



# “One Person’s Trash...”

Your guide to reducing, reusing and recycling

A Newsletter of  
El Dorado Disposal Service

(530) 626-4141  
(916) 985-1162  
eldoradodisposal.com

Winter 2019

## Sign up for convenient curbside service



Why spend time, effort, and fuel to drop off your garbage and recycling? Call El Dorado Disposal Customer Service at 530-626-4141 to enroll in residential curbside garbage collection and get recycling and other curbside services. Trucks are already in your area, and we will happily add extra routes as needed. Call us today and let us do the dirty work for you.

With paid residential curbside trash collection in 35-, 64-, or 96-gallon carts, receive the following:

- Every-other-week yard waste collection in 96-gallon carts (May not be available in all service areas)
- Special collection service for large items or excess trash
- Participation in Recyclebank and recycling rewards (May not be available in all service areas)
- Temporary Debris Boxes for home remodeling projects and property cleanup
- Curbside used oil and oil filter removal
- Curbside household battery removal

- Every-other-week recycling collection in 64- or 96-gallon carts

## Facility renovations set to begin in the spring

El Dorado Disposal is undertaking a major renovation to improve operations at our Material Recovery Facility at 4100 Throwita Way in Placerville. The goal of the project is to update our facilities and provide more covered and indoor storage and processing areas, as well as to ease traffic congestion and improve safety. The project will reduce the volume of off-site noise, odor, and litter and improve traffic flow. The remodeling project will be



completed in phases over the next three years. This will allow the facility to remain open.

If you are coming to the facility, please read and follow all posted signs.

### New phase!

## Mandatory commercial organics recycling collection expands

California disposes approximately 30 million tons of waste in landfills each year; more than one-third consists of organics, such as food scraps and lawn and landscaping debris. Capturing this organic material to create compost and mulch is the next step toward achieving California’s aggressive recycling and greenhouse gas emission goals. Assembly Bill 1826, which was signed into law in 2014, phased in commercial organics recycling goals for businesses and multi-family properties.

Starting January 1st, businesses that generate 4 cubic yards or more of commercial solid waste (trash) per week will be required to arrange for organic waste recycling services. This will include most restaurants with more than 26 employees, most grocery stores, and most chain restaurants. Setting up an organics collection program is easy. Simply contact Customer Service at 530-626-4141 or email our sustainability coordinator at sarah.vaira@wasteconnections.com to get started.

Multi-family complexes with five or more units are not required to have a food waste diversion program. However, to comply with state law, they will need to

provide information about their landscape and green waste recycling programs to our sustainability coordinator at sarah.vaira@wasteconnections.com.

For more information on California’s Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling requirements, visit [www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Recycle/Commercial/Organics](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Recycle/Commercial/Organics).



## New resources available!

For our business customers with food waste, we offer internal collection containers, informational flyers, and posters to help train employees and ease sorting. Our new Recycle, Garbage, and Food Waste Posters are offered in English and Spanish.



## Download the El Dorado Disposal Waste Wizard app

We want to keep you informed! View your garbage and recycling schedule and receive reminders all from within the El Dorado Disposal Waste Wizard app. Check out the search feature which allows you to type in the name of an item you would like to recycle or throw away and gives you safe disposal options. To download the free app from Google Play or the App Store, search for “El Dorado.” Or, go to [www.eldoradodisposal.com](http://www.eldoradodisposal.com) to use the app online.

# Sierra School students visit and learn



It's always bustling at El Dorado Disposal, but early October was especially exciting as we hosted the next generation of recyclers from Sierra School in Placerville. Over the course of three days, all 60 second graders visited our facility and learned what happens to all sorts of waste, from homework papers to plastic water bottles. The tour followed the journey of recyclable materials from disposal to transportation and processing. Students were especially impressed with Supervisor Kenny's recycling truck demonstration.

If your school class, scout troop, or community group is interested in a tour or in a recycling presentation, contact Sarah Vaira, sustainability coordinator, at [sarah.vaira@wasteconnections.com](mailto:sarah.vaira@wasteconnections.com).

