

SOLID WASTE WEBSITE- FAQs

- 1) Where can I take used paint, batteries (of all kinds), fluorescent light tubes, pesticides or other types of household hazardous waste?

Your old cans of paint, batteries (all kinds), fluorescent light tubes, TVs, can be taken to your local household hazardous waste facility. Please follow the link to Recycle Butte to find the household hazardous waste facility near you:

<http://www.buttecounty.net/recyclebutte/HouseholdHazardousWaste.aspx>

- 2) Where can I take my electronic waste (E-waste), such as TVs, computer monitors or other electronic devices with cathode ray tubes for recycling?

You can recycle your electronic waste at various locations. Please follow the link to Recycle Butte to find a location near you:

<http://www.buttecounty.net/recyclebutte/EWasteRecyclingLocations.aspx>

- 3) How do I tell if an item I want to discard is medical waste, and how/ where do I dispose of it?
Please see the definitions of