

GreenWays









HOLIDAY COLLECTION SERVICE:

NO COLLECTION ON THANKSGIVING DAY:

GreenWaste of Palo Alto will be closed on Thanksgiving. If your regular collection day falls on Thanksgiving, your collection day will be moved to Friday (November 24). Customers with a collection day on Friday will be serviced on Saturday (November 25).

IS YOUR BUSINESS IN COMPLIANCE?

The City of Palo Alto has adopted several Zero Waste requirements to protect local watershed and oceans from plastic pollution, reduce litter, meet State recycling and compost mandates, and reach our community's Zero Waste and climate protection goals. Use this checklist as a guide to help ensure that your business meets all the requirements and complies with current Zero Waste ordinances.

- Refuse is separated into three streams: compost, recycle, landfill.
- Each refuse stream is free from contamination.
- Refuse containers are color-coded with color-coded labels: green compost, blue recycle, black landfill.
- Compost bags (if used) are green transparent and BPI certified compostable.
- Recycle bags (if used) are blue transparent.
- · Landfill bags are clear.
- Boxes are flattened and oversized boxes are cut down to fit inside recycle containers.
- No overflowing refuse containers.
- Provide waste sorting information to new tenants, residents, employees, contractors, and janitors within 14 days of occupation or performing work. Contact GreenWaste of Palo Alto for outreach materials to provide to such entities.
- Annual waste sorting training is provided to existing tenants, residents, employees, contractors, and janitors.
- Replace banned plastic foodware with reusable or compostable alternatives.
 - Banned plastic foodware utensils, straws, stir sticks,

drink plugs, chopsticks, and produce bags.

- Offer compostable foodware only upon request or at a self-serve station. No bundled condiments and or utensils.
- Produce bags (if used) are compostable.

Need help meeting these requirements?

Contact <u>GreenWaste of Palo Alto</u> for free on-site technical assistance.

(650) 493-4894 | <u>pacustomerservice@greenwaste.com</u>



NAPKINS, TISSUES, AND PAPER TOWELS:

Once soiled these items can't be recycled, but they are perfect for composting. They help provide carbon to the compost mixture, so whether they are food soiled or used to dry your hands, be sure to place them into your green compost cart.

PAPER CARTON CONTAINERS:

Paper milk or juice cartons with a triangular top found in the refrigerated section of the



SORTING GUIDANCE: BATTERIES AND ELECTRONICS

Batteries are hazardous waste. They contain heavy metals, corrosive materials, and are highly combustible and flammable. Proper and safe disposal of batteries is incredibly important, and they can never be placed into any curbside waste container. Improper disposal can result in fires and severely hazardous conditions for our drivers and waste disposal workers.

Household batteries, lithium batteries, rechargeable batteries, small electronics with embedded batteries (cell phones, tablets, etc.), and auto batteries, must be disposed properly as hazardous waste.



BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: STATE OF MIND SLICE HOUSE

Pizza is not only served with local and seasonal ingredients, but also with a side of zero waste at State of Mind Slice House on El Camino Real With an increased focus on compost collection throughout California and the ban on disposable plastic foodware such as utensils and straws in Palo Alto, more businesses are seizing the moment to minimize waste and establish Zero Waste practices including grocery store can be collected in your green compost cart. The paper cartons are coated with a thin layer of plastic and are processed so the paper breaks down to add to the compost material and the plastic is screened off at the end. Plastic spouts aren't a problem, you can leave them on and they will be screened off at the end with the rest of the plastic material as well.

PIZZA BOXES:

The moment a pizza is placed inside the pizza box, it is no longer suitable for recycling and needs to be placed into the green compost cart. The oil and grease from the pizza saturate the cardboard making it into a food soiled paper perfect for composting.

The City offers a hazardous waste collection program for small businesses and non-profit organizations generating 220 pounds or less of hazardous waste per month. If you have batteries or other hazardous waste needing disposal, this program may be a convenient option for you. To check eligibility, receive a cost estimate, and make an appointment, contact Clean Harbors at VSQG@cleanharbors.com or (800) 433-5060. For more information about the program, visit

www.cityofpaloalto.org/hazwaste.

Electronic devices that no longer have batteries such as coffee makers, computer accessories, stereos, vacuum cleaners, and printers can be placed into the blue recycle bin with their cords bundled

Computer monitors and televisions cannot be collected in the blue recycle bin due to the hazardous heavy metals they contain. To dispose of computer monitors and televisions, utilize the Clean Up Day program, schedule a bulky item pick up for a fee with GreenWaste of Palo Alto (650-493-4894.

pacustomerservice@greenwaste.com) or use the re:source tool to find other disposal options:

resource.stopwaste.org.

State of Mind Slice House.

When dining at State of Mind Slice House, food is served on reusable trays lined with compostable parchment paper and beverages are offered in reusable or compostable plastic cups. Take-out orders are provided in compostable packaging as well! In addition, State of Mind Slice House is outfitted with color-coded waste stations for compost, recycling, and landfill allowing their customers and staff to properly sort their waste.

These actions have helped State of Mind Slice House improve their overall waste sorting and help the environment and the community that they love. To them, California is much more than a place on the map; it's a State of Mind!