

# City of Carlsbad

## Residential Recycling, Organics & Waste Service Guide



Sustainability in Action



## HOW-TO GUIDE

The City of Carlsbad's Sustainable Materials Management Division and Republic Services want to make it easy for residents to dispose of their waste in an environmentally friendly way. This guide is intended to provide residents with important information about recycling, organics, trash and other waste reduction and diversion programs available in Carlsbad.

## CART SERVICE

Recycling, organics and trash carts are available in three sizes: 32-gallon, 64-gallon and 96-gallon. Monthly rates for weekly collection are based on the size of your trash cart or carts. Additional trash carts over the one standard, and any extra recycling and organic waste carts over the three allowed, can be provided at an additional monthly charge. If you have questions about recycling or trash rates, please visit [carlsbadca.gov/reducereuserecycle](https://carlsbadca.gov/reducereuserecycle).

Residents can have up to four recycling (blue) and four organics recycling (green) carts for free. Any additional landfill (gray) carts aside from the one provided under your rate, will incur a service fee.



## BILLING

All Carlsbad residents are invoiced directly from Republic Services for waste services, and billing cycles occur at the start of the service period or every two months.

Payment of fees is a requirement under Carlsbad Municipal Code Chapter 6.08.200. Pursuant to this section, after 120 days of no payment, service interruption will occur. After 150 days of no payment, carts will be collected.

Please visit [RepublicServices.com/pay-bill](https://RepublicServices.com/pay-bill) to pay your bill online.

## REPORT SCAVENGING

It is unlawful for anyone other than Republic Services to collect, remove or dispose of solid waste (including recyclable materials) once the material is placed out for collection (Ord. CS-359 § 2, 2019; Ord. CS-183 § 2, 2012). To report scavenging, call the City of Carlsbad Police Department at **760.931.2197** (non-emergency line).



# Service Basics



## COLLECTION

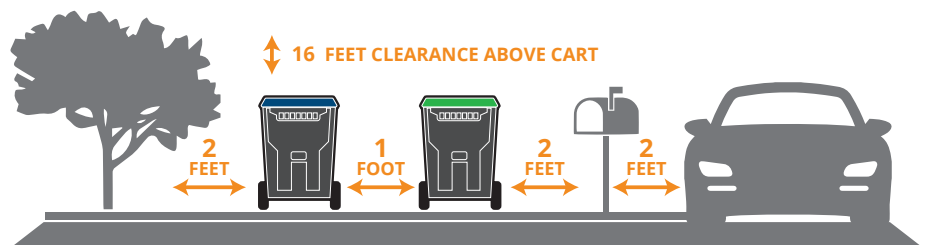
Republic Services recycling, organics and trash carts are collected weekly, serviced by different trucks on the same collection day. All materials must fit into the appropriate cart with the lid closed. You can find which day your area is serviced on page 15 of this guide.

## SET OUT CARTS BY 6 A.M.

Roll carts out to the curb line by 6 a.m. on your collection day. Carts must be off city streets by midnight on the same day.

## CART PLACEMENT

Place carts with handles facing away from the street, a minimum of 2 feet away from cars, mailboxes and other objects, and 1 foot away from other carts. Also, make sure carts are out from under trees or other overhead obstructions.



## EXCHANGES

Carts damaged by normal wear and tear, or carts that go missing, can be replaced at no charge by calling Republic Services at **760.332.6464**. If your cart size does not meet your household needs and a change is necessary, you may call for an exchange of any type or size of cart at no charge, once per calendar year. Any additional exchanges in the same calendar year will incur a delivery fee.

## OVERLOADED CARTS

If one or more of your carts is identified as being overloaded, you will receive a notice of non-collection. If this occurs, simply remove the excess material so that the cart lid can close tightly, and place the cart out the following week for collection.



