Allied Waste Services, a Republic Services company, will pick up bulky items, such as furniture and appliances, as well as electronics, at the curb. However, you must call 888-742-5234 at least 24 hours before your regular collection day to request a special bulky-item pickup. Why do you need to make the call? It’s simple — Allied sends out a different truck and crew to pick up bulky items and electronics. If you don’t make the call, Customer Service doesn’t know to send out the truck. You can also request a bulky-item pickup using the My Resource™ app or online at republiconline.com.

Single-family residential customers may request two pickups free of charge for bulky items and electronics per year. Additional pickups are available for a fee.

If you live in a multi-family complex, check with your property manager to find out how to dispose of bulky items.

Bulky items?
Just make a call!

Too toxic for the trash

There are some items that are not only wasted when they are thrown away, but they can also be toxic in the trash. Motor oil is a good example. Used motor oil is dirty and can be cleaned in a process called re-refining. So throwing it away is wasteful. But motor oil can also be dangerous if it is spilled or poured onto the ground, where it can end up polluting water and hurting fish, animals, and people. In collection trucks, it can put workers and other motorists in danger because it is combustible.

When your family has items like used motor oil and other chemicals you no longer need, we call them household hazardous waste (or HHW, for short). HHW includes many items commonly found in and around your home, such as paint, stain, paint thinner, motor oil, antifreeze, old gasoline or kerosene, pesticides and herbicides, fertilizer, household cleaning products, hobby glues, nail polish and remover, fluorescent light tubes and bulbs, and mercury-containing items. Please don’t ever dump these items onto the ground, pour them down the drain, or put them into any of your curbside containers! HHW contains chemicals that can harm the workers who handle your trash and can pollute our soil and water. HHW needs to be handled at special facilities where the chemicals can be recycled or disposed of safely. These facilities also accept electronics (known as e-waste), such as computers, TVs, cell phones, and related items.

Please dispose of all HHW safely! Deliver HHW to one of the Los Angeles County HHW-E Waste Collection events or to one of the permanent collection centers. For locations and collection dates and hours, visit CleanLA.com or call 888-CLEAN-LA.

Residents could also pick up information about our services, as well as free water bottles and other giveaways. The Fiesta Days celebration proved again this year that the sky is not the limit for La Cañada Flintridge!
Feeding the 5000 spreads awareness about food waste and recovery

On May 4, the global nonprofit Feedback hosted “Feeding the 5000” in downtown Los Angeles. This event was designed to raise awareness about the environmental and social impacts of food waste. Environmental organizations, food bank agencies, and Republic Services employees worked with local chefs to cook up delicious meals served with a side of helpful environmental information. Thousands of people were provided a free meal made from food that otherwise would have gone to waste at farms, retailers, wholesalers, and restaurants. Republic Services volunteers also created meal bags with surplus food provided by local food banks.

Wasting less food will help us achieve the Zero Waste LA goals. Thank you to Republic Services Los Angeles employees for being food waste warriors and working with community partners on feeding people before feeding landfills.

Feeding hungry people — not landfills

Good food doesn’t belong in the trash, but sadly it often ends up there. At restaurants where a menu special didn’t sell well, bakeries with too many of yesterday’s bagels, or grocery stores rotating out older stock, edible food has often ended up in waste containers and then headed to landfills. Thanks to Republic Services’ partnership with Food Finders, we hope that more of this food goes to help feed hungry people. In fact, this partnership has already provided over 41,000 meals, keeping surplus food out of the landfill.

Food Finders is a nonprofit food rescue organization that strives to eliminate hunger and food waste while improving nutrition throughout Los Angeles and Orange counties. Since 1989, Food Finder’s has received more than 123 million pounds of donated, wholesome food, providing enough food for more than 100 million meals. This food is delivered same-day to nonprofit shelters, missions, senior and youth centers, recovery homes, and other agencies. Some businesses donate regularly and others just occasionally.

By donating edible food, businesses build stronger ties with the community and reduce food waste.
Use less water and create less waste

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 can 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 yard waste into your curbside yardwaste container.

To learn more about the Smart Gardening program and to find the full schedule for upcoming workshops, call 888-CLEAN-LA or visit SmartGardening.com.

Did You Know?

With My Resource™, you can request repair or replacement of residential containers, as well as pay your bill, schedule special pickups, report a missed pickup, and receive alerts from Allied Waste Services, a Republic Services company. You can sign up online at republiconline.com or download the My Resource app at the App Store or Google Play.

Holiday Collection Schedule

Each of these holidays falls on a weekday, so trash and recycling collection will be delayed by one day for the remainder of the week:
- Independence Day – Tuesday, July 4, 2017
- Labor Day – Monday, September 4, 2017

What can be recycled?

Recyclable
These items can be recycled in one container with All-in-One Recycling™.

- Paper
  - Paper (staples okay)
  - Newspaper
  - Envelopes
  - Junk mail
  - Phone books
  - Brochures
  - Magazines & catalogs
  - Paper Bags
  - Shredded Paper (in a paper bag)

- Cardboard
  - Foam wrappers
  - File folders
  - Poster board
  - Poster board
  - Cardboard boxes
  - Milk & juice cartons

- Metal
  - Aluminum beverage cans
  - Food cans
  - Scrap metal
  - Aerosol cans (empty)
  - Aluminum foil & trays (clean)

- Glass
  - Bottles & jars (empty)

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.”
Keep It Up

Paper recycling at record high rate in the U.S.

According to the American Forest & Paper Association, the paper recovery rate in the U.S. reached a record high of 67.2% in 2016! That’s more than double the rate first measured back in 1990.

