

A Greener El Cerrito

News from the City of El Cerrito Operations + Environmental Services Division

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51% of What California Homes Send to Landfill Could Be Recycled or Composted

Earlier this year, CalRecycle, the state agency that oversees waste management in California, conducted inspections in 16 different communities to get a better idea of what residents were placing in their garbage containers. Experts sifted through 60,000 lbs. of waste & found that **51% of what households sent to landfills could have been recycled or composted.**

Residential homes landfilled an estimated 5 million tons of waste in 2024. 35% of that waste (1.7 million tons) was compostable - food scraps, yard waste & food-soiled paper - that could have become nutrient rich soil for farms, vineyards & gardens.

The U.N. Food & Agriculture Org. estimates that **1 lb. of food waste creates 4 lbs. of methane** - a greenhouse gas that traps 80x more heat than carbon dioxide. Composting prevents methane emissions by allowing oxygen to flow during decomposition - unlike landfills that cut off oxygen as more waste is piled on. Placing our compostables in the green cart instead of the garbage makes a big difference in our fight against climate change. Every bit counts! Keep on composting!



COMPOSTING HELPS CURB CLIMATE CHANGE!

Food scraps & yard waste release greenhouse gases at the landfill.
Place them in the green cart to reduce these harmful emissions & help protect our planet.



This ad was funded by a grant from CalRecycle.



Sign-up for Autopay With East Bay Sanitary's New Web Portal - Hauler Hero!

East Bay Sanitary's new billing platform, Hauler Hero, allows customers to easily access statements & sign up for automatic bill payments. Customers previously enrolled in autopay must visit ebsan.com, click "View or Pay Invoices" & re-enter their payment information for autopay to resume. If you have any questions or need assistance, contact EBS customer service at (510) 237-4321 or by email at info@ebsan.com.

Drop-off Mattresses for Free at the West County Resource Recovery Facility (101 Pittsburg Ave, Richmond)

RecycleMore & the Bye Bye Mattress Program invite residents of West Contra Costa (Richmond, Hercules, Pinole, San Pablo, El Cerrito, El Sobrante) to drop-off up to three (3) old, unwanted mattresses, box springs or futons per month at no cost.



Mattresses, box springs & futons can be brought to the West County Resource Recovery Facility at 101 Pittsburg Ave, Richmond, Wednesday-Saturday from 9am-4pm.

Valid ID is required to show proof of residency. For more information, visit recyclemore.com/mattress-recycling.



Fall Citywide Garage Sale - Saturday, October 25th

The City of El Cerrito coordinates the Citywide Garage Sale in the Spring & Fall to promote reuse, so that one person's unwanted items can become another's treasure!

Printed maps with listings of garage sale locations & offerings will be available one week prior to the event online & at El Cerrito City Hall, Recycling Center & Community Center. A digital map with listings & locations will also be hosted on our website: elcerrito.gov/garagesale. Register your garage sale by Mon. 9/22 to be included in our listings.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Recycling Center Hours	Recycling Center Hours: The El Cerrito Recycling + Environmental Resource Center (RERC) is open six days per week, Monday-Friday 8:30am-4pm & Saturdays 9am-4:45pm. For the upcoming holidays, the Recycling Center will be closed: Labor Day (9/1), Veterans Day (11/11), Thanksgiving (11/27 & 11/28), Christmas (12/24 & 12/25) & New Year's Day (1/1). The RERC will close early at 12pm on New Year's Eve (12/31).
Holiday Curbside Schedule	Curbside collection of recycling, green waste & garbage will occur as scheduled on Labor Day (9/1), Thanksgiving (11/28 & 11/29), Christmas Eve (12/24) & New Year's Eve (12/31). No collection will take place on Christmas Day (Thursday 12/25) or New Year's Day (Thursday 1/1) - for customers with collection on Thursday & Friday of these weeks, your carts will be collected one day later than usual.
September 20th	*California Coastal Clean-up Day: Join your fellow community member volunteers in protecting the waters of Cerrito Creek, SF Bay & the California Coast at [LOCATION] on Saturday, 9/20 from 9am-12pm. Contact Stephen Prée, Environmental Programs Manager for more details at spree@elcerrito.gov .
Sept. 7th, Oct. 5th, Nov. 2nd, Dec. 7th	Baxter Creek Volunteer Work Days: Help remove litter & invasive plants from this jewel on the Ohlone Greenway. Work days will take place on the first Sunday of each month from 10am-12pm, except during major holiday weekends. Meet at Conlon Ave & Ohlone Greenway. (510) 215-4350 green@elcerrito.gov .
1st Wednesday Monthly	Free Tour of the Recycling + Environmental Resource Center: Join the City for a behind-the-scenes look at the LEED Platinum Certified Recycling Center at 3pm on the 1st Wednesday of each month. Tours at an alternative time can also be scheduled for a fee. For more information call City staff at (510) 215-4350.
3rd Saturday Monthly	Compost Giveaways: Free compost for El Cerrito residents & businesses only. Compost will be available at the Upper Cerrito Vista Parking Lot adjacent to the tennis courts (entrance off of Avis Drive). Available while supplies last. Limit of 5 cubic feet per household or business (approx. seven 5-gallon buckets).