Doing some spring cleaning?

Bulky-item pickup available year-round

Spring is a good time to look around the house and get rid of things you no longer need. Perhaps you have a computer or TV that is no longer being used. Maybe it’s time to get rid of your old freezer or a worn couch. As you are paring down your possessions, ask yourself, “Could someone else use this?” If so, consider donating it to Goodwill, Habitat for Humanity, The Salvation Army, or another charitable organization. If not, you can dispose of both old electronics and bulky items, like furniture and appliances, at the curb. However, you must call Allied Waste Services, a Republic Services company, to request a special pickup so that the correct truck will be sent out on your collection day.

Single-family residential customers may request two pickups free of charge for bulky items and electronics in a 12-month period. Additional pickups are available for a fee. To request a pickup, call Allied Waste Services, a Republic Services company, at 888-742-5234 at least 24 hours in advance of your regular collection day. You may also use the My Resource™ app to schedule this service. (Learn more about My Resource on page 2.)

If you live in a multi-family complex, check with your property manager to find out how to dispose of bulky items. The City of La Cañada Flintridge and Allied Waste Services, a Republic Services company, also offer citywide spring and fall cleanups. The next one is coming up in May.

SPRING CLEANUP

May 14–18, 2018
Free of Charge

Each spring, the City of La Cañada Flintridge hosts a community cleanup. This service is provided so that residents can get rid of larger household items which don’t fit into the curbside containers. Allied Waste Services, a Republic Services company, will pick up unwanted items at the curb.

To participate, place any bulky items at the curb on your regularly scheduled pickup day during the week of May 14–18. Acceptable items include:

- Furniture
- Mattresses
- Appliances
- Electronic Equipment
- Clothing
- Carpets or Rugs (tied in rolls)
- Green Waste (bundled tree branches and limbs)

Please box, bundle, or bag your loose items so that they can be easily handled. Set appliances in a separate stack. Remove the doors from freezers and refrigerators. Scrap metal should go with appliances.

Questions? Contact our Customer Service Center at 888-742-5234.

Too Toxic To Trash

Household chemicals, such as automotive fluids, lawn and garden products, and paints and thinners, don’t belong in curbside waste containers. Instead, dispose of them properly at a Household Hazardous Waste and E-Waste Roundup or a permanent drop-off facility. To find a location near you, visit CleanLA.com and click on “Household Hazardous Waste / Electronic Waste.”

Holiday Schedule

Your pickup for waste and recycling will be delayed by one day during the week of Memorial Day, which is Monday, May 28.
Non-Recyclables

Keep these items OUT of your blue All-in-One Recycling™ container!

- Ropes/chains/cords
- Batteries
- Diapers
- Latex gloves
- Food
- Clothes
- Styrofoam
- Shoes
- Hard cover books

The Smart Gardening Program, sponsored by Los Angeles County, provides FREE workshops with hands-on demonstrations covering backyard composting, worm composting, grass recycling, water-wise gardening, and fire-wise gardening. At these workshops, you'll learn Smart Gardening techniques to create and maintain a healthy, beautiful, and drought-tolerant lawn and garden by giving your plants what they crave — nutrient-rich soil. These workshops cover a wide spectrum of helpful yard maintenance tips. At most workshops, interested residents may purchase a backyard composting bin and a worm composting bin at discounted prices.

Using the Smart Gardening techniques is an easy way to get a really great-looking yard while using less water and putting less garden debris into your curbside yardwaste container.

There is an upcoming workshop on Saturday, May 12, from 9:30 to 11 a.m., at the Pasadena Senior Center, 85 E. Holly Street, Pasadena. For more details about this and other upcoming workshops, visit SmartGardening.com.

What Goes in the Yardwaste Container?

YES
Branches and twigs (up to 6” in diameter, no longer than 4’)
Brush
Grass clippings
House plants
Leaves
Plant trimmings
Weeds
Wood chips

NO
Animal waste
Dirt, sod, rocks, or concrete
Household garbage
Plastic bags
Recyclables
Tree stumps
Treated or painted wood
Yuccas, palm branches, or ice plant clusters

Remember — don’t bag yard waste. Put loose yard waste directly into your yardwaste container.

