disposing of goods in ever-increasing amounts. Continuous growth in generated waste causes ground, air, and water pollution, resulting in negative impacts on urban and rural ecosystems alike.

Although there are many obstacles, change is possible if we work collaboratively towards creating a zero waste community. Zero waste can be achieved if we come together to implement an inclusive and comprehensive solution to minimizing the waste generated in our community.

City of Arcata's Green Game Plan; The 6 R's

We are all familiar with the 3 R's – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, but have you ever thought about why the R's are in this specific order? There is a reason "recycle" comes last. Before we even consider recycling, we should be trying to reduce the amount of waste we generate as well as reuse items we already have instead of buying new. Once we have reduced and reused as much as possible, only then should we start recycling.

Furthermore, we realized that the 3 R's were not sufficient to combat the ever-increasing demand for more "stuff" and a society of convenience culture. The City of Arcata has an updated Green Game Plan: the 6 R's – **Reduce, Reuse, Rot (compost), Recycle, Responsible Disposal, and Rethink.**



The Purpose of This Guide

While reducing and reusing waste should always be the first step taken, it is important that the residents of Arcata have the information they need to recycle and responsibly dispose when prevention is not an option. If you would like more tips on reducing and reusing waste, please head over to the City of Arcata Zero Waste webpage: <https://www.cityofarcata.org/275/Zero-Waste> [Zero Waste | Arcata, CA](#) ([cityofarcata.org](https://www.cityofarcata.org))

Recycling

Once you reduce, reuse, and rot (compost) as much as you can but are still left with potential “trash”, it is time to start recycling any remaining eligible waste. Always keep in mind that recycling does not automatically mean diversion from the landfill. Many items that are put into recycling bins do not get recycled due to a myriad of reasons (costs for materials changing, recycling stream contamination, and more). Not to mention that materials most often get down-cycled into lower quality material, meaning that it will eventually end up in the landfill.

Recyclables Eligible for Curbside Pick-up

That being said, it is still important to try and recycle what you can. The City of Arcata has a single stream (commingled) curbside recycling system. This means all recycles are placed into a single bin. See chart below for what items are eligible to be recycled in the Arcata curbside recycling program.

Paper		
Junk mail/envelopes (w/plastic windows ok)	Cardboard (flattened)	Phone and paperback books
Home and office paper	Paper gift wrap	Paper bags
Magazines/catalogs and newspaper and inserts	Cereal and other dry food boxes (remove waxed liner)	Shredded paper (in clear bag only)
Glass (remove lids, they are recyclable)		
Bottles (soda, beer, wine, etc.)	Jars (pickles, baby food, etc.)	
Plastic		
#1 clear plastic drink bottles (water and soda) #2 plastic milk cartons	#3-#7 plastics	Prescription pill containers (labels removed)
Metal (do not flatten)		
Aluminum cans	Soda cans	Tin cans
Clean, balled aluminum foil 2” or larger	Aluminum pie pans and formed containers	

Recyclables Not Eligible for Curbside Pick-up

Items listed below are not accepted in curbside recycling but can still be recycled! Please make sure to properly dispose of the following items to ensure they get recycled.

Carpet Recycling

Item	Location	Fee
Carpet	Hawthorne St. Transfer Station (HWMA)* 1059 W Hawthorne St. Eureka	\$10/ton (minimum \$2) See attendant for access to the carpet trailer. (707)268-8680
	Alves Inc. 4200 W End Rd Arcata	Call for details (707)825-4725

Scrap Metal Recycling

Item	Location	Fee
Scrap metal	Arcata Scrap and Salvage 192 S G St. Arcata	Call for details (707)822-4881
	Humboldt Sanitation 2585 Central Ave. McKinleyville	\$0.08/lb (\$8 minimum) (707)839-3285
	Eel River Salvage 850 Riverwalk Dr. Fortuna	Call for details 707-725-6530

