



“One Person’s Trash...”

Your guide to reducing, reusing and recycling

A Newsletter of
El Dorado Disposal Service

(530) 626-4141

eldoradodisposal.com

Summer 2019

Recycling the right way is more important than ever!

You’ve probably seen recycling in the news lately, and it’s true that recycling is facing some challenges. For many years, recycling in California has depended on the Chinese market as the largest buyer of recyclables. However, China’s decision to severely limit which recyclable materials it accepts has led not only to widespread industry disruption, but also to challenges in El Dorado County.

There has always been a cost for collecting and processing recyclables, but this cost has traditionally been covered by the monies collected from selling recyclables, which has allowed El Dorado Disposal to offer recycling services for “free” to its residents. El Dorado Disposal is committed to continuing recycling programs in our community, despite challenges in the market place, but we need your help.

It’s now more important than ever to shift our thinking from recycling everything

to recycling only the right items the right way. When the wrong items are in the recycling stream, they need to be sorted out which causes equipment slowdowns and increased costs on an already stressed system.

Even though commodity prices for recyclables are currently low, your recycling continues to conserve natural resources, reduce water and air pollution in manufacturing, save energy, and create many jobs. According to the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, the U.S. scrap industry supports more than 534,000 American jobs. Energy savings achieved by using recycled instead of virgin materials in manufacturing range from 34% for glass to 96% for aluminum.

Recycling is still a great way to care for our environment and support our economy. Let’s all recycle the right way to help our programs work in El Dorado County.

CLIP & SAVE

RECYCLING



Download our App!
GET IT ON Google Play
Download on the App Store

Let’s all Recycle Right.

Recycling markets are becoming increasingly strict, but El Dorado Disposal is still recycling! To continue to have dependable markets and a successful recycling program, we need our community’s help to recycle right.



How You Can Help:

- 1 Keep Items loose.** Please do not bag recyclables. This helps the sorting process and reduces contamination.
- 2 Empty and Clean Items.** Help protect the quality of recyclables by giving them a quick rinse to remove leftover food.
- 3 If You Don’t Know...Find Out!** Use the search function on our app to find out if the item is accepted. You are doing the right thing by only recycling what is accepted.

NO plastic bags, please!

Please keep ALL plastic bags out of recycling carts and drop-off bins. Recyclables should be loose and unbagged and placed directly into drop-off bins and carts. If you choose to collect your recycling in plastic bags, please empty the recyclables from the bag and reuse it for another purpose or throw it into the trash. When plastic bags and wrap are mixed with other recyclables, they get tangled in equipment in our sorting facility, causing frequent stops to remove them and sometimes damaging the equipment. Plus, they do NOT get recycled in this system.

Clean, dry plastic bags and plastic film overwrap, air pillows, and bubble wrap can be recycled, but not curbside or at our drop-off centers. Save these items and drop them off in plastic bag recycling bins at local grocery and home improvement stores. Visit www.plasticfilmrecycling.org for plastic bag recycling locations near you and a full list of plastic bags and wraps accepted.

Thank you for recycling right!

Recycle the right items, the right way

Recycling is important to our community, but in order to make recycling work, we need to move from recycling everything to only recycling the right items, the right way. Instead of placing everything into the recycle bins, we need to re-pattern our thinking and place only the accepted items in the bin. We also need to remember to keep our recyclables clean and dry.

Here’s how to recycle right:

Know which items go in your recycling cart: Clip and save the residential guide on this page for reference. You can post it in your kitchen or near your recycle bin. The complete guide is also printed on the back of this year’s calendars, or it can be downloaded at www.eldoradodisposal.com. You can always check the list on our free smartphone app. Download it by searching for



“El Dorado Disposal” in your app store. After you download the app, you can use the Waste Wizard to search by material type and find out what goes where.

Place items free and loose in the cart: Sorting at the recycling center is more difficult when recyclables are bundled together in a bag.