# Thanks for supporting us

We had a busy year at El Dorado Disposal and are honored to serve the residents and businesses of El Dorado County. Locally operated, we value the people, environment, and relationships we share in the community. Thanks to the many area residents who visited our booths at El Dorado Hills Concerts in the Park and the Cameron Park Pumpkin Patch. We welcome your ideas and feedback.

We especially enjoyed participating in the Georgetown Founder's Day Parade with our recycling truck. Stay up to date on future community events via our El Dorado Disposal Waste Wizard app and by following us on social media:

- [www.facebook.com/ED.Disposal](https://www.facebook.com/ED.Disposal)
- [www.instagram.com/eldoradodisposal](https://www.instagram.com/eldoradodisposal)



# Three cheers for our local customer service team!



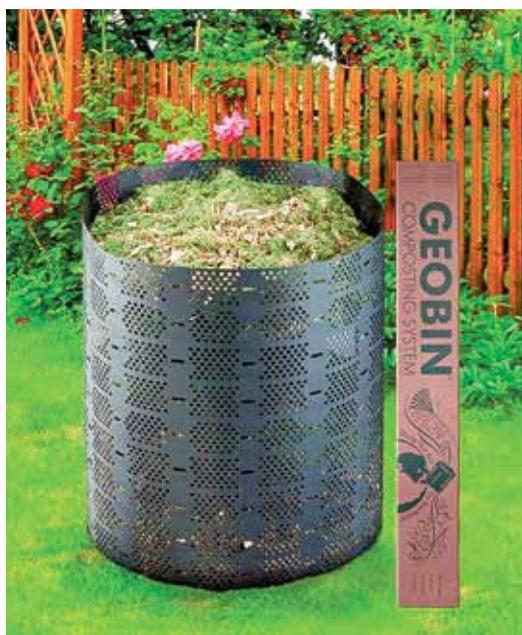
El Dorado Disposal is committed to keeping our communities safe, helping all residents properly dispose of trash, and providing opportunities to recycle and reuse material in order to keep it out of landfills. Being a local company, we live, work, and play in the communities we serve. Our customer service team members complete a rigorous training program and work out of our main office so that they may provide the best service possible. Their dedication to high-quality customer service is clear. Call wait times are going down, and customer satisfaction is up. Please let us know how we can continue to serve you.

# Home compost bins still available

Composting turns grass clippings, leaves, dead garden plants, and fruit and vegetable scraps from the kitchen into something useful for your gardens. Compost helps create healthier soil by adding organic matter and improving soil structure. Healthy soil uses water more efficiently, allowing available water to flow toward your plants' roots, storing water in the soil longer, and reducing runoff and erosion.

The El Dorado County Environmental Management Department has a limited number of free Geo-Bins available for backyard composting. To receive a free bin, please visit the EMD office in Placerville, which is located at 2850 Fairlane Court, Building C. You will be asked to complete a pledge form and provide your name and address. Quantities are limited, so please email [emd.info@edcgov.us](mailto:emd.info@edcgov.us) to check availability.

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.



# Tips for paper recycling



- All printed paper is accepted for recycling in our program. This includes envelopes with plastic windows, all junk mail, newspaper, office paper, and cardstock.
- Paper can go in the mixed recycling container, along with cardboard, cans, and plastic.
- No coffee cups or food-soiled paper items are accepted.
- Please make sure all food and beverage containers are empty and dry. Food or liquid from containers can make the paper wet and dirty, so make sure all recyclables are dry before tossing them into the bin.
- Please don't bag your recycling! Everything goes into the container loose so that it can be easily sorted.

# Green-up your holiday cleanup

There's no time like the holidays to kick-start recycling and reuse efforts, just in time for the new year! Start 2019 off right by making sure all of your holiday scraps are properly disposed, reused, or recycled. Not only will you have a cleaner home, but you'll also help us have a cleaner environment!

## Holiday Trees

With our holiday tree recycling programs, "undecking" the halls has never been easier. Once you remove and put away your ornaments, lights, and garland, as well as the stand, you can recycle real, cut Christmas trees at no charge. These trees will be chipped and turned into mulch, so make sure that your tree is totally bare.