Mattress Recycling

Item	Location	Fee
Mattresses and foundations	Hawthorne St. Transfer Station (HWMA) 1059 W Hawthorne St. Eureka	No fee (707)268-8680

Plastic Bag Recycling

Item	Location	Fee
Plastic film and bags	Winco foods 636 W Harris St. Eureka	No fee (707)442-4040
	Adorni Center 1011 Waterfront Dr. Eureka	No Fee (small amounts accepted at a time, call for questions) (707)441-4248

	The Sequoia Park Zoo 3414 W St. Eureka	No fee (707)441-4263
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Glass, Ceramics, and Pottery Recycling

Item	Location	Fee
Glass, ceramics, and pottery (broken ok!)	Kernen Construction 2350 Glendale Drive McKinleyville	No fee (707)826-8686
	Alves Inc. 4200 W End Rd Arcata	Call for details (707)825-4725

Construction and Demolition Recycling

Item	Location	Fee
Asphalt	Kernen Construction 2350 Glendale Drive McKinleyville	No fee (707)826-8686
Toilets and Sinks	Kernen Construction 2350 Glendale Drive McKinleyville	No fee (707)826-8686
	Alves Inc. 4200 W End Rd Arcata	\$5/each (707)825-4725
Dirt	Alves Inc. 4200 W End Rd Arcata	\$10/ton clean \$80/ton mixed \$160/ton grow (1 ton minimum)

Construction and Demolition Recycling cont.

Item	Location	Fee
Pavement	Alves Inc. 4200 W End Rd Arcata	No fee (707)825-4725
Brick/Masonry/Tile Cinder Block	Kernen Construction 2350 Glendale Drive McKinleyville	No fee (707)826-8686
	Alves Inc. 4200 W End Rd Arcata	No fee (707)825-4725

Clean concrete	Kernen Construction 2350 Glendale Drive McKinleyville	No fee (707)826-8686
	Alves Inc. 4200 W End Rd Arcata	No fee (707)825-4725
Washers, dryers, water heaters	Alves Inc. 4200 W End Rd Arcata	\$25/each (707)825-4725

Responsible Disposal (Landfill)

Many of you have done your best to minimize waste up to this point, however, you may still end up with some waste that can neither be reused or recycled. If this is the case, it is important that you ensure you properly sort your waste in a way that has the least impact on the environment. Responsible disposal means properly disposing hazardous and pharmaceutical waste, and taking any remaining waste to appropriate facilities.

Arcata’s garbage is transported to the Humboldt Waste Management Authority’s Hawthorne Street facility in Eureka. It is dumped onto the station tip floor and lifted by excavator into a trailer. Tip floor personnel make efforts to pull out recoverable items, such as unpainted or untreated lumber, steel or metal items, drywall, or inerts (like brick or concrete). These recovered items go to local diversion outlets. The trailer is loaded with 22 to 23 tons of garbage and then hauled a long distance to landfills in either Anderson, CA or Medford, OR. The garbage is compacted with a loader into the “active face” of the landfill, and eventually covered with suitable daily cover (either 6” of soil, or other approved materials).

Materials Eligible to be Disposed of in Curbside Pick up

Many items that cannot be recycled in curbside programs are able to be disposed of in curbside services. See items below that can be placed in landfill bins.

Polystyrene			
Polystyrene foam blocks	Polystyrene foam peanuts	Polystyrene foam cups	Polystyrene foam containers
Polystyrene foam meat trays	Polystyrene foam plates		

Shiny Food Wrappers

Chip bags Protein and candy wrappers

Bioplastics / Compostable Plastics¹

Compostable plastic cups Compostable plastic utensils Compostable plastic food containers

Paper

Paper take-out coffee cups Waxed paper plates Pizza boxes² Waxed cardboard
Waxed paper Paper towels² Tissues² Hardcover books³

Plastic

Plastic straws Plastic utensils

Others

Pet poop & kitty litter Incandescent light bulbs Halogen light bulbs
Tampons & pads Diapers Disposable razor
Latex gloves Broken glass Ice packs
Condoms Photographs Toothpaste tubes

¹Bioplastics/compostable plastics are not recyclable/compostable in Arcata. Bioplastics are only designed to biodegrade when placed in a commercial composting system; a system which does not currently exist in our area.