Empty and clean recyclables: Completely empty contents and give items a quick rinse to remove leftover food. This helps protect the quality of all recyclables. Allow containers to drip dry.

What goes in your curbside bin:

- **Glass:** All glass bottles and jars – NO dishes, drinking glasses, or mirrors
- **Metal:** All steel and aluminum cans
- **Paper:** All newspaper, cardboard, and office paper – NO coffee cups, milk cartons, soy milk containers, greasy pizza boxes, paper towels, and tissues, and NO shredded paper

- **Plastic:** Bottles, tubs, and jugs only, such as water bottles, yogurt tubs, rigid containers, and laundry detergent and milk jugs (Remove caps and discard in the garbage) – NO plastic bags, air pillows, bubble wrap, thin plastic wrap, or any foam (Styrofoam) products

REMEMBER — not all plastics are accepted in the curbside bin.

When it comes to plastics, ignore the numbers and look at the shape. Recycle only plastic bottles, jugs, tubs, and jars in the curbside bin.



We need your help to reduce contamination

In a recent audit of our curbside program, we found that many residents placed the wrong items into their recycling carts. For example, in the recycling collected from 400 homes, we found and removed 50 pounds of plastic bags. Plastic bags tangle sorting equipment and are not accepted in our curbside program. We also found food and liquid waste from boxes and containers that weren't emptied. A half-full bottle of ketchup or soda can ruin recyclable paper and cardboard, turning it into trash.



We shouldn't be seeing plastic bags, clothing, textiles, or food in recycling carts!

We need your help to recycle right by throwing these items and other non-recyclables into the trash and keeping them out of the recycle carts.

DO NOT recycle these:

- Plastic bags: Place plastic bags and film in the trash or return clean bags and film to retail stores for recycling.
- Pet food bags: Dispose of these in the trash.

- Diapers: These ALWAYS go into the garbage.
- Textiles and clothing: Fabric items, including clothes, sheets, towels, and similar items, can be donated to local thrift stores.
- Food, food-soiled items, and liquids: Toss food into the garbage or compost it in your backyard or worm bin. Pour liquids out of bottles and jugs. Place food-soiled items, like pizza boxes, into the trash.

Mandatory organics recycling for businesses and multi-family complexes

In California, Assembly Bill 1826, Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling, is in full swing. All businesses that generate more than four cubic yards of solid waste are required to divert their organic waste from landfill disposal. Multi-family properties with five units or more are required to recycle their green waste. These new thresholds took effect in January 2019.

For businesses with food waste, El Dorado Disposal has a food waste collection route running, and we are continually adding new customers to the route. To join the food waste collection route, contact El Dorado Disposal's Sustainability Coordinator Sarah Vaira at sarah.vaira@wasteconnections.com. Our food waste route services customers Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and accepts all food scraps, including fruits, vegetables, meat, dairy, bones, and egg shells, for composting. El Dorado Disposal offers free posters, internal collection buckets, staff training, and technical assistance to help businesses get their food waste collection programs off the ground. Posters are available in both English and Spanish.

El Dorado County Environmental Management is contacting multi-family properties to verify their green waste recycling status.

Fall green waste collections set

Mark your calendars now for the unlimited green waste curbside collection events in your area:

- Cameron Park: September 23–27 and October 7–11
- El Dorado Hills: September 23–27 and October 7–11
- El Dorado County Area A: September 16–20 and October 30–November 4
- El Dorado County Area B: October 28–November 1
- El Dorado County Area C: October 14–18

Call ahead at 530-626-4141 to schedule your appointment for these services. We strongly encourage bagging yard waste in compostable paper bags.

Thanks to all residents who called to make appointments and used compostable paper bags during our spring pickups.



Out and about in El Dorado County

Thanks to the many area residents who visited our booths and recycled at these spring events:

- El Dorado County Business Showcase
- Placerville Earth Day
- Kids Expo
- El Dorado Hills Art, Beer & Wine Festival

While you enjoy your fun in the sun this summer and fall, remember to recycle.