- Between January 2 and 15, you can **drop off** your Christmas tree for free recycling at the Material Recovery Facility (MRF), located at 4100 Throwita Way, Placerville. The MRF is open daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- If you have **curbside service**, Christmas trees will be picked up at the curb from January 2 through January 31. If you have yard waste collection service, your tree will be picked up during your *yard waste collection week*. If you do not have yard waste collection in your area, we will pick up the Christmas trees on your *trash only collection weeks*. Please cut the tree into pieces and bundle the pieces with string or twine. Bundles should be no more than 3 feet long and 18 inches in diameter. Place the bundles next to your cart.
- Residents of **El Dorado Hills** may drop off Christmas trees on January 5, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and January 6, from 9 a.m. to noon, at the El Dorado Hills Community Services District parking lot, located at 1021 Harvard Way, El Dorado Hills, for the tree-chipping event.
- Residents of **Cameron Park Community Services District** may drop off Christmas trees from December 26 through January 31, from 7 a.m. to dusk, in the lower gravel parking lot at Cameron Park Lake, located at 2989 Cambridge Road. Cameron Park Boy Scout Troops 700 and 550 collect Christmas trees for recycling to help pay for scout camps, events, and outings. The suggested donation is \$10. Envelopes were dropped off at eligible homes in early December. Due to safety issues, scouts may not be able to reach all homes. Scout troop tree pickup will take place on January 5 starting at 8 a.m.

## Wrapping Paper and Boxes

Now that your tree is on its way to a second life, let's give wrapping supplies the same chance. Any usable wrapping paper, boxes, bags, bows, or tissue paper can be folded and stored for next year. If you're careful when opening presents, this should provide most of next year's supply.

Any boxes beyond reuse can be broken down and recycled. Be sure to remove tissue, plastic bags, and other packing material. Wrapping paper is also recyclable, as long as it is not metallic or metal-flecked.

Ribbons and bows are not recyclable but are easily stored and can be reused later. If you won't be saving them, be sure to place them into the garbage.



Credit: Polka Dot Images | Getty Images Plus

## Holiday Cards

Holiday cards can also be recycled. However, there are some exceptions: no photo paper, no musical greeting cards, no metallic or foil paper, and no cards with ribbons, buttons, or other items attached. Musical greeting cards have a battery, so they should be recycled with your batteries. The other cards can be put in the trash or kept for arts and crafts projects.

## Replaced Toys and Unwanted Gifts

Some of the gifts wrapped in those bags and bows might have replaced old toys or been unwanted themselves. Some stores will accept new items without a receipt in exchange for store credit. You can always donate new or gently used toys, as well as clothes and other goods that have been replaced, to a local charity, thrift shop, or Goodwill store.

## Batteries

The new toys here to stay might need batteries. Consider purchasing rechargeable batteries for these gifts. Rechargeable batteries can be reused multiple times with the help of a charging dock and are better for the environment.

However, both disposable and rechargeable batteries eventually stop working. When this happens, be sure to recycle them with other batteries. Harmful chemicals and metals in batteries don't belong in landfills and can be recycled to make new batteries. You can drop off spent batteries at the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) in Placerville or at any of the



Recycling and Redemption Centers. Hours and locations are listed on page 4.

Residential curbside customers can call us at 530-626-4141 to receive a battery recycling container. Once you've filled up the container with your household batteries, call us back and we'll pick it up curbside for recycling.

Please tape the terminal ends of all rechargeable batteries. The terminals on single-use alkaline batteries do not need to be taped.

## Bulky Waste

Finally, your larger gifts, like a washer or a rug, need special consideration when you dispose of the items they replaced. Check with local charities to see what types of working and usable large-scale items they accept. Many items can also be sold or given away through websites such as Freecycle, Nextdoor, or Craigslist.

For items that can't be donated or sold, residential customers can either call us at 530-626-4141 or use your El Dorado Disposal Waste Wizard app to schedule a large-item pickup. Bulky items can also be delivered to the Material Recovery Facility/Transfer Station in Placerville for recycling or disposal. Fees may apply for disposal. Recycling is provided at no charge.