**Cart lids must be able to close tightly.**

## MISSED COLLECTIONS

Recycling, organics and trash carts are usually serviced around the same time of the day each week. However, due to unforeseen circumstances, your collection time may vary. To ensure you are serviced weekly, place your carts at the curb line by 6 a.m. on service day. If you are not serviced on your normal collection day by 7 p.m., please contact Republic Services at **760.332.6464** and collection will be completed by the next day. **If you are missed and are not collected after letting Republic Services know, you will receive a \$5 credit per day until collection occurs.**

## ALTERNATIVE SERVICE LOCATION FOR DISABLED CUSTOMERS

If you have a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act, you can receive collection services at a location other than curbside, at no extra charge.

To request this service, please call customer service at **760.332.6464**.

WHAT GOES WHERE?

# Recycling

The City of Carlsbad is working to meet California State Assembly Bill 939 guidelines, which call for a 50% reduction in the waste sent to landfills. Avoid contaminating your recyclables by placing only acceptable items in the recycling cart. If recycling loads contain trash or non-recyclables, the entire load might not be recycled.

## Acceptable

**Cardboard/paper**



**Cartons**



**Aluminum/metal**



For CRV redemption information, check page 14.

**Glass**



**Plastic**





## BATTERY RECYCLING PROGRAM

1. Collect your used household (non-lithium) batteries.
2. Place in a clear zipper bag (1 quart or smaller).
3. Place on top of blue recycling cart lid. Do **NOT** place inside cart.



**STEP 1**



**STEP 2**



**STEP 3**

## ALWAYS BREAK DOWN CARDBOARD BOXES

Recycle all cardboard boxes and newspaper. Flatten boxes to save space in the recycling cart.



## ADDITIONAL RECYCLING

Residents can place unlimited flattened cardboard (pieces no larger than 2' x 3') and additional volumes of mixed recyclable materials contained in paper bags or cardboard boxes adjacent to their recycling cart on their regularly scheduled collection day for free.





ADDITIONAL

# Recycling Tips



## MOST COMMON CONTAMINANTS

Please don't "wish-cycle." When in doubt, throw it out.



**Polystyrene foam (Styrofoam™)**



**Garden hoses, holiday lights, extension cords**



**Plastic bags, plastic film**



**Food and liquids**



**Electronics**



**Clothing**

## RECYCLING: AS SIMPLE AS 1-2-3

### 1. Know what to throw

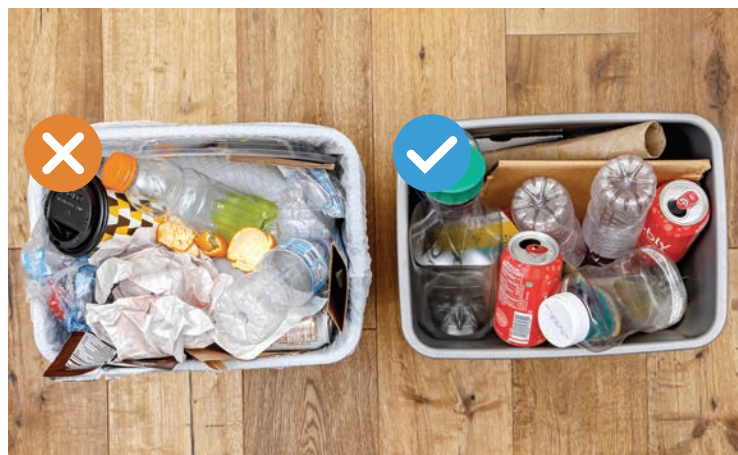
Make sure you're putting the right materials in your recycling cart — cardboard, paper, cartons, metal cans, plastic bottles and jugs are all acceptable.

### 2. Empty. Clean. Dry.

Keep all recyclables free of food and liquids. One dirty item can contaminate an entire truckload, so do your part to Recycle Right.

### 3. Don't bag it

Never put recyclables in plastic bags. Keep them loose in the cart.



### If your recycling cart smells, it's contaminated.

If your recycling cart stinks, it's contaminated with non-recyclable waste. Remove the waste, and rinse out the cart.

6



### If you can poke your finger through it, don't recycle it.

If you can push your finger through it, the plastic is too soft and flimsy to be recycled. It would get tangled in the sorting machinery and jam up the operation.



