

# ZEROWASTE

Santa Cruz County  
GreenWaste Recovery

# News

A publication for County of Santa Cruz GreenWaste Recovery  
Single-Family Residence Customers

Spring 2024

## CELEBRATE EARTH DAY

**SANTA CRUZ | Saturday, April 20th, 11:30 AM - 4 PM Abbott Square**  
**WATSONVILLE | Sunday, April 21st, 12 PM - 4 PM Watsonville Plaza**



## EARTH DAY 2024: PLANET vs PLASTIC

For Earth Day 2024, let's help our planet win the fight against plastic pollution.

Humankind has produced over 9.2 billion tons of plastic (that weighs as much as 1,600 Great Pyramids)! We can reduce production of plastic by 60% by not buying plastic whenever possible, and cleaning up plastic packaging where we can. Make the simple change that works for you.

Audit your collected waste for a few days and see what behaviors you can change to lessen your plastic dependency. Too many single use cups and food containers? Try BYOE - bringing your own everything. Reuse a cup, straw, plate, and washable napkin. Bring your own to-go container when you dine-in, and reusable bag and

produce bags when you shop. These small steps save the planet from drowning in plastic and save money for you, for business, our landfill, and the planet.

Join a cleanup! Sign up with a friend or organize your own cleanup. Have fun and enjoy the planet while you reduce plastic pollution! Register your clean up with [www.EarthDay.org](http://www.EarthDay.org).

Together we can help win this fight for our planet!



## SAVE OUR SHORES

Save Our Shores focus is marine conservation on California's Central Coast. Become a volunteer and join a cleanup event with a friend, or meet new ones. Sign up, pledge, or even donate to the cause. [www.SaveOurShores.org](http://www.SaveOurShores.org)



## PITCH IN SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

Check out Pitch in Santa Cruz County to stop illegal dumping, clean up roadways, waterways, and agricultural land. Pitch in on Saturday, May 11th, Santa Cruz County Cleanup Day. [www.PitchinSantaCruz.org](http://www.PitchinSantaCruz.org)



Contact GreenWaste, P.O. Box 11089, San Jose, CA 95103-1089

We at GreenWaste "Think Differently" and appreciate your suggestions and comments. Please call us today and let us know how we are doing at (800) 665-2209 or (831) 426-2711, or visit us on the web at [www.greenwaste.com](http://www.greenwaste.com)





# STOP SINGLE-USE CUP WASTE

Why pay that extra 25¢? Bring a reusable cup when buying a cool refreshing drink or hot cup of coffee and keep it cold or hot! Since 2022, unincorporated Santa Cruz County has a local law designed to reduce the 5-million single-use cups thrown away every year. Are you doing your part to reduce the waste?

## CHANGES TO CRV LAW

State law recently added juice, wine, and liquor containers to the California Redemption Value (CRV). Now when you buy juice, wine, or liquor, you will be charged 10¢ for bottles over 24-oz., and 25¢ for wine and liquor bag-in-box, multi-layer pouches, paperboard cartons, and plastic pouches. Please recycle your containers, or redeem them for cash.

### New Beverages Wine • Liquor • Juice



Subject to CRV (with or without CRV lable)

**5¢ CRV**

Less than 24 oz.

**10¢ CRV**

More than 24 oz.

**Glass • Aluminum • Plastic  
Bimetal Containers**

### New Wine & Liquor Containers Wine • Liquor • Juice



Subject to CRV (with or without CRV lable)

**25¢ CRV**

**Bag-in-Box • Multi-Layer Pouch  
Paperboard Carton  
Plastic Pouch**

## SPRING CLEANUP KEEPS YOUR HOME SAFE

One of the pitfalls of winter in Santa Cruz County is the amount of woody debris that ends up in our yards. Once spring hits, it is time to clean up. Whether it's leaves, branches, overgrown shrubs, or downed trees, excess woody debris should be composted for garden soil or removed to reduce the potential fire hazards from excess dry fuel. To help with the cleanup, GreenWaste Recovery provides curbside customers with a green organics bin. Here are some helpful reminders for what goes in your green bin:



### YES:

All food waste (except raw meat and liquids) is allowed unbagged in the green organics cart



### YES:

Only "clean green" yard trimmings and unpainted/untreated wood waste



### NO:

Large wood waste/yard waste, stumps, root balls or logs



### NO:

Dirt, potting soil, rocks, sand, ivy, poison oak, pampas grass, bamboo, yucca, palm, treated wood, painted wood, or base rock – these are trash

All materials must fit in the cart or bin with the lid closed. If you have too much yard waste for your cart you can self-haul to the Buena Vista Landfill or the Ben Lomond Transfer Station. Separate treated wood waste load BEFORE arriving at the landfill/transfer station. Please declare you have treated wood waste at the register, and you will be instructed at that time where it is to be deposited. Separate incoming wood waste and yard waste in these groups of materials:



### GROUP 1:

Yard waste; grass, weeds, pruning, brush, tree material



### GROUP 2:

Decking, pallets, framing lumber (screws and nails are OK)



### GROUP 3:

Clean plywood