## Electronics

More than likely, someone in your household got some new electronics. Perhaps it was a new TV, computer, tablet, e-reader, iPod/MP3 player, game system, or smartphone. If those new electronic gadgets replaced something you already owned and now no longer need, don't throw your old electronics into your trash!

All electronics, no matter how small, contain chemicals and metals that can be harmful to the environment when mixed with household trash. Plus, these metals and other components can be used to create new electronics. Sell or donate usable and unwanted electronics. No takers? Recycle them, along with any electronics that no longer work.

Electronics are accepted as E-Waste at our Material Recovery Facility in Placerville or at any of the Recycling and Redemption Centers listed on page 4. Before recycling electronics, remove batteries and dispose of the batteries as hazardous waste.

## What Next?

Now that you have a freshly cleaned home and a head start on your environmentally cleaner year, why not start planning how you will extend this into the upcoming months?

# Answers to your frequently asked questions

## Can I place coffee pods in the recycle bin?

No. K-Cup and other coffee pods consist of a combination of plastic, aluminum, and coffee grounds. Even if completely separated, the resulting parts are just too small to be sorted at our facilities. In addition, the plastic is of poor quality. Please consider using a refillable coffee pod instead of disposables or make your coffee using a more environmentally friendly method. If you use coffee pods, please try to limit the number you use, and throw them in the trash when finished.

## Can I place plastic bags in the recycle bin?

No. Plastic bags are NOT accepted in curbside bins or at our Recycle Centers. The stretchy plastic jams our recycling sorting equipment. Plastic bags can be dropped off for recycling at supermarkets and large retail stores with a pharmacy through the California At-Store Recycling Program. Alternatively, use bags as trash liners or for pet waste, or dispose of them in the garbage.

## Can I place Styrofoam in the recycle bin?

No. We no longer accept expanded polystyrene, commonly referred to as Styrofoam, for recycling. Please do not place it into the recycling bin. Instead, bag Styrofoam and then place it in the trash.



## How do I dispose of paint?

Drop off paint free of charge at the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility, located at the Transfer Station and Material Recovery Facility in Placerville. This facility is open Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays only, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. There is a limit of 15 gallons of paint per drop-off visit. Empty, dry paint cans with the lids removed may be placed into your curbside trash cart. Empty paint cans are not recyclable.

## How do I dispose of pool chemicals?

Drop off these hazardous chemicals at the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility, located at the Transfer Station and Material Recovery Facility in Placerville. This facility is open Friday through Sunday only, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. If possible, keep all chemicals in their original, labeled containers for easy identification at our facility.

## Should I tape the terminals on batteries?

You do not need to tape the terminals on single-use alkaline batteries. Please tape over the terminals on all other batteries. This will help reduce the risk of fire.



Credit: ms\_seal | iStock | Getty Images Plus

## Mandatory business recycling continues

All commercial businesses generating 4 or more cubic yards of trash per week are required by state law (Assembly Bill 341) to set up recycling service. Let us help.

El Dorado Disposal offers recycling service for businesses. Are you worried about space constraints or employee participation? We will be happy to work with you to address your concerns. Call Customer Service at 530-626-4141 to set up service or email our sustainability coordinator at sarah.vaira@wasteconnections.com to schedule a site assessment or request technical assistance. We want to help your business establish a successful business recycling program and comply with state law. Contact us today.

## 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

### 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 rainy days and when temperature is 100 degrees or above)



Credit: borchee | iStock | Getty Images Plus

## 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 take 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](http://calrecycle.ca.gov),  
for current California Redemption  
Value (CRV) pricing.

## Quotes Requoted

"There's a lot of optimism in changing scenery, in seeing what's down the road."

Conor Oberst

**We want your suggestions, questions and comments!**

**El Dorado Disposal Service**  
P.O. Box 1270  
Diamond Springs, CA 95619

**Customer Service:**  
530-626-4141 or 916-985-1162  
[www.eldoradodisposal.com](http://www.eldoradodisposal.com)

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Please recycle after reading.