### Never recycle anything smaller than an ID card.

If the material is too small to go through the sorting equipment, it could get jammed in the machinery and shut down the whole operation.

## SUSTAINABLE CARLSBAD SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BANS



The City of Carlsbad is leading the way toward a more sustainable future by reducing the amount of unused and unwanted single-use and disposable products with high environmental impact.

These items include single-use plastic straws, utensils, containers, bags and other disposable items that go to the landfill each year when people take food to go. Local ordinances banning single-use plastic foodware, polystyrene (Styrofoam) and plastic bags affect all food facilities (e.g., restaurants, cafes, hotels and other vendors), whether they provide dine-in, take-out, drive through or delivery orders (including delivery apps). These ordinances also affect retail stores and city facilities and events.

Residents can help keep Carlsbad clean and do their part to reduce single-use plastic pollution by following these simple steps when shopping and ordering food to go.

- ✓ Carry a **reusable bag** in your car, bag or purse for last-minute shopping and food stops
- ✓ Carry your own **reusable straws** made from bamboo, stainless steel or silicone
- ✓ Keep a set of **washable utensils** in your car, bag or purse
- ✓ Carry a **reusable container** for leftovers or when taking food to go

### Single-use plastic foodware ban

Vendors cannot provide single-use plastic and polystyrene (Styrofoam™) products or other foodware items that are not certified BPI compostable or reusable. Find a list of acceptable items on the city website.

#### SWAP THIS



Plastic straws/utensils and Styrofoam or plastic cups, containers, plates, etc.

#### FOR THIS



BPI-certified compostable (e.g., paper, wood, bamboo) or reusable (e.g., metal, silicone, ceramic) foodware items

### Plastic bag ban

Vendors cannot provide plastic carryout bags or produce bags. Carryout bags must be reusable or made of paper and produce bags must be reusable, paper or certified (BPI) compostable. Customers are encouraged to bring their own bags.

#### SWAP THIS



Plastic carryout bags, plastic produce/bulk bags

#### FOR THIS



Reusable, paper or BPI-certified compostable bags

## WHAT GOES WHERE?

# Organics

California State Senate Bill 1383 requires all California residents to compost organic waste. Organic waste includes food waste, green waste, landscape and pruning waste, non-hazardous wood waste and food-soiled paper products. Organic waste is comingled in one green compost cart. By recycling recyclables and composting organic waste, we reduce the amount of waste that goes to our landfills and create a nutrient-rich soil additive for local farms and gardens. Visit [calrecycle.ca.gov/organics](http://calrecycle.ca.gov/organics) for more information.

## Acceptable

### Food waste



Beans, bones, bread, cereals, cheese, coffee grounds, dairy products, eggs and eggshells, fish, fruit and vegetable scraps, meat, rice, seafood, tortillas

### Food-soiled paper



Coffee filters, paper plates, paper towels and napkins, paper/cardboard take-out containers, pizza boxes, tea bags