We help sponsor many local events by providing trash and recycling bins and collection. Look for our bins and be sure to recycle right! At many events, we also host a recycling information booth, so stop by to say hello.

Are you planning a large community event that is open to the public? El Dorado Disposal can provide, deliver, and remove recycling containers. Please contact Customer Service at 530-626-4141 for details. This service is not available for small-scale family or private events.



El Dorado Disposal construction update

El Dorado Disposal began reconstruction of our Placerville facility this spring. The renovated facility will be safer and more efficient for both our employees and our customers. Our facility will remain open throughout the three-year remodel.

To reduce commercial traffic at our Placerville facility during renovation, our trucks will be taking all yard debris and construction materials to a temporary processing site. This site is not open to the public.

Our Placerville facility will remain open during the construction. The drop-off locations may change, but all of our services will continue to be offered. At times, there may be delays — so we appreciate your understanding during this period of construction.



Artist's rendering of remodeled facility

Recycling Quiz

Test your recycling knowledge!

Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability.

1 Plastic bags can be recycled in your cart along with other mixed recycling.

TRUE or FALSE

2 Glass bottles and jars can be recycled indefinitely.

TRUE or FALSE

3 Expanded polystyrene foam (Styrofoam) can be recycled in your curbside cart.

TRUE or FALSE

4 Circle the types of paper allowed in the recycling:



Cardboard



Shredded Paper



Cartons



Newspaper



Greasy Pizza Box

5 What should I do if I'm not sure what goes in my recycling?

Put it in! Hopefully it will get recycled.

Find out! Wrong items disrupt the recycling process.

6 Where can I find out what items are accepted in the recycling?

- A. www.eldoradodisposal.com
- B. Our app
- C. Residential Service Guide
- D. Call Customer Service
- E. All of the above

Answers: 1. False; 2. True; 3. False; 4. Cardboard and Newspaper; 5. Find Out!; 6. E. All of the above



Recycle at Concerts in the Park

El Dorado Disposal is coordinating with the El Dorado Hills Community Service District to bring recycling to the Concerts in the Park Series for the first time. Please look at the colored lids on the trash and recycling containers to identify what materials belong where. The bins will also be clearly labeled "trash" and "recycling."

Let's be "Bear Aware" this summer

Bear access to garbage poses increased public health and safety issues, as well as increased danger for the health and well-being of bears and other wildlife. Unintentional feeding of bears can result in unwanted bear behaviors and increased human-bear conflicts. Once bears gain access to human food or trash, they continue to seek it out and become less cautious of people. Additionally, bear access to garbage containers results in garbage being scattered on properties and roadways.

To prevent access to garbage containers by bears and/or other wildlife we encourage you to practice proper cart care and trash disposal at all times in bear country, such as:

- Storing your containers in a secure location and bringing containers in immediately after service.
- Spraying the cart with ammonia, which masks the odor.
- Freezing food waste and only putting it in cart the night before service to prevent odors.
- Locking bear carts can be purchased at hardware stores. Please call customer service if you are considering purchasing bear carts so our drivers can be prepared.

Please contact customer service at 530-626-4141 if have questions or would like to talk with us more about bear prevention.



Sharing our shores

For many, summertime means a trip to the river, lake, or ocean shore. Once you are there, you might fish, wade, swim, surf, or ski. After the sun goes down, you might enjoy a dinner of seafood or freshwater fish.

Chances are, you aren't thinking much about plastic trash in the water, but maybe you should be. About 80% of the plastic waste floating in our waterways, lakes, and oceans originates on land. And once it is in the water, much of it stays there, breaking up into ever smaller pieces. Unfortunately, those "microplastics," along with chemicals used to make them or those that have clung to them in the water, become part of our food chain.

Next time you are enjoying the water and shore, follow these tips to reduce plastic waste in our waterways:

- Avoid plastic bags. Instead, carry

food, toys, and other supplies in sturdy reusable bags that won't easily tear or blow away.

