



Let's Talk Trash!

Happy Holidays From Mill Valley Refuse Service

Number 20

www.millvalleyrefuse.com

Winter, 2009

Service Day Changes This Year



This year Christmas and New Year's Day fall on Friday, so disposal services will be pushed back one day each week (Friday service will be on Saturday).



Holiday Tipping: Hints to Avoid Thefts

It has long been a tradition for some to tip the garbage, recycling and green can collectors during the Christmas or New Year's holidays, and the guys very much appreciate these gifts.



However, gifts left on cans at the street have become targets for "early bird thieves" who are known to drive or walk along the streets snatching gifts before the collectors arrive. The two best ways to give gifts are to hand them directly to the collectors, or send a gift card, check or package to our office. **If you send a check, please do not make it payable to MVRs.** Instead, call our office (457-9760 ext. 25) so we can provide you with the names of your collectors. If you wish to tip more than one collector, please send separate gifts as it is very difficult to "split" gifts here in the office. Thank you.

Send gift cards or packages to:
Mill Valley Refuse Service
Attn. Holiday Gift
P.O. Box 3557
San Rafael, CA 94912



Christmas Package Recycle Guide

We know you'll be tempted to throw every bit of Christmas wrap and packaging into your recycling cart, but some of it is just not recyclable.

Please don't try to recycle:

- metallic or plastic coated wrapping paper,
- bows and ribbons,
- plastic "blister" packaging, and especially . . .
- No styrofoam blocks or peanuts!



Thanks for your consideration.

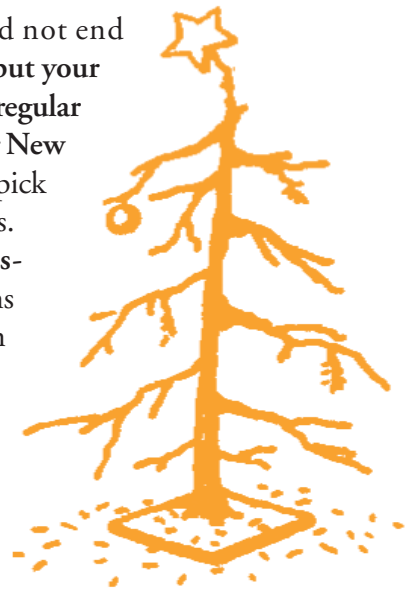
For some great ideas on how to *reduce waste during the holidays*, visit the California Integrated Waste Management website at: www.ciwmb.ca.gov/PublicEd/Holidays

Don't Trash Those Trees!

Christmas trees should not end up in the landfill. **Please put your trees out on the curb on any regular green can day, starting after New Year's.** Garbagemen will not pick up trees left by garbage cans.

Homestead Valley customers without green cans can leave their trees on the curb when they see their neighbors putting green cans out.

You MUST REMOVE all ornaments, tinsel and METAL STANDS from your tree (wooden stands are OK). Please note that metal stands can generally be removed by unscrewing them in a counterclockwise motion from the stump of your tree. **Cut any tree over five feet tall in half so it can be easily handled.** Flocked trees are OK.



Food Waste Composting is Coming

We're getting lots of calls asking when a residential food waste composting program will be offered in Marin. The holdup has always been about getting a composting site permitted to accept food waste. But now the Redwood Landfill is reporting that they expect to be able to begin receiving food waste by early 2010. In such a program, residents will mix food waste with yard waste, which means we'll have to pickup yard waste cans on a weekly, rather than the current bi-weekly, schedule. However, we'll need to go before the city councils of each area we service to get permission to make this change, so we'll keep you posted as this new program takes shape.

Our Last "Paper" Newsletter

In an effort to create less waste (even if it's recyclable, like this newsletter), in 2010 we will upgrade our website so that future newsletters are available over the internet. We've already begun this process with a new and improved "Lets Talk Trash" page on www.millvalleyrefuse.com. Here you'll find news and links to the latest information about waste management and recycling in our community. Please visit our site and check it out! Also, please join our email newsletter list. It's easy. Just email us at customer@millvalleyrefuse.com and send us your name, account number and email address (you don't need to do this if you're already signed up with us for Auto-Pay).

Printed on recycled paper; please recycle again!



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