### Yard waste



Flowers and houseplants, grass, leaves, tree and brush clippings



**No pet waste; please place in your landfill cart**





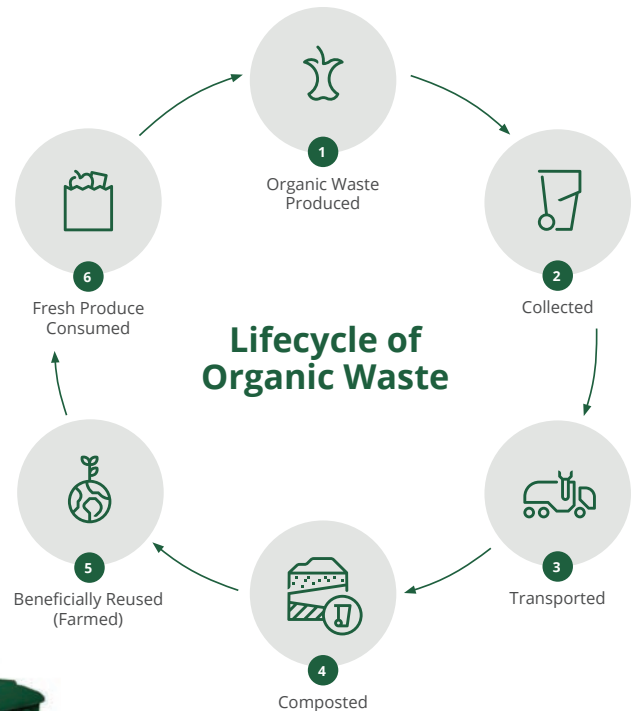


## COMPOSTING: AS SIMPLE AS 1-2-3

A kitchen caddy is a helpful tool for residents to collect organic waste and food scraps before placing them in the external organics cart. Prevent odors and pests by:

1. **Storing your kitchen caddy** under the sink or in the fridge until your organics cart service day
2. **Wrapping your food scraps** in newspaper or lining your caddy with a paper bag
3. **Washing your caddy** out after dumping contents into the external organics cart

Republic Services provides **free** kitchen caddies for residents. Kitchen caddies can be picked up at the Republic Services Recycling Buy Back Center, Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Contact Republic Services at **760.332.6464** or **[CarlsbadService@RepublicServices.com](mailto:CarlsbadService@RepublicServices.com)** to request your free kitchen caddy.



## HOW IS IT PROCESSED?

Your materials are taken to the Otay Compost Facility, where they are composted into a nutrient-rich soil additive and mulch that can be used in gardens and community parks. **Compost and mulch are available to Carlsbad residents to pick up at Palomar Transfer Station Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.** Residents can also collect material at giveaway events held twice a year.



WHAT GOES WHERE?

# Landfill



## Acceptable

Plastic bags



Return to retailer  
to recycle

Packing  
materials



Plastic straws/  
utensils



Foam take-out  
containers



Diapers



## PALOMAR TRANSFER STATION

Residents can dispose of excess trash generated by do-it-yourself projects or cleanups at the Palomar Transfer Station, 5960 El Camino Real, Carlsbad. Hours of operation are Monday through Sunday (7 days a week), 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. A fee is charged at the time of disposal. For more information, call **760.603.0153**.

## SHRED AND RECYCLE IT! EVENT

Republic Services offers Shred and Recycle It! events for residents twice annually: spring and fall. Residents need to register to participate and can do so about a month before each event on the Republic Services website. Each household is limited to five standard-size boxes (10" x 12" x 15") of paper for drop-off.

Shredding is also accepted in residential recycling and/or compost carts. Material **MUST** be in a closed paper bag to be accepted.





# Other Programs



## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

The improper disposal of hazardous wastes creates a real threat to residents and the environment. Disposing of household hazardous waste (HHW) in the trash is illegal and may cause injury to your family or trash collector.

### Examples include:

- > Cleaners/bleach/disinfectants
- > Pesticides/fertilizers/weed killers
- > Auto filters/fluids/batteries
- > Lithium batteries
- > Fluorescent/CFL bulbs
- > Paint/varnish/stains
- > Bug sprays



### Dispose of HHW through one of these convenient options:

**Drop-off:** This drop-off service is free with proof of residency (no appointment necessary). Hazardous Waste Collection Facility, 1145 E. Taylor St., Vista, CA 92084, **800.714.1195**, Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Door-to-door:** Call **800.714.1195** to schedule a pickup of HHW at your door for a \$10 fee. Please note, this service is offered free of charge if there is a resident in the home over the age of 65.

## ELECTRONIC/UNIVERSAL WASTE

Residents can also schedule a free electronic waste pickup through Republic Services for up to 5 items, 3 times annually.

### Some common electronic products are:

- |                |                   |               |
|----------------|-------------------|---------------|
| > Computers    | > Microwave ovens | > VCRs        |
| > Printers     | > Televisions     | > Stereos     |
| > Fax machines | > DVD/CD players  | > Cell phones |



To schedule an e-waste pickup, contact Republic Services at **760.332.6464** at least 24 hours in advance of your regular collection day. Residents can also conveniently drop off electronic waste for free at the Recycling Buy Back Center located at 5960 El Camino Real, Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m to 4 p.m.

