

Martinez

Residential Recycling & Waste Solutions



Sustainability in Action



BACK-TO-SCHOOL, SUSTAINABLY:

Smart Ways to Reduce Waste This Year

The back-to-school season often means a flurry of shopping and preparation—but it's also a great opportunity to adopt sustainable habits. With a little planning and creativity, families can reduce waste, save money, and teach kids the importance of caring for the planet. Read on for some simple ways to make this school year greener.

1. **Plan Ahead:** Before hitting the stores, make a detailed list of needed supplies to avoid impulse buys. Sticking to essentials prevents excess clutter and reduces unnecessary waste.
2. **Repurpose First:** Raid last year's backpack, desk, and pencil case before buying new items. Gently used notebooks, binders, and art supplies often get a second life with a little creativity.
3. **Choose Recycled:** When shopping is unavoidable, look for supplies made from recycled materials, like paper, pencils, or binders.
4. **Ditch Single-Use:** Pack drinks in a reusable water bottle or thermos instead of disposable juice boxes. If plastic milk containers or other recyclables are used, rinse and recycle them properly.
5. **Pack Waste-Free Lunches:** Use reusable containers, cloth napkins, and stainless steel utensils for packed lunches. A durable lunchbox eliminates the need for disposable bags.
6. **Start or Join a School Recycling Program:** Team up with teachers, administrators, or the New Leaf Collaborative to launch a recycling initiative if your school doesn't have one. Student Green Team involvement fosters long-term eco-awareness. Contact SustainabilityAdvisors@RepublicServices.com to find out about recycling at your school.
7. **Recycle Right:** Always empty, clean, and dry recyclables like yogurt cups or juice bottles before tossing them in the bin. Compost food scraps and food-soiled paper (like napkins and pizza boxes) in your organics container to comply with Senate Bill ("SB") 1383.



August 29: City of Martinez Sesquicentennial Festival

Martinez Marina and Waterfront Park

Main Festival: 11am-7pm
Beer Festival: 1pm-6pm

Celebrate 150 years of Martinez at the Sesquicentennial Festival on August 29, 2026, a one day, waterfront-wide community celebration honoring the City's history, identity, and spirit. Set throughout Waterfront Park, Joe DiMaggio Field, the marina, and nearby EBRPD spaces, the festival brings together local organizations, families, and neighbors for a full day of music, food, activities, and shared community pride.

This milestone anniversary event is being planned collaboratively with Downtown Martinez & Co., including a partnership with the Bay Area Craft Beer Festival to expand entertainment, activities, and fun!

Visit from **11:00 AM to 7:00 PM** for a once-in-a-generation celebration that honors the past, showcases the present, and inspires the future of Martinez.

Visit CityOfMartinez.org/150 for more information about events and initiatives taking place for the City of Martinez Sesquicentennial Year.

