

2019 Brentwood Recycling Calendar

Your Recycling & Yard Waste are shaded in Blue.

JANUARY						
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Save Recycling!

Mt. Diablo Resource Recovery, a Garaventa Company, has served the residents of Contra Costa for over 75 years. We are a family owned company with deep ties and an unyielding commitment to the quality of life in the communities we serve. This has driven us to work hard, work smart, and strive for excellence in the way we collect and process local recycling and waste materials to maximize our contribution to our local health, safety and environment.

Accordingly, recycling has always been a critical part of our business. We are by far Contra Costa's largest recycling processing operation. Indeed, our company does not even own a landfill. So, it's in our DNA to see that the maximum amount of material that comes through our operation is recycled. That's why Resource Recovery is in our name.

So even in the face of complex recycling mandates from the state and federal governments, we have always stepped up to the plate and gotten the work done. Because it's what we do.

But now, a monumental policy shift by the government of China has upended the global recycling market and is confronting companies and communities like ours. For years, the vast majority of processed recycling material from the US (California especially) was purchased by China. But this abrupt change, known as "National Sword", has resulted in China massively decreasing the volume of recycled material it is willing to accept. In short, this has had a catastrophic effect on the traditional economics of recycling. It's a profound change to the entire world of recycling and we must all now change with it.

Communities across the country are reacting to these events in different ways including many who have concluded that under this "new normal" they are forced to simply stop accepting many items to be recycled, including many forms of paper, cardboard, plastics, and glass. In some communities those items that are no longer accepted in the recycling bin are destined for the landfill.

For us, such changes would cut against our local culture and commitment to resource recovery and environmental best practices. So rather than just give in to these global forces, we believe its time to come together and do all we can locally to **Save Recycling**. We need everyone – our company, our community, our local businesses and our local government leaders - to step up to the plate together.

What can you do? Three critical things:

1. Clean your recycling. The cleaner your jars, containers and other items the more they can be recycled
2. Know what's recyclable and what isn't. The better the overall recycling stream, the more that can be recycled

Learn more at www.recyclecleanamerica.com

3. Spread the word. We are developing a set of resources and tools to spread the word across our community. Please stay tuned for more on that soon!

Over our 75 years, we have overcome countless challenges by standing upon our values and by relying upon our strong local partnerships. Together, **WE** can overcome this challenge too.

PLEASE CLEAN YOUR RECYCLING: NO GARBAGE OR DIRTY RECYCLING!

Paper Products: Cardboard, Cardboard Tubes, Newspaper, Copy Paper, Colored Paper, Paper Bags, Shredded Paper (in Paper Bags), Boxes, Windowless Envelopes, Non-Glossy Paper, Manilla Folders.

Plastic Products: Plastics #1-5 & #7 *but, please only CLEAN plastics:* Water & Soda Bottles, Laundry Detergents, Shampoo & Conditioner Containers, Clean Milk Jugs and Bleach Bottles

Glass: Glass Bottles, Juice Bottles, Clean Baby Food Containers, Glass Jars

Metals: Tin Cans, Clean Aluminum Foil, Can and Pie Plates