# Other Programs



## PHARMACEUTICALS

Please **DO NOT** flush unwanted pharmaceuticals down the toilet or drain. Pharmaceuticals can pollute our water and unintentionally expose us to the chemicals in these medications. Instead of flushing unwanted medicines, you can throw them in the trash — but first, take steps to prevent children, animals and others from coming into contact with them.

You may use the drop-off program established by the San Diego County Sheriff's Department. Residents are able to drop off pharmaceuticals anonymously 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Visit [sdsheriff.gov/community/prescription-drug-drop-off](https://sdsheriff.gov/community/prescription-drug-drop-off) for drop-box locations and more information.

The city also provides a safe, anonymous disposal drop-box at the City of Carlsbad Safety Center, 2560 Orion Way, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



## SHARPS AND NEEDLES

Carlsbad residents may properly dispose of their sharps and needles at the following locations:

- **Palomar Transfer Station and Recycling Buy Back Center**  
5960 El Camino Real, Carlsbad, CA 92008  
Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Fire Station #6**  
7201 Rancho Santa Fe Rd.,  
Carlsbad, CA 92009
- **Fire Station #1**, 1275 Carlsbad Village Dr.,  
Carlsbad, CA 92008

At an additional cost, Republic Services offers a convenient at-home solution with our Sharps Disposal Mail-Back Kits. Each kit includes:

- Detailed instructions for safe sharps disposal
- Postal authorized return box and liner
- Sharps disposal container
- Pre-paid return postage
- Disposal tracking documents

Order yours today by calling **760.332.6464** or by emailing [carlsbadservice@republicservices.com](mailto:carlsbadservice@republicservices.com).



## FATS, OIL AND GREASE COLLECTION

Fats, Oil and Grease (FOG) are a natural part of our food. FOG includes cooking oils, shortening, dairy products, sauces and salad dressings. FOG blocks sewer lines and may cause overflows into your property, your neighborhood and the ocean.

Follow these tips to dispose of FOG properly:

- Pour cooled FOG into a Republic Services-provided Used Oil Recovery Kit
- Remove remaining FOG by scraping greasy pans and absorbing oil with a paper towel
- Drop off the Republic Services-provided Used Oil Recovery Kit at the Recycling Buy Back Center at 5960 El Camino Real, Carlsbad, Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., or call to schedule a pick up.

To pick up a Used Oil Recovery Kit, visit the Recycling Buy Back Center at 5960 El Camino Real and stop by the office Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.





## USED MOTOR OIL AND MOTOR OIL FILTERS

Improper disposal of motor oil on the ground or into storm drains can contaminate and pollute the soil, groundwater and the ocean. Take your used motor oil to a certified collection center to be recycled for free. Visit [carlsbadca.gov/reducereuserecycle](https://carlsbadca.gov/reducereuserecycle) to find a list of local businesses that are state-certified used oil and filter collection centers.



To recycle used motor oil and filters at the Recycling Buy Back Center or curbside, you must use a Republic Services-issued Used Oil Recovery Kit. Fill the provided jug with used motor oil and seal drained oil filters in the provided clear bag. The filled oil jugs and filter bags can be dropped off at the Recycling Buy Back Center at 5960 El Camino Real, Carlsbad, Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., or called in for scheduled collection, similar to a bulky item pickup. To schedule, please contact Republic Services at **760.332.6464** at least 24 hours in advance of your regular collection day.

## BULKY ITEM COLLECTION

Some items are just too large to fit in your trash cart. Carlsbad residents may dispose of up to 5 bulky household items for free, 3 times annually. Please call Republic Services at **760.332.6464** at least 24 hours in advance of your regular collection day to schedule a pickup. Visit [RepublicServices.com/CarlsbadCA](https://RepublicServices.com/CarlsbadCA) or [carlsbadca.gov/reducereuserecycle](https://carlsbadca.gov/reducereuserecycle) for more information on what is accepted and any special handling required.