Every Day Is Earth Day!

On April 22, we celebrate Earth Day worldwide, but at Republic Services every day is Earth Day! No effort is too little and no act is too small to help preserve our Blue Planet™. Start doing something new this Earth Day and make it a habit. Carry and use reusable shopping bags on every trip to the store. Refill your own water bottle. Recycle the bottles you finish drinking at the park, beach, or event. Capture every recyclable in your house. Talk to your family about making sure your recyclables are EMPTY, CLEAN, and DRY. Share your new habit on social media to encourage others to adopt a new, earth-friendly habit, too!

Are you using My Resource™?

With My Resource™, you can:
- Pay your bill.
- Schedule a bulky item or electronics pickup.
- Report a missed pickup.
- Request repair or replacement of residential containers.
- Receive alerts from Allied Waste Services, a Republic Services company.

Sign up today at RepublicOnline.com or download the My Resource app to your device from the App Store or Google Play.
Republic Services recognized for ethical and sustainable practices

In February, Republic Services received two honors. In both cases, Republic was the only recycling and solid waste services provider to be included in the rankings.

Republic Services was named one of the 100 Most Sustainable Companies by Barron’s. After evaluating hundreds of performance indicators, including water usage, greenhouse gas emissions, and environmental impact, at the 1,000 largest publicly held companies in the U.S., Barron’s selected the top 100 for excellence and leadership in sustainability.

“We are pleased that our efforts have been recognized by Barron's,” said Don Slager, president and CEO of Republic Services. “We remain steadfast in our commitment to sustainability because it's more than picking up and handling our country’s waste. This is a collective effort to do what's best for our communities, customers, employees, shareholders, and the environment — without exception, without fail.”

Republic Services was also named one of the 2018 World’s Most Ethical Companies® by the Ethisphere Institute. Every year, Ethisphere acknowledges companies that operate with the highest ethical standards. This year’s 135 honorees, spanning 23 countries and 57 industries, recognize their role in society to influence and drive positive change and use their values and culture as an underpinning to the decisions they make every day.

“This award is directly linked to the efforts of our people and their determination to lead with integrity, and to do what is right when faced with everyday challenges,” said Catharine Ellingsen, executive vice president, chief legal officer, and chief ethics and compliance officer. “We congratulate our employees for achieving this honor.”

Celebrating trees

Trees are essential to the character and charm of La Cañada Flintridge. These trees provide cooling shade, help clean our air, and enhance our lovely, semi-rural setting. Many of them are also iconic trees that reflect the heritage of our city. To show our commitment to our trees, La Cañada Flintridge has been a Tree City USA for 30 years. The Tree City USA program, sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters, recognizes communities that have made a commitment to caring for and expanding their urban forests.

This spring, La Cañada Flintridge will host its 31st annual Arbor Day event at Olvera 2 Park. Arbor Day calls on communities to celebrate, plant, and care for trees. At our event, you'll be able to take part in a community tree planting. All tools will be provided. For more information or to sign up to volunteer, please call 818-790-8880.

To learn more about trees in our city, visit LCF.ca.gov/planning/trees.

Simple steps to composting success

You can make your own compost in the backyard. The ingredients you'll need are readily available — “green” and “brown” organic waste, water, and air. After you've mixed these ingredients and given them some time to cook, you'll have a finished compost that will make a nutritious amendment for your soil. Follow these steps to create your own compost:

1. Choose a level area in your yard. You don't want your compost bin to be in the way, but you don't want it too far away from your source of organic material, either. You'll need at least a 3- by 5-foot area to give your bin room to breathe and you room to work.
2. Select a spot that is out of direct sunlight most of the day.
3. Make sure that you have access to water nearby and a hose that will reach the spot.
4. Build your own bin, or purchase a commercial compost bin. The size and type will depend on how much organic material you have available and how fast you want your compost to cook.
5. Mix “brown” yard waste, such as dry leaves and dead plants, with “green” organic waste, such as grass clippings and fruit and vegetable scraps. You'll want about half “green” and half “brown” materials. If you are grasscycling most of your lawn clippings, coffee grounds and tea leaves are a good “green” organic material (even though they are colored brown); coffee grounds are a source of nitrogen, as are other “greens.” Mix the material as you fill your compost bin. Be sure that food scraps are at least 10 inches below the surface of the pile — this will keep unwanted animal visitors away.
6. Chop larger waste, such as twigs, into smaller pieces. You can chop this material manually using trimmers or loppers, or you can run twigs and branches through a chipper/shredder. (You could share a chipper/shredder with your neighbors or rent one.) Chopping this woody waste will help it decompose more quickly.
7. Turn or stir the compost at least every other week. Use a pitchfork, a shovel, or a compost turner. Be sure that the material is thoroughly mixed each time you turn it. The more often you turn your pile, the quicker your material will decompose.
8. Add water if your pile becomes dry. Mix the water evenly through the material. During most weather conditions, your pile should be moist but not soaking wet. If your pile becomes soggy during wet weather, turn and mix the material to add air and help dry it out. A tarp can help keep your composting materials from getting too wet during heavy rains.
9. Give your compost up to six months to cook and cure. For faster compost, turn the pile more often. When the waste has become dark and crumbly, you have compost!
10. Spread the compost as mulch around trees or under bushes, mix it into your garden soil, or combine it with soil or sand to make a great potting soil.

Getting food to hungry people

In Los Angeles County, more than 500,000 households experience food insecurity, meaning they sometimes have to decide whether to purchase food or pay the rent. Unfortunately, at the same time, many tons of edible food have been heading to composting facilities and landfills each year. In 2017, Republic Services partnered with Food Finders to help business customers donate edible food to feed hungry people. Food Finders has a network of over 300 food pantry agencies, which directly serve local residents. Now, a refrigerated truck sponsored by Republic Services allows for more efficient collection in the communities we serve.

Since the partnership began, more than 227 tons of edible food have been donated by Republic Services customers. That is enough food to create more than 378,000 meals!
Grasscycling is easy!

It's easy to grasscycle. You just use your regular mower. It can be a gas, electric, or reel mower. If your mower has a bagging attachment, simply remove it and, if needed, insert a safety device over the grass chute. If there isn't a bag attached to your mower, you're already set to grasscycle. Mow as usual, letting the grass fall back onto your lawn.

When you mow regularly, the clippings are small and break down quickly. Clippings contain moisture and organic matter. In Southern California, with our cycles of drought, grasscycling keeps moisture on your lawn instead of sending it to a composting facility. In addition, the clippings serve as a mulch and help reduce evaporation from the soil. Grasscycling can also provide up to a quarter of the nitrogen needed by your lawn, which can save money on lawn treatments.

Here’s the best part — grasscycling saves you time! When you aren’t stopping to remove, empty, and reattach the grass catcher, you will spend 40% less time mowing. That leaves you more time for outdoor activities that are more fun for you, whether that is gardening, walking, reading a book by the pool, or kicking a soccer ball around with the kids.

Recycle those paper shreds

It’s tax season, and a lot of people are shredding old statements, receipts, and other documents. If you have paper shreds, you can recycle them in your blue All-in-One Recycling™ container. However, please follow these instructions:

1. Place paper shreds into a brown PAPER bag. (NO plastic bags!)
2. Fill the bag about two-thirds full and then roll the top closed.
3. Staple the top of the bag.
4. Put the bag into your blue container with your other recycling.

Special handling

These items should never be mixed with regular recycling and require special handling.

Learn more at RepublicServices.com
- Incandescent light bulbs
- Fluorescent tubes
- Computers & electronics
- Needles or syringes
- Hazardous waste
- Paint
- Toxic material containers
- Batteries

Non-Recyclable

Food waste
- Mirrors or ceramics
- Styrofoam
- Tissue, paper towels or napkins

For more information on recyclables, visit RepublicServices.com

We’ll handle it from here.™