Ever Wonder What Happens After Pickup?

Waste pickup is really the beginning of the waste management cycle. Here’s a brief breakdown of where your waste goes after you set it out on the curb.

Your **Wet** (green bin), **Dry** (blue bin) and/or **Customized** (white bin) materials are picked up by our compressed natural gas-powered vehicles and hauled to Newby Island Resource Recovery Park — one of the most advanced processing and recycling centers in the world. There, employees and automated technology sort more than 100 tons of material per hour — that’s equivalent to 6.4 million aluminum cans, 10 million water bottles, or 9,000 bags of general waste.

Sorted recyclable material is bailed and shipped to market, where it is turned into new raw materials. These raw materials are then sold to manufacturers and turned into new products — some are even recycled back into their original purpose, such as paper products and plastic bottles.

Organic waste is separated and delivered to Zero Waste Energy Development Company in San José, where it is turned into clean energy and compost.

Want to see our renowned facility? Call us at 408-586-2260 to schedule a tour.

What Goes Where?

**WET** — Organics: food scraps, food-soiled paper products, and landscape trimmings.  
*Tip: If it was grown or raised, it goes in the Wet bin.*

**DRY** — Everything else: bottles and cans, plastics, clean cardboard and paper, scrap metals, and non-organic trash.  
*Tip: If you generate a large amount of one of the Dry materials such as glass, cardboard or plastic — switch to a Customized (White) bin for improved recycling.*
SUMMER 2019 NEWSLETTER
San José Business Recycling & Waste News

How to Keep Your Bins Looking and Smelling Clean

During the summer months, it's important to keep waste bins clean to prevent odors and pests. Here are some helpful tips:

• Separate Wet (green bin) waste from Dry (blue bin) waste using bins inside your business, which helps keep them separated when you take them outside. This keeps recyclables from getting wet and dirty, allowing us to recycle as much material as possible.
• Keep lids closed to help prevent spills and to deter illegal dumping.
• Clean bins with warm water and a small amount of vinegar or bleach and dish soap. Use a long-handled scrubbing brush or broom to thoroughly scrub, rinse and air-dry in the sun.
• Add baking soda or kitty litter to the bottom of your bins to soak up any remaining moisture and odors. You can also add a citrus scent, tea tree oil, or lavender.
• Freeze meat and food scraps.
• If you must use plastic bags, use sturdy clear bags only for food waste. Heavy-duty bags are better at protecting against spills and leaks inside and outside the bin.

If you'd like bin cleaning services, contact us at 408-432-1234 and we'll get you started.

Illegal Dumping: If You See It, Report It

Illegal dumping is the unlawful disposal of waste on public or private property. It is not only an eyesore but also dangerous, especially when it blocks roads or alleys. When you see someone dumping illegally, note the address and email photo, video or license plate evidence to reportdumpers@sanjoseca.gov

We're Here to Help

• Connect with your dedicated Recycling Coordinator
• Get FREE desk-side recycling boxes, labels, window stickers and more
• Use our FREE online poster generator at recyclingpostergenerator.com to create signage that meets the needs of your business
• Schedule FREE waste audits and staff trainings

We’ll make it happen — just call Republic Services at 408-432-1234.

Take a Short Survey and Tell Us What You Think

It's easy. It takes only a minute or two. And it's the best way to help us improve our service. Don't wait, take the survey today: surveymonkey.com/r/RepublicSCCO

How China’s Recycling Rules Affect San José

In 2018, China began enforcing its National Sword policy, which restricts imports of certain materials. The restrictions are on recyclable goods such as paper, cardboard and plastic bottles that have what are considered contaminants, such as food or plastic bags. China’s new policy decreased the previous impurity or contamination rate from 4–5 percent to less than 1 percent.

Now, more than ever, it’s important to separate recyclables from food scraps, food-soiled paper, and landscaping or yard waste. Here are some helpful reminders:

• Rinse bottles and jars before recycling
• Recyclables and dry, non-recyclable trash go in the Dry blue bin
• Food scraps, food-soiled paper, and landscaping or yard waste go in the Wet green bin
• Clean recyclables of a single type (cardboard/paper, glass or plastic) go in the Customized white bin or the Dry blue bin

By taking a few extra minutes to sort and clean your recyclables, you can be part of the solution to a global challenge. Together, we can make San José — and the Earth — cleaner and greener.