### Acceptable items include:

- ✓ Furniture
- ✓ Appliances
- ✓ TVs/monitors
- ✓ Electronic waste
- ✓ Mattresses and box springs\*

*\*Must be wrapped in plastic for safe handling*

### Unacceptable items include:

- ✗ Hazardous waste
- ✗ Tires
- ✗ Construction/demolition debris
- ✗ Wood pallets
- ✗ Sinks/bathtubs

**Is your item still in good condition?** Consider donating or reselling.

**Is your item broken?** Save money and help the environment by fixing your broken items instead of replacing them. Get free help repairing bicycles, small appliances and more at a local **Fixit Clinic**.

## HOLIDAY TREE DISPOSAL

Carlsbad residents can recycle holiday trees by:

### Drop-off

Tree drop-off services will be available Dec. 26 through Jan. 14 at the following locations:

- › Calavera Park, 2997 Glasgow Drive
- › Poinsettia Park, 6600 Hidden Valley Road
- › Stagecoach Park, 3420 Camino del los Coches
- › Carlsbad Fire Station 1, 1275 Carlsbad Village Drive
- › Palomar Transfer Station, 5960 El Camino Real

### Curbside collection

Republic Services collects trees curbside on the same day as your regular compost collection day. Please note: the trees are collected by a separate truck, not the regular compost truck that services your green composting cart.

### Prepare your tree

1. Remove stands, ornaments, lights and tinsel
2. Trees over 6 feet in length must be cut in half
3. Trees with flocking or fire retardants are not accepted



# Other Programs

## FREE PROGRAMS AT PALOMAR TRANSFER STATION

The Palomar Transfer Station is located at 5960 El Camino Real, Carlsbad, open Monday through Sunday, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Did you know the Palomar Transfer Station also has multiple free programs available for Carlsbad residents?

- › Mattress recycling
- › Carpet recycling
- › Cooking and motor oil recycling
- › Electronic waste drop-off
- › Large cardboard drop-off
- › Compost and mulch pickup

For more information, please visit  
[RepublicServices.com/CarlsbadCA](http://RepublicServices.com/CarlsbadCA)

For an additional fee, the Palomar Transfer Station also accepts appliances, bulky items and construction and demolition debris for recycling and disposal.



## RECYCLING BUY BACK CENTER

The Republic Services Buy Back Center is located at 5960 El Camino Real, Carlsbad, open Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Residents can bring California Redemption Value (CRV) bottles and cans in for cash.

### CRV Items

- › Aluminum and bi-metal beverage cans
- › Plastic beverage containers with recycling symbols #1 – #7
- › Glass beverage bottles

