

Fairfield Community Newsletter

Recycling, Organics and Waste Services



Monitoring Contamination

State law Senate Bill (SB) 1383 requires local jurisdictions to monitor contamination and the proper sorting of organics and recycling by performing annual route audits. In May and June 2024, certain neighborhoods in Fairfield were selected to be part of route reviews. During these route reviews, Republic Services Sustainability Advisors conducted a visual observation of residents' recycling, trash and organics carts. Republic Services Sustainability Advisors left door tags and contacted residents when contamination was found in residents' recycling, trash and/or organics carts.

Here are some of the 2024 route review observations.

Recycling Cart

Plastic bags or plastic film cannot be placed in the recycling cart. If you collect recyclable materials in a plastic bag inside your home, you must empty the bag before disposing of it inside your blue recycling cart. Recyclables need to be loose, empty, and dry for collection. You can either place the plastic bag in the trash or reuse it, but it cannot go in the recycling cart. Takeout containers with leftover food inside cannot be recycled.

Styrofoam™ cannot be recycled and needs to be placed in the trash cart.

Pizza boxes should be placed in the organics cart, not the recycling cart. Once cardboard or paper is soiled with grease or food, it needs to be composted.

Organics Cart

Plastic bags or plastic film cannot be placed in the organics cart. Plastic cannot be composted. If you want to use a bag to collect food waste, you can use a compostable bag. The compost facility only accepts compostable bags that meet BPI-certification standards. These types of bags will have the BPI logo to help you identify them. Alternatively, you can use a paper bag to collect your organic waste. Please remove any plastic from produce items.

Painted or treated wood is not compostable. Treated or painted wood needs to be disposed of as trash because of the chemicals it is covered with.

Trash Cart

Please remember that State Law Senate Bill (SB) 1383 requires California residents to separate their recycling and organics materials from the trash. Recycling and organic materials were the most common contamination material in Fairfield residents' trash carts. These items need to be sorted and disposed of in the right cart so they can be either recycled or composted.

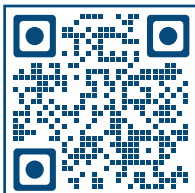
Electronic waste (e-waste) cannot be disposed of in the recycling, trash or organics carts. Fairfield residents can drop off small appliances and e-waste at the Republic Services facility located at 2901 Industrial Court, Fairfield. The facility is open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. (closed for lunch from 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m.) Fairfield residents can bring up to five (5) e-waste items per visit. All batteries must be removed, and the weight limit is 60 pounds. Medical equipment is not accepted.



Don't place recyclable materials in plastic bags.



Don't place plastic bags in the organics cart.



For a complete list of what items can be placed in each cart and services available to Fairfield residents, please visit RepublicServices.com/municipality/fairfield-ca or scan the QR code.

How to Prevent Food Waste at Home

Food waste is an issue that affects us all, and many of us are unaware of how much food that we routinely dispose of. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, one-third of all food in the United States goes uneaten. Preventing food waste will not only save you money, but it also helps protect the environment. Here are tips to help you reduce your food waste: Shop your fridge and pantry before you go to the grocery store. You may find items that need to be used before they spoil. Plan your meals, and make a list of items that you need. Monitor your food leftovers, and find out if you can prepare less. If you have a lot of leftovers, consider freezing some to extend their life. Store your food in clear containers so you can see what is inside. Arrange items in your refrigerator and pantry from the oldest to newest, so you can use the food that is about to expire or spoil first. If you must dispose of your food waste, remember to place your food waste in the organics cart (green lid), not the trash cart. State law requires that this food waste be diverted from the landfill, so help do your part by reducing, reusing, and recycling your food waste.



Compost Giveaway Day



Are you thinking about gardening this fall season? Fairfield residents are encouraged to attend the free upcoming compost giveaway event hosted by the City of Fairfield and Republic Services!

Saturday, September 14, 2024
9 a.m.–2 p.m.

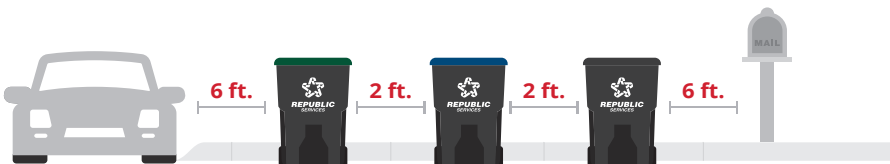
Dunnell Nature Park & Education Center
3351 Hillridge Drive, Fairfield, CA 94534

This is a self-serve event.
Be sure to bring a container to collect your compost in.
For questions, please contact the City of Fairfield
Solid Waste Division at **707.428.7528**.



Please Help Us Serve You Better

Please place carts at least 2 feet apart and 6 feet away from other objects, such as cars, mailboxes and light poles.



Sustainability in Action