²Indicates that items are compostable if you have a backyard composting set-up.

³When the covers are removed; the rest can be recycled.

Materials that Require Responsible Disposal (No Curb-Side!)

There are certain items that cannot be placed in curbside bins because they require a proper disposal method. Please do not place the following items in either recycling or landfill curbside totes because they contain materials that are hazardous if not properly handled.

Electronic Waste

Items	Location	Fee
TV's, Printers, telephones, cell phones, radios, VCR's/DVD's, microwave ovens, keyboards, mice, computer towers, computer monitors, electronic ballasts, wires, items w/circuit boards or a digital face	Recology Eel River 965 Riverwalk Dr Fortuna	Call for details (707) 725-5156
	Humboldt Sanitation 2585 Central Ave. McKinleyville	\$0.40/lb. (\$5 minimum) (707)839-3285 *TV's and computer monitors are \$5/item

There are a couple E-waste drop off points where accepted materials and fees vary. Please call the site for more information.

Location	Phone
Staples 800 W. Harris St. Eureka	(707)269-0196
Humboldt State University 1 Harpst St. Arcata	(707)826-3646 Facilities Management

Batteries

Item	Location	Fee
Household batteries	Humboldt Waste Management Authority 1059 W Hawthorne St. Eureka	No Fee (707)268-8680
	Humboldt Sanitation 2585 Central Ave McKinleyville	No fee (707)839-3285
	Shafer's Ace Hardware 2760 E St. Eureka	No fee (707)442-5734
	Hensel's Ace Hardware 884 9 th St. Arcata	No fee (707)822-2965
	Sunnybrae Ace Hardware 86 Sunnybrae Ctc Arcata	No fee (707)822-7009
Car batteries	Humboldt Waste Management Authority 1059 w Hawthorne St. Eureka	Call for details (707)268-8680

	Humboldt Sanitation 2585 Central Ave McKinleyville	\$1/battery (707)839-3285
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Appliances that cannot be repaired or donated

Item	Location	Fee
Household appliances WITHOUT Freon (vacuum cleaner, toaster oven, hair dryer, clothing iron, washer and dryer, etc.)	Humboldt Sanitation 2585 Central Ave McKinleyville	\$20/appliance (707)839-3285
	Recology Eel River Fortuna Transfer Station 965 Riverwalk Dr. Fortuna	Call for details (707) 725-5156
	Eel River Salvage 850 Riverwalk Dr. Fortuna	Call for details 707-725-6530
Household appliances WITH Freon (dehumidifiers, refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, etc.)	Humboldt Sanitation 2585 Central Ave McKinleyville	\$40/appliance (707)839-3285
	Eel River Salvage 850 Riverwalk Dr. Fortuna	Call for details 707-725-6530
	Recology Eel River Fortuna Transfer Station 965 Riverwalk Dr. Fortuna	Call for details (707) 725-5156

Automotive Fluids

Motor oil and other automotive fluids, if not properly disposed, can seep into our waterways and negatively impact the ecosystem and the environment. Help reduce waste and protect the environment by walking, biking, carpooling, or taking public transportation when you can!

Item	Location	Fee
Antifreeze, motor oil, and oil filters*	Humboldt Waste Management Authority 1059 W Hawthorne St. Eureka	No fee (707)268-8680
	Humboldt Sanitation 2585 Central Ave McKinleyville	\$1/gallon (707)839-3285
	Franklin's Service 1903 Heindon Rd. Arcata	No fee (707)822-1975

	Eel River Salvage 850 Riverwalk Dr. Fortuna	Call for details 707-725-6530
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*5-gallon motor oil maximum. Call your preferred facility with any questions.

Furniture that cannot be repaired or donated

Item	Location	Fee
All unusable/broken furniture including: shelves, entertainment centers, couches, recliners, tables, chairs, etc.	Hawthorne St. Transfer Station (HWMA) 1059 W Hawthorne St. Eureka	\$155.82/ton \$8 minimum fee (up to 100 lbs.)

Note: Arcata Recology residential customers can request two bulky curbside pickups annually at no extra cost. Contact Recology at (707)683-4853 to schedule.

Medical Sharps and Syringes

Needles and lancets are banned from the trash and must be properly disposed by putting them in a red biohazard sharps container.

Item	Location	Fee
Medical sharps and syringes	Humboldt Waste Management Authority 1059 W Hawthorne St. Eureka	No fee (must be in a designated red biohazard container) (707)268-8680
	Humboldt Sanitation 2585 Central Ave McKinleyville	No fee (must be in a designated red biohazard container) (707)839-3285

Pharmaceutical Waste

Item	Location	Fee
Pharmaceutical waste including: prescription medications, over-the-counter medications, medicated ointments and lotions, and pet medications*	Humboldt Open Door Clinic 770 10 th St. Arcata	No fee (707)826-8610
	Cloney's Pharmacy 2515 Harrison Ave Eureka**	No fee (707)443-0302
	Cloney's Pharmacy 1567 City Center Rd McKinleyville**	No fee (707)840-9923
	Barnes Arcata Family Drug 1080 G St. Arcata	No fee (707)822-2496 No inhalers

*NOT accepted: Sharps, dietary supplements, vitamins, business waste (product samples, doctor's office, dentist's and veterinary waste).

**Accepts controlled substances

Fluorescent Bulbs

Item	Location	Fee
Fluorescent bulbs (both tubes and CFLs)	Humboldt Waste Management Authority 1059 W Hawthorne St Eureka	No fee (707)268-8680 for the first 10
	Hensel's Ace Hardware 884 9 th St Arcata	No fee (707)822-2965
	Sunnybrae Ace Hardware 86 Sunny Brae Center Arcata	No fee (707)822-7009
	Shafer's Ace Hardware 2760 E St. Or 2520 Harris St. Eureka	(707) 442-5734 or (707) 798-6041

Other Hazardous Waste

Item	Location	Fee
Hazardous waste including: household cleaners, fluorescent light bulbs, paint and solvents, non-empty aerosol cans, nail polish and remover, pesticides, automotive fluids, batteries, etc. *	Humboldt Waste Management Authority 1059 W Hawthorne St. Eureka	Fees may vary, call for details (707)268-8680

***NOT** accepted: ammunition, explosives, pharmaceuticals, radioactive waste, biological waste, and medical waste.

Rethink Waste

There may always be certain materials that are difficult to avoid disposing of in every-day life, and making sure to responsibly recycle and dispose of those items is important. That being said, preventing and reducing waste, as well as reusing will always be the most effective tools in terms of waste reduction.

A great place to start with waste reduction is to understand what sort of waste you generate the most of. Performing a household waste audit can provide you with a much better grasp of what your home contributes towards the waste stream. There are lots of great resources (<https://mygreentmontgomery.org/project/conduct-a-home-waste-audit/>) on how to perform household waste audits.

Figuring out your biggest waste “offenders” is crucial before addressing what can be tangibly changed. This process can be overwhelming, but is it not something that has to be done all at once. Step-by-step is the best way to go about adjusting a lifestyle to be more waste conscious.

After you have reduced what you can, the next best step would be to reuse materials. Reusing can require some creative thinking. Once you are in that mindset, however, you will be surprised with how many different ways you can reuse something that otherwise might be going to the landfill!

Lastly, for those items you just cannot seem to reduce or reuse, this guide will help you recycle and dispose of responsibly! If there is something you have questions about that are not address in this handbook, feel free to direct questions to:

City of Arcata Environmental Services Department

(707)822-8184

eservices@cityofarcata.org

Thank you for your effort to bring this community closer to zero waste!