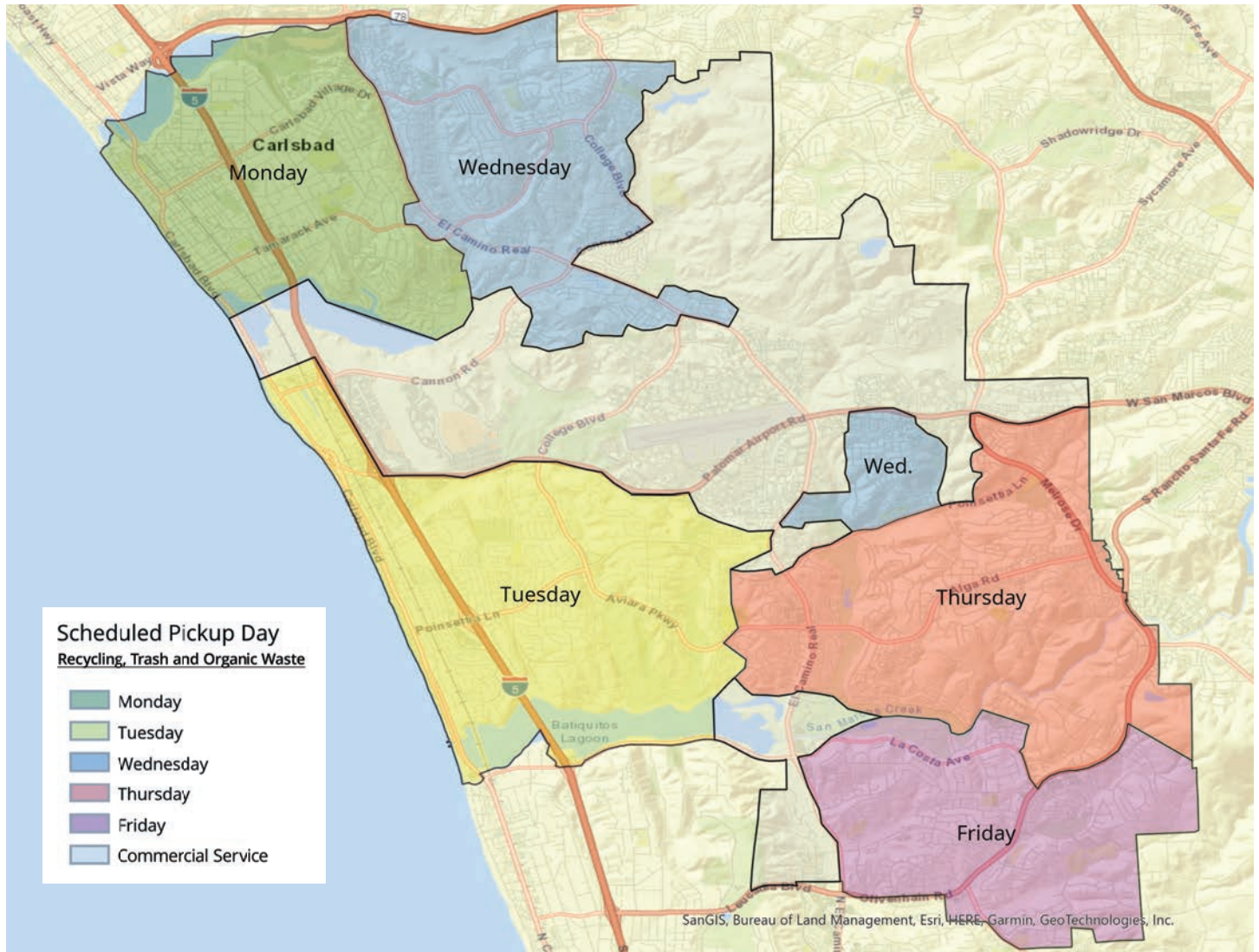


### Other Acceptable Items for No-Cost Drop-Off

- › Electronic waste (cell phones, laptops, microwaves, etc.)
- › Sharps
- › Household batteries (non-lithium)
- › Used motor oil and filters
- › Used cooking oil



# Days of Service



## HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Residential waste collection does not occur on the following holidays:

- ✓ New Year's Day
- ✓ Thanksgiving Day
- ✓ Christmas Day

*When the holiday falls on a weekday, collection will be delayed one day for the remainder of the week. If a holiday falls on a Saturday or Sunday, there will be no delays.*





## USEFUL CONTACTS

### Republic Services Office

5960 El Camino Real, Carlsbad, CA 92008

**760.332.6464**

Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### City of Carlsbad

1635 Faraday Ave., Carlsbad, CA 92008

Sustainable Materials Management Division

**442.339.2646**

**[reducereuserecycle@carlsbadca.gov](mailto:reducereuserecycle@carlsbadca.gov)**

Promotes a variety of waste reduction and diversion programs

### Palomar Transfer Station

5960 El Camino Real, Carlsbad, CA 92008

**760.603.0153**

Monday through Sunday, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### Recycling Buy Back Center

5960 El Camino Real, Carlsbad, CA 92008

**760.603.0153**

Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility

1145 E. Taylor St., Vista, CA 92084

**800.714.1195**

Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

No appointment needed

For more information, visit **[carlsbadca.gov/reducereuserecycle](https://carlsbadca.gov/reducereuserecycle)**, email **[CarlsbadService@RepublicServices.com](mailto:CarlsbadService@RepublicServices.com)** or call **760.332.6464**.

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