- Keep track of your stuff. Place lightweight items under heavier items or inside your bag to keep them from blowing into the water or being pulled into the water by waves.
- Choose heavy-duty coolers that will not easily break or tumble away in the wind.
- Pack your picnic in washable, reusable containers.
- Fill and carry reusable water bottles rather than using single-use plastic bottles. Or put reusable cups into your bag and take a water cooler jug along.
- Put empty bottles and cans back into your cooler so you can recycle them later.

- Skip the plastic straw on carry-out drinks.
- Put empty chip bags, candy wrappers, bottle caps, and similar lightweight items into a secure trash container as soon as you finish the food.
- Take along fewer toys so they are easy to collect at the end of the day. Try to avoid toys that can easily float away.
- If you smoke, don't litter your cigarette butts or vaping pods.
- Pick up the area at the end of the day, and take home everything you brought with you.

To learn more about plastic waste in our waterways, visit www.epa.gov/trash-free-waters, www.oceanconservancy.org/trash-free-seas, or www.marinedebris.noaa.gov.

El Dorado Disposal Material Recovery Facility

Transfer Station and Material Recovery Facility (MRF)

4100 Throwita Way, Placerville

Open: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., 7 days a week

Closes at 2 p.m. on: Easter, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, and New Year's Eve

Closed: Christmas Day and New Year's Day

Materials Accepted at the Transfer Station for a Fee:

- Commercial and household waste
- Construction and demolition waste
- White goods, such as refrigerators, freezers, washing machines, stoves, air conditioning units, microwaves, etc.
- Tires (mounted or unmounted on rims)
- Yard waste
- Carpet (no padding)

Materials Accepted at the MRF for Free:

- Cans and bottles (buy-back for CRV)
- Cardboard, office paper, newspaper, and magazines
- Glass food and beverage bottles and jars
- Steel, tin, and aluminum cans
- Plastic food and beverage bottles, jugs, and containers
- Rigid plastic containers, such as laundry jugs, 5-gallon buckets, plastic storage containers, and laundry baskets, as well as rigid plastic resin patio chairs
- Consumer electronics (e-waste), such as televisions, computers, monitors, stereos, VCRs, cell phones, etc.
- Automotive batteries
- Mattresses and box springs – Please keep clean and dry.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility

4100 Throwita Way, Placerville

Open to Residents: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays only

Materials Accepted From Residents at No Charge:

- Medical sharps (such as needles and lancets) in an approved sharps container or a sealed plastic bottle or jug
- Unwanted over-the-counter and prescription medications (no "controlled substances" — Contact your pharmacist to ask whether an old prescription is considered a controlled substance.)
- Household chemicals, such as polishes, oven and drain cleaners, lighter fluid, mercury-containing items, cooking oil, etc.
- Personal care products, such as cosmetics, nail polish, and polish remover
- Garden and landscape products, such as fungicides, insecticides, and pool chemicals
- Garage or workshop chemicals, including paint, paint thinners, wood preservatives, antifreeze and other automotive fluids, used motor oil and filters, etc.
- Rechargeable and alkaline batteries
- Fluorescent light bulbs and tubes (limit of 15)
- Propane tanks (limit of 4)

Limit of 15 gallons or 125 pounds per visit

Hazardous Waste Disposal for Businesses:

Businesses generating less than 220 pounds or 27 gallons of hazardous waste per month may dispose of hazardous waste at this facility by appointment and for a fee. Appointments are available only on Fridays, from 8 to 9 a.m. Businesses must obtain a Hazardous Waste Generator Permit. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 530-295-2808.



Off-Site Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off

Fire Station 86
3670 Bass Lake Road
El Dorado Hills

Open: 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month, 9 a.m. to noon (Closed on holiday weekends and closed for inclement weather, such as rain, excessive heat, or high winds.)

Did you know?

Residents can bring mattresses and carpet (no padding) to the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) at 4100 Throwita Way in Placerville for recycling.

