



# Wise About Waste

Quarterly Newsletter | September - November 2024

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

## Limit Food Waste at your Feast

*The Holidays are fast approaching, here are some tips on how to reduce food waste at home!*

- **Plan ahead** and only buy what you need. Check your cabinets! Stop waste at the source and only cook what you can and want to eat.
- **Save the scraps**, use vegetable peels and meat trimmings to make a tasty broth for leftover turkey soup.
- **Get creative with leftovers**, label what they are and properly store them. Consider freezing items to help ensure they get eaten.
- **Donate unused canned goods** like pumpkin pie filling, green beans, and cranberry sauce. Contact Second Harvest: [Shfb.org](http://Shfb.org) or Feeding America: [FeedingAmerica.org](http://FeedingAmerica.org) to learn more about what and where to donate unwanted food.
- **Compost**. If all else fails and you must get rid of food as a last resort, make sure it ends up in your green cart.

**Find more food waste prevention tips at:**

- [SavetheFood.com](http://SavetheFood.com)
- [LoveFoodNotWaste.org](http://LoveFoodNotWaste.org)



## What to do with Fats, Oils, & Grease (FOG)?

**Do NOT pour FOG down the drain!** Improper disposal of FOG will pollute the environment and clog your pipes and sewer/septic systems. Wait for the FOG to cool, pour it into a glass jar, seal it with the lid, and place it in your trash cart. Jars with a wide mouth and tight seal work best. Save your next glass mayo or pickle jar and be prepared. For large amounts of FOG, such as oil from a turkey fryer, visit Santa Clara County Household Hazardous Waste at: [hhw.org](http://hhw.org) for free drop off information.



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

**Fall Clean Up  
November 9th  
7am - 12pm**

*Enhanced program!  
Items in good, clean, and  
working condition will be  
collected for reuse.*

Items must be set aside from other items and be labeled "REUSE".

Scan the QR code for more info, a "REUSE" sign that can be downloaded, and a sample list of accepted items.



**PLEASE NOTE:** Televisions and monitors must have your name and address included on each item - per state requirement. *Hazardous waste, universal waste, and contractor generated waste will not be collected.*

## Top Tips for Sorting at Home

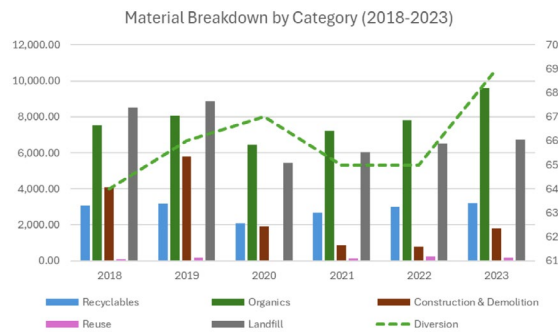
Here are the latest standards to keep you on your A-game!

- **Keep a lid on it!** When recycling single-use plastic bottles, keep the caps on. Remember, reusable water bottles should always be your first choice.
- **Bag the bags.** Plastic film and plastic bags CAN be recycled in our program! To help ensure that they are captured, bundle your bags and film together before recycling.



## Stanford Hit its Highest Waste Diversion Rate in 2023 at 69%!

Recent updates to both exterior and interior waste systems, which included color-coding dumpsters and bins, increasing access to recycling and composting services, and proper sorting information, likely contributed to the increase in diversion.



*15,000 tons of the waste stream, about the weight of 882 school buses, was recycled or composted rather than buried in a landfill.*

*Thank you to the campus community for all your efforts to reduce waste!*

## PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT: Amazon Ditches Plastic!

Amazon has put into motion their most ambitious sustainability effort yet, ditching plastic pillows in favor of paper. Paper made up of 100% post-industrial and post-consumer recycled content will be replacing the 15 billion plastic pillows shipped out every year. As the world's largest online retailer, this change significantly moves the needle for manufacturing and distribution's environmental impact in the US! Amazon is expecting 100% replacement by the end of 2024. Find out more about Amazon's sustainable goals by visiting: [AboutAmazon.com/news/sustainability](https://AboutAmazon.com/news/sustainability)

## NEW COLLECTION RATES - EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1

Rates for waste, recycling, and compost services will increase by 9%, effective 9/1/24. This equates to an increase of \$3.40 per month for single family customers who subscribe to a 35 gallon landfill cart. View the 24-25 Waste Rates by scanning the QR code or visiting [utilities.stanford.edu](https://utilities.stanford.edu) (SU Net required) For questions or to adjust waste services, contact PSSI.



## THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY COLLECTION SERVICE SCHEDULE

If your regular collection day is Thursday, 11/28/24, your service is rescheduled to Wednesday, 11/27/24. Visit [pssirecycling.com/holiday](https://pssirecycling.com/holiday) for more info.

NOVEMBER 25 - 29, 2024					
If your collection day is:	Mon. 25	Tue. 26	Wed. 27	Thu. 28	Fri. 29
Your holiday collection day will be:	Mon. 25	Tue. 26	Wed. 27	Wed. 27	Fri. 29

## Questions? Contact PSSI.

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