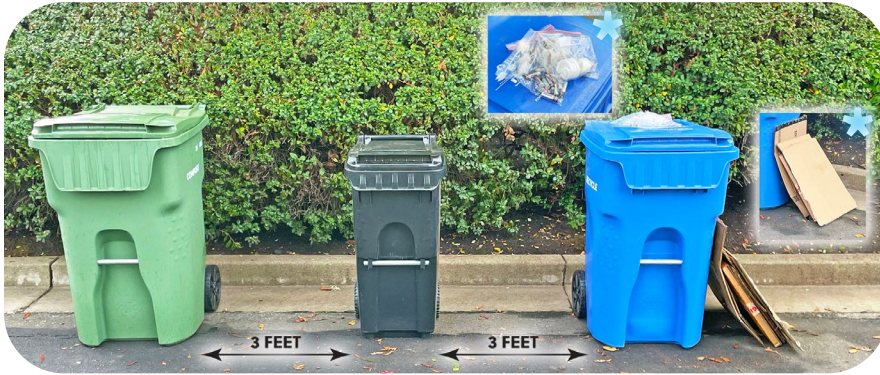




# Wise About Waste

Quarterly Newsletter | July - September 2024

Brought to you by Peninsula Sanitary Service, Inc.  
in partnership with Stanford's Office of Sustainability



## How Clean is Clean Enough?

Plastic recycling can be tricky given the myriad types of products and packaging on the market. Stanford's new collection program allows for all types of clean plastic (containers and film) to be accepted for recycling.

**But how clean is clean?** While it is important to dump out liquids and scrape out food, plastic containers can still be recycled with some food residue. (see picture above) Turning the container upside down is a good way to determine how clean is clean enough. No food or liquid falling out? Sort it in the blue bin!

Are you interested in touring the recycling facility and getting a behind-the-scenes look at how your recyclables get handled? Scan the QR code to inquire.



### COLLECTION TIPS

## The Perfect Curbside Setout

By following these tips, you play a crucial role in helping us provide safe and efficient collection service. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

- Be sure to have your carts at the curb by 6:00 A.M. on your collection day.
- Please leave the carts at the curb until we've emptied them. Our trucks can arrive at different times each week.
- Please place your carts facing the street, wheels against the curb, and the lid closed. Customers with alleys should place their carts in the alley.
- Leave 3 feet between each cart whenever possible.
- Be mindful to keep carts away from obstacles such as parked cars, fire hydrants, low-hanging branches, and utility poles.
- Please do not overload your carts. Make sure the lids close. Doing so will help keep the material dry, prevent litter, and discourage critter access.
- Make the most of the cart space! Please do not wedge or compact materials into your carts. Doing so may prevent your cart from being fully emptied when serviced.
- Please remember that your collection carts must be put away, out of public view, after servicing.

\***Recycle More!** Place bagged household batteries and CFL lightbulbs on your recycling cart and stack flattened extra cardboard next to it for collection.

## Spring Clean-Up Diverts 13 Tons of Waste From the Landfill

Of the 48 tons collected in this Spring's Clean-Up, over 13 tons (the weight of about 13 cars) were diverted from landfill. The biannual Clean-Up Day, offered to Stanford faculty and staff residents, recently expanded to include items for reuse. Items in good, working condition that are labeled for "reuse" will now be sent to Goodwill. The enhanced clean-up program is a win-win for both people and the planet-it not only helps achieve Stanford's goal of diverting 90% of waste from landfill, but it supports the local community by providing quality secondhand items at discounted prices.



The Clean-Up Day also allows residents to "shop the curb" and give new life to products their neighbors no longer use. Thanks to all of those who participated in the Spring Clean-Up!

*"This event creates so much happiness in our neighborhood! It's wonderful to watch things that have meant a lot to our family get recovered by students, neighbors, and other community members. Our ping pong table, which we acquired on the curb one year, was passed along to another family down the street a few years later. It's a great way to share resources and avoid adding to the landfill."*

*- Cindi Kingsley, SCRL homeowner*

## You Have the Power to Create Change

*Every choice has an impact.*

An easy way to reduce waste is to stop unwanted mail.



- Remove your address from direct mail registries at [directmail.com/mail\\_preference](https://directmail.com/mail_preference)
- Stop unwanted catalogs at [CatalogChoice.org](https://CatalogChoice.org)
- Prevent automatic phonebook deliveries at [YellowPagesOptOut.com](https://YellowPagesOptOut.com)

### Online Portal Provides 24/7 Access

Request services, make secure payments, sign up for paperless billing, and more.

All information is secure and confidential. Visit [pssirecycling.com](https://pssirecycling.com) and click on the red "Account Login" button to get started.

[Account Login](#)

**HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) DROP-OFF EVENT** The one-day temporary collection event will be in Sunnyvale on July 13th, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Appointments for this event are available by visiting <https://hhw.santaclaracounty.gov/events/sunnyvale-temp-drop-event-713>.

**HOLIDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE** The collection schedule **does not change** during Labor Day. Please ensure your carts are out for collection by 6am on your regular service day.

### Questions? Contact PSSI.

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