

Butte County Recycling Newsletter - "News you can reuse"



## Butte County Recycling Newsletter

Summer 2015 Edition

### News you can Reuse - Long Days of Summer Edition

#### Upcoming events:

**[Agricultural plastic recycling event:](#)** August 4th from 8 am to 2 pm at the Neal Road Recycling & Waste Facility. Bring your triple-rinsed ag chemical containers for free drop-off and recycling.

**Tire Amnesty:** Tentatively scheduled for September 26th, at the Highway 70 industrial Park in Oroville. Check [RecycleButte.net](http://RecycleButte.net) for details.

For more information on recycling resources in Butte County, visit [RecycleButte.net](http://RecycleButte.net)

### The Next Big Recycling Front - Organics

In **October of 2014** Governor Brown signed AB 1826, requiring businesses to recycle their organic waste on and after April 1, 2016, depending on the amount of waste they generate per week. This law also requires that on and after January 1, 2016, local jurisdictions across the state implement an organic waste recycling program to divert organic waste generated by businesses, including multifamily residential dwellings consisting of five or more units (please note, however, that, multifamily dwellings are not required to have a food waste diversion program). Organic waste means food waste, green waste, landscape and pruning waste, nonhazardous wood waste, and food-soiled paper waste that is mixed in with food waste. This law phases in the mandatory recycling of commercial organics over time.



**Why Organics?** Mandatory recycling of organic waste is the next step toward achieving California's aggressive recycling and greenhouse gas (GHG) emission goals. California disposes approximately 30 million tons of waste in landfills each year, of which more than 30 percent could be used for compost or mulch. Organic waste such as green materials and

food materials are recyclable through composting and mulching, and through anaerobic digestion, which can produce renewable energy and fuel. Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions resulting from the decomposition of organic wastes in landfills have been identified as a significant source of emissions contributing to global climate change. Reducing the amount of organic materials sent to landfills and increasing the production of compost and mulch are part of the AB 32 Scoping Plan.

**Implementation Dates and Thresholds:**

The law phases in the requirements on businesses, including multifamily residential dwellings that consist of five or more units, over time based on the amount and type of waste the business produces on a weekly basis, with full implementation realized in 2019. Additionally, the law contains a 2020 trigger that will increase the scope of affected businesses, if waste reduction targets are not met. The implementation schedule is as follows:



- January 1, 2016: Local jurisdictions must have an organic waste recycling program in place. Jurisdictions must conduct outreach, education to inform businesses how to recycle organic waste in the jurisdiction, and monitoring to identify those not recycling and inform them of the law and how to recycle organic waste.
- April 1, 2016: Businesses that generate eight cubic yards of organic waste per week must arrange for organic waste recycling services.
- January 1, 2017: Businesses that generate four cubic yards of organic waste per week must arrange for organic waste recycling services.

Butte County is currently working with waste haulers, processing facilities, city jurisdictions and large organic producers to develop its plans and programs for the impending state requirements. For more information, log on to the CalRecycle [organics recycling web page](#).



## Carpet Recycling comes to Butte County

Recology of Butte Colusa Counties hosts the new site of the Carpet America Recovery Effort (CARE). You can now recycle your old carpet and padding for less than what it would cost to dispose in the landfill. To recycle your old carpet:

1. Cut the carpet and pad into manageable pieces. (6 ft)
2. Roll-up carpet and pad separately.
3. Bring to the Recology Transfer Station. (2720 S 5th Ave, Oroville)
4. Place the carpet in the dedicated carpet container at Recology.
5. Save money and resources.

If you're thinking about replacing your carpet and having it installed, tell your carpet retailer or installer that you would like to have your carpet and pad recycled.

For more information on carpet and pad recycling call Recology at 533-5368 or Butte County Recycling at 879-2352.

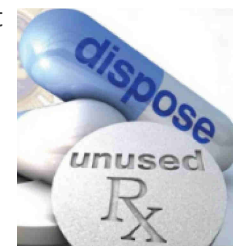
## Product Stewardship Update:

### Supreme Court rejects Pharmaceutical industry's appeal of Alameda County's Drug take-back program.

In an important victory for drug treatment programs, law enforcement and local governments, the United States Supreme Court declined to hear the appeal of Phrma v. Alameda County. The Court's decision upholds the Ninth Circuit's unanimous opinion, which found that the ordinance, requiring pharmaceutical manufacturers to fund drug take-back programs in Alameda County, was legal.

Up to one third of prescribed medicines are not consumed. With the lack of safe and secure disposal options, consumers traditionally have had the option of trashing, flushing or storing these medicines in the home. Numerous studies have documented the widespread consequences of improperly stored and disposed medicines, including the impacts on water quality and public health.

Statewide legislation that would have required pharmaceutical companies to fund take-back programs was proposed in 2014 but that bill was stalled in committee. This action paves the way for other local governments to adopt similar measures.



## Remembering the things we no longer throw away.

Our trash cans used to be full of them. Things that had a short or limited purpose and then we just tossed into the garbage. Either through technological advances or changes in tastes, our landfills are better off without them. Here are a few:

Recall those hundreds of **AOL CD's** that were stuffed into our mailboxes on what seemed like a weekly basis? It is estimated that AOL sent over 1 billion of those shiny disks between 1995 and 2006.



**The disposable camera.** They created both memories and garbage; and, photo negatives; not everything was a keeper.

**The mouse pad.** Our mouses today do not need the pampering of that soft pad.

**Post cards from friends on vacation.** It's now a selfie and a text.

**Six pack rings.** The ducks are happy about this one.



**The Styrofoam ice chest.** Always broke after one use anyway.

**Coming soon to the list:** Paper phone books, catalogs, junk mail, text books. The digital age will relegate these materials to the museums. Incandescent light bulbs, single use plastic bags and big boxy stereo speakers.

Got a recycling question or idea? Let us know what you're thinking. email us at the address below.

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For questions related to any reuse or recycling matter, call the number above or log on to:

<http://www.recyclebutte.net>



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