



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

YOU WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN A DUAL-STREAM RECYCLING PILOT PROGRAM

THE CONTAMINATION PROBLEM

Recycling contamination increases labor costs at processing plants as workers try to separate materials.

Contamination occurs when:

- Non-recyclable items are put in collection carts
- Food waste (solid or liquid) in recyclable containers has not been thoroughly cleaned or rinsed, soiling paper products into which it comes in contact.
- Bags of recyclables are dropped into carts rather than dumping the recyclables in loose. Bags are NOT torn open at the processing plants so the bag, and all its contents, end up in the trash.



THE BENEFITS OF DUAL-STREAM RECYCLING

- Separated streams of paper can't be contaminated by broken glass and food waste.
- Separated streams of all other mixed recyclables are easier to process when not mixed with paper.
- Cleaner streams of material lowers processing costs and ensures that more is actually recycled and less ends up in the landfill.

In response to skyrocketing fees recycling plants are charging to process single-stream recyclables, **Mill Valley Refuse Service has selected your neighborhood to participate in a pilot program to test dual-stream collection of recyclables starting Monday, September 3, 2018.**

The current method of collection we use is called **single-stream** recycling because all recyclables are mixed in one cart for collection on the same day. **Dual-stream** recycling is the method in which mixed paper is put into one can, and all other mixed recyclables are put into another can.

WHY DUAL-STREAM RECYCLING?

Processing fees have skyrocketed because China, a major market for our recyclables, imposed strict new regulations this year requiring bales sent from the U.S. contain only 0.5% contamination. The added labor costs required to meet these new regulations have increased the tipping fees (the amount we pay to dump at a processing facility) for single-stream material from \$0/ton in April of 2017, to \$80/ton today. Since contamination of single-stream recycling (see side bar), and reduced demand for mixed paper and plastics have made it difficult for us to secure processing at reasonable and stable rates for our customers, we want to find out if dual-stream collection is a viable option. We will dump the cleaner material at Marin Sanitary Service in San Rafael for the considerably reduced fee of only \$17.50/ton.

Dual-stream collection may be the solution to the problems posed by current market conditions. You will help us learn more by being part of this pilot program. Thank you for your cooperation.

In our pilot program we will pick up your carts/cans on ALTERNATING WEEKS—Mixed Paper & Cardboard one week; All Other Mixed Recyclables the next week.

See the next page for details.

THE PILOT PROGRAM BEGINS SEPTEMBER 3

Starting on September 3, please roll out your current 68-gallon recycle cart with mixed paper and cardboard ONLY in it. The following week, place a different can of your choosing (see back page for options) at the curb with your other mixed recyclables (cans; glass bottles & jars; and rigid plastic containers).

Learn more at millvalleyrefuse.com/pilot

DUAL-STREAM RECYCLING METHOD

EASY AS 1 - 2 - 3

1. MIXED PAPER & CARDBOARD



GOES INTO



YOUR EXISTING
68-GALLON
BROWN ROLLING
RECYCLE CART

- Office Paper (any color)
- Cardboard boxes
- Newspaper
- Magazines & catalogs
- Paperboard (like cereal or shoe boxes)

- Junk mail & envelopes (plastic window okay)
- Paperboard tubes (like toilet paper or paper towel rolls)
- Paper egg cartons
- Paperback & phone books

REMOVE ALL PACKING MATERIALS MADE OF PLASTIC OR STYROFOAM.

2. ALL OTHER MIXED RECYCLABLES



GOES INTO



A SEPARATE
BIN OR CART

*See back page for options

- Glass bottles & jars
- Aluminum cans
- Aluminum foil and food trays

- Plastic bottles and containers clearly labeled with #1-7
- Absolutely NO plastic bags, plastic wrap or Styrofoam.

FOOD WASTE MUST BE WIPED CLEAN OR RINSED, ALL LIQUIDS POURED OUT. PUT ALL GLASS, CANS, AND PLASTIC LOOSE IN THE CAN OR BIN, NOT IN PLASTIC BAGS.



3. PUT THE RIGHT RECYCLABLES OUT ON THE RIGHT DAY

Recycling will be picked up on **alternating weeks.**

Mixed Paper & Cardboard one week → All Other Mixed Recyclables the next week.
Place your recycling Can/Bin at the curb by 6:00am on the designated alternating week
along with your Garbage Can and Green Waste Cart.

See schedule online at millvalleyrefuse.com/pilot and on opposite page.

WHY PICK UP RECYCLING ON ALTERNATING WEEKS?

We're all accustomed to the convenience of single-stream recycling, and we realize the new system creates a sorting challenge within your homes, and a requirement to remember the new alternating week collection schedule. Most dual-stream collection systems utilize split carts and split-body trucks so that paper and other mixed recyclables can be picked up by one truck on the same day.



Unfortunately, the alternating week pickup schedule is necessary so that MVRs can continue using the same carts and trucks in current use. Swapping out existing equipment with split-cans and split-body trucks would cost millions of dollars and could not be fully achieved for several years. The cost of new carts and trucks would wipe out the savings we hope to achieve -- and pass on to you -- if this pilot program is successful.

The week of August 27 is your last single-stream collection week. Remember to start separating for dual-stream collection after that!



DUAL-STREAM RECYCLING PICK UP SCHEDULE

This pilot program begins September 3, 2018 and concludes on December 29, 2018.

KEY	
	MIXED PAPER & CARDBOARD
	ALL OTHER MIXED RECYCLABLES

Place your Mixed Paper & Cardboard Cart or All Other Mixed Recyclable Can/Bin at the curb by 6:00am on the designated alternating week along with your Garbage Can and Green Yard Waste/Compost Cart.

Visit us online to see your schedule and learn more about dual-stream recycling. millvalleyrefuse.com/pilot

SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

OCTOBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

NOVEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29



P.O. Box 3557
San Rafael, CA 94912-3557

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Your neighborhood will be participating in a Dual-Stream Recycling Pilot Program starting September 3.

See inside for details.

DUAL-STREAM RECYCLING CAN OPTIONS

Please use your current 68-gallon recycling cart for Mixed Paper & Cardboard ONLY, as it is big enough to hold flattened cardboard boxes and will prevent paper from getting wet or flying away in bad weather.

Choose one of these options for all other mixed recyclables:

Option 1

USE YOUR OWN CAN

Use any old garbage can or bin you may already have around the house that's big enough for your glass, plastic, and metal recycling. Our drivers will provide a recycling sticker for the can so they can distinguish it from your regular trash can. You may also request a sticker from our office, which will be delivered out to your home.



We encourage this option as it allows you to re-purpose an old can, which is in keeping with the Zero Waste ethic of "**Reduce, REUSE, Recycle.**"

Option 2

REQUEST A BIN

Mill Valley Refuse Service will provide a 22-gallon bin for mixed recyclables upon request if you have no spare can as mentioned in Option #1. Call our office to request a bin to be dropped off at your home.

You may request a 22-gallon mixed recycling bin online or by calling our "**Request-a-Bin**" hotline at **415-457-9760, X25**. Leave a message with your name and address so we can include you on our delivery route.