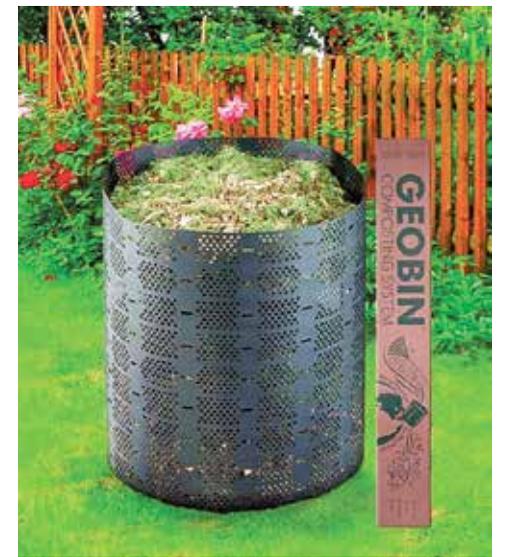
Free bins make backyard composting easy

Composting is a great way to turn your food and garden waste into a nutrient-rich soil amendment.

The El Dorado County Environmental Management Department gives away free Geo-Bins for backyard composting. To receive a free bin, please visit the Environmental Management office in Placerville at 2850 Fairlane Court, Building C. Quantities are limited, so please email emd.info@edcgov.us to check availability.

To learn more about home composting, visit www.edcgov.us/government/emd and click on "Solid Waste."

Remember — yard waste is not allowed in garbage containers. Excess yard waste should go into your yard waste cart or be dropped off at the Transfer Station.



Free recycling workshops available

Who doesn't enjoy learning something new? El Dorado Disposal offers free recycling workshops and presentations for local community groups. If your group is interested in hosting a workshop or Recycling 101 presentation, please contact Sarah Vaira, El Dorado Disposal's sustainability coordinator, at sarah.vaira@wasteconnections.com.

We want your suggestions, questions and comments!

El Dorado Disposal Service
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Customer Service:
530-626-4141
www.eldoradodisposal.com

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Please recycle after reading.

Off-Site Recycling and Redemption Centers

Residential Only

Placerville

580 Truck Street

Open: 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday*

Materials Accepted:

- Buy-back for CRV beverage containers (aluminum, plastic, and glass)
- Cardboard bin for all cardboard, newspaper, and magazines
- E-Waste accepted for free
- Drop-off box for household batteries only (No car, motorcycle, or other large batteries accepted)
- Fluorescent light bulbs and tubes accepted for free (up to 4 feet long, 4-tube limit per month)

Cameron Park

3510 Palmer Drive (behind CVS)

Open: 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday*

Materials Accepted:

- Buy-back for CRV beverage containers (aluminum, plastic, and glass)
- Cardboard bin for all cardboard, newspaper, and magazines
- E-Waste accepted for free (Limit of 4 TVs)
- Drop-off box for household batteries only (No car, motorcycle, or other large batteries accepted)
- Fluorescent light bulbs and tubes accepted for free (up to 4 feet long, 4-tube limit per month)

NOTE: No green waste recycling available at this facility. All Cameron Park residents may drop off green waste at the El Dorado Hills facility. Please bring proof of residency.

El Dorado Hills

4421 Latrobe Road

Open: 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday*

Materials Accepted:

- Buy-back for CRV beverage containers (aluminum, plastic, and glass)
- Green waste bin (2 cubic yard maximum per day)
- Cardboard bin for all cardboard, newspaper, and magazines
- E-Waste accepted for free
- Drop-off box for household batteries only (No car, motorcycle, or other large batteries accepted)
- Fluorescent light bulbs and tubes accepted for free (up to 4 feet long, 4-tube limit per month)
- Smoke alarms/detectors

*Closed for a half hour during attendant's lunch break, which may vary, but is usually between 12 and 1 p.m.

Visit the CalRecycle website,
calrecycle.ca.gov,
for current California Redemption
Value (CRV) pricing.