



HOLIDAY NEWSLETTER 2016

Christmas Day and New Year's Day each fall on a Sunday this year which means your service will not be interrupted. Please put your garbage, recycling and green cans out as usual.

CHRISTMAS TREE PICK UP

Put your trees on the curb on any regular green can day, starting after Christmas day.

- Remove all ornaments, tinsel and metal stands
- Wooden stands are ok to leave attached
- Trees over 5 feet must be cut for easier handling (each section less than 5ft)
- Plastic trees can't be recycled, they must go in the trash
- Flocked trees are NOT accepted for composting

ADD FOOD WASTE TO YOUR HOLIDAY RECYCLING LIST

Every Christmas there's a big increase in recycling because of all the wrapping paper and boxes associated with gift giving. But keep in mind another big waste stream created around the holidays—food waste from all those Christmas parties and family dinners.

If you're not already in the habit of scraping your plates into a kitchen pail and dumping food waste into your green compost cart, now's the time to start.

Make it a New Year's resolution to compost all of your food waste throughout the year. Food waste makes up about 23% of our waste stream, so diverting it from the landfill will preserve landfill space and create better compost at the same time. Learn more about our Food Waste Composting Service on our website at www.millvalleyrefuse.com

CHRISTMAS WRAP RECYCLING

Please recycle as much gift wrap and packaging as possible!

DO NOT recycle the following:

- Metallic or plastic-coated wrapping paper
- Bows and ribbons
- Plastic "blister" packaging
- Styrofoam blocks or peanuts

HELP MAXIMIZE RECYCLING RATES THROUGH PROPER DISPOSAL METHODS

Last year saw a decline in value for many recyclable materials. This has created a new problem at processing plants—plant workers are no longer tearing open plastic bags (especially ones they can't see through) full of material as they come across the sorting belts. So if you carry your household recyclables outside in a plastic bag and drop the whole bag into your brown cart, it might not get torn open or recycled at all. Instead of spending extra labor time to tear them open, these bags are left to drop off the end of the sorting belts and end up in the trash.

You can prevent your good recyclables from ending up in the trash by dumping out the loose contents of those plastic bags into your cart (throw the plastic bags away in the trash). That will ensure that your recyclables actually are recycled. Learn more about our Recycling Service on our website at www.millvalleyrefuse.com

TIPPING YOUR COLLECTOR

If you would like to tip your garbage, recycling and compost can collectors during the holidays please do not leave a gift out on the street where it can be the target of thieves. Instead, please hand your gift directly to the collectors; they'll appreciate meeting you!

Or you may send your check, cash, or package to our office. Please include your service address so we can make sure your collectors receive your thoughtful gift. If sending a check, do not make it out to MVRs, instead, call us at 415-457-9760 ext. 25 and we'll provide you with the names of your collectors.

PLEASE SEND YOUR GIFTS TO:

Mill Valley Refuse Service
Attn: Holiday Gift
112 Front St.
San Rafael, CA 94901