

# Better at the Bin



Recology Sunset Scavenger and Recology Golden Gate, your local recycling companies | Recycle | Compost

October–December 2024

## \*+ 2024-25 Holiday Collection Schedule +\*

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
12/23 Regular Service	12/24 Regular Service	12/25 No Service Christmas Day	12/26 Service for Wednesday Customers	12/27 Service for Thursday Customers	12/28 Service for Friday Customers
12/30 Regular Service	12/31 Regular Service	1/1 No Service New Year's Day	1/2 Service for Wednesday Customers	1/3 Service for Thursday Customers	1/4 Service for Friday Customers



**Christmas Tree Collection, Jan. 2–17, 2025.** Please place clean, unflocked trees at the curb next to your compost bin the night before your collection day. Remove all tinsel, decorations, plastic bags, stands, and lights. If your tree measures more than 6 feet tall, please cut it in half.

## Local farms give us bounty. Composting helps it happen

Composting helps achieve multiple environmental benefits. This is especially important to remember during the holidays as they include the biggest food weeks of the year.

Curbside composting keeps food scraps, sticks, and leaves out of landfills. That saves landfill space and reduces methane emissions.

Finished compost, particularly compost made with food scraps, is rich in nutrients. When applied to farms, compost helps improve soil health. That helps local farms grow healthy fruits and vegetables that feed our families.

San Francisco pioneered curbside food scrap collection for composting in North America. Through the green bin program, San Franciscans have kept more than 2 million tons of compostable material out of landfills.

Many cities are following San Francisco's lead and implementing curbside composting collection programs and encouraging residents and businesses to compost food scraps together with sticks and leaves in



"Composting is a great way to feel connected to the cycle of food," says San Francisco resident Jonathan Vinocour.

the green bin. South Lake Tahoe and Long Beach are the latest California cities to add the program.

Austin, Texas added the program and reached out to San Francisco for advice and insights on how to inspire customers to participate in curbside composting. Denver is doing it. So is New York City.

If you don't have a kitchen composting pail and would like one, email us at

[customerservice@recologysf.com](mailto:customerservice@recologysf.com), and we will mail a basic composting pail free of charge to your local address. Upscale compost pails are sold at kitchen supply stores and online.

Curbside composting is something we can all do every day to help protect the environment. Please place all banana peels, coffee grounds, and other food scraps in your curbside composting (green) bin. It's a great way to give back to the earth that feeds us. ■



Our customer service staff is here to help. Email us at [customerservice@recologysf.com](mailto:customerservice@recologysf.com)

# Flatten boxes to save space



Many things ship in cardboard boxes. This is especially true during the holidays when online shopping increases significantly.

Here are three great reasons to flatten and recycle any cardboard boxes that come into your life:

1. Unflattened cardboard boxes can quickly take up all the space in your recycling bin, space you will need for bottles, cans, and paper.
2. Recycling cardboard boxes saves trees.
3. Recycled cardboard is used to make new cardboard boxes. That supports commerce as most products ship in cardboard boxes.

It just takes a few minutes and saves a great deal of space. That's important, especially in San Francisco where space is a precious commodity.

Be a hero in your building or neighborhood and do the environment a solid. Break down all cardboard boxes. ■

**Recology Waste Zero Supervisor Dan Kling** ← says avoid the absurd—flatten cardboard boxes to save space.

## Hydrogen truck test achieved positive results

The pilot program to test the first hydrogen fuel cell-powered refuse collection truck in North America produced positive results.

The truck produces zero emissions and is far quieter than a traditional collection truck.

Recology tested the hydrogen truck for three weeks on a variety of routes in San Francisco and in residential areas of San Mateo County.

The pilot is one example of our efforts to test new technologies in the quest to improve customer service and help protect the environment.

A big question was whether the truck would be able to complete a route without refueling. Testing



showed the truck can meet that requirement and more.

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When Recology drivers stepped on the accelerator, the truck immediately responded and provided plenty of power to go up hills. The drivers also liked the regenerative brakes, which boosted

the truck's energy reserves.

The testing also provided valuable data for the vehicle manufacturers Hyzon and New Way Trucks, which hope to design hydrogen-powered refuse collection trucks that can be used in many cities in the future.

We reported our positive test results to the City, which oversees the programs we provide in San Francisco. Recology will keep testing new technologies for both collection and sorting as we continue to innovate and improve the services we deliver. ■

Check us out on social media for quick tips, event info, and recycling news:



**Debris Box Dept.**  
888.404.4008