- U.S. paper mills used 30.8 million tons of recovered paper, and we exported a net 21.8 million tons of recovered paper. Recycling that much paper saved 177 million cubic yards of landfill space, or enough to fill the Empire State Building 129 times.

So where does all of that paper go? Nearly 80% of U.S. paper makers use some recovered paper to make products such as office paper, newspaper, tissue products, and paperboard. Recovered paper is also feedstock for insulation and molded pulp products, such as egg cartons and packaging materials.

Recycling paper not only saves landfill space, but it also saves trees, conserves energy, and reduces greenhouse gas emissions, as well:
- Trees: Approximately 1.2 trees are used to produce just 2 cartons (20 reams) of 100% virgin copier paper. The more recycled paper we use in making paper, the fewer trees we have to harvest and use.
- Energy: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that every ton of mixed paper recycled can save the energy equivalent of 166 gallons of gasoline. That means in 2016 we saved the energy equivalent of over 8.7 billion gallons of gasoline just by recycling paper!
- Emissions: Recycling paper and paperboard at the current volume is equivalent to taking 31 million cars off of the road each year — about the number of cars and light trucks registered in the State of California!

Even though the recycling rate of paper is higher than ever, more than 30% of our waste paper is still being disposed instead of recycled. In 2016, 20.9 million tons of recyclable paper were landfilled. That’s about 129 pounds for every person in America annually. We can do better! Just think of the difference we can make by recycling the rest of our newspaper, magazines and catalogs, junk mail, office and school paper, and cardboard instead of trashing it!

Making a life with less

Re-Creating Home: Downsizing and De-Cluttering After 50 by Fran Scoville and Holley Ulbrich

Tiny houses are all the rage now. Tiny houses are all about people living small to reduce their ecological footprint, simplify their life, and save money. This is not a book about tiny houses. It is about fully exploiting a life transition most of us face sooner or later — downsizing. Downsizing presents us with many opportunities. Reducing expenses, responsibilities, and environmental impact are just a few of the potential benefits.

We all spend the first part of our lives growing up and learning about the world we live in. Most of us are able to experience this with the loving support of older family members with whom we live. Hopefully, toward the end of this stage, we acquire the skills necessary to branch out on our own and become self-supporting. During the second stage of life, we find our place in the world, earn a living, and, in most cases, form families of our own. The second stage of life is quite busy, and we often do what is necessary to get through the day with little chance to gain perspective. The challenges of work and family life are immediate and, seemingly, never-ending.

The third stage of life presents us with a potential do-over. A fresh start for a new chapter of life. An opportunity to define what life will look like. With planning and effort, we can shape a life that gives us enjoyment and mitigates the challenges brought about by our current living arrangements. Whether it is due to an empty nest, retirement, or changing health, most people will need to re-evaluate their living arrangements at some point after age 50. For those choosing to move, the type, style, surroundings, and maybe even the climate of a new home are open for discussion. In most cases, however, the new space will be smaller, and de-cluttering is part of the process. Even those who decide to remodel and age in place can gain new appreciation for their existing space through de-cluttering.

This book is part teacher and part coach. While the authors provide plenty of ideas on how to accomplish this transition, they also provide you with tools to get the job done. The obstacles are real. They write, “The psychological or emotional obstacles include feeling overwhelmed, knowing how to start, keeping yourself motivated, and letting go of your attachment to places and objects and the memories they bear or their monetary value.” The cultural obstacles are living in a society that is very focused on consumption and possessions as part of our identities.”

The authors break the process into manageable stages which correspond to the transitions of the book: commitment, de-cluttering, choosing, transitioning, and settling in. “All five of these stages are about making and implementing decisions: decisions about staying put or relocating, decisions about dealing with clutter, decisions about where you will move and what kind of home you will have.” Within those sections, each chapter ends with a homework assignment to keep the reader’s decision process moving along. The homework is important because, as they note, “Decisions are hard work. Often, the action is easier than the deciding!”

Special attention is given to knowing the strengths and weaknesses of your own character and that of your spouse or partner. “Downsizing alone is both easier and more difficult than downsizing with a partner.” They recognize that all of the decisions may be complicated when two people’s attachments must be addressed with each decision.

One section deals particularly with the details of getting rid of stuff — from family heirlooms to hazardous waste. The authors explore in some detail choosing what to keep, what to sell, what to give to family members, and what to donate, as well as how to recycle and dispose of the remainder.

While the book contains no single narrative, there are little vignettes of other people’s stories to illustrate concepts. At 152 pages, this book does not clutter too much. A quick read from beginning to end, it gives you a feel for the subject and provides a nice overview. For those approaching this stage of life, it is an excellent workbook to make the most of the process.

Safe Disposal of Hot Ashes and Coal

Coal and ashes should never be placed directly into your waste container. Improperly discarded material can pose a fire risk and jeopardize the safety and health of the truck driver, recycle facility workers, and the public.

Coal and ashes can remain hot enough to start a fire for many hours, perhaps days, after you think the fire is out. As a safety precaution, treat all coal and ashes as hot.

Disposal of Ashes and Coal:
- Allow coals to burn out completely and let ashes cool at least 48 hours.
- Dispose of cold ashes by wrapping them in heavy-duty aluminum foil and placing them in your waste container. (Keep container outdoors.)
- If you must dispose of ashes before they are completely cooled, soak them in water and then place them in heavy-duty foil.
- Be sure no other combustible materials are nearby.
- Do not place ash and coal debris in your recycle and/or yardwaste containers.

We want suggestions, questions and comments!

Allied Waste Services,
a Republic Services Company
9200 Glenoaks Blvd.
Sun Valley, CA 91352
Monday thru Friday:
7:30 AM-6:00 PM
Saturday: 7:00 AM-3:00 PM
(888) 742-5234
republicservices.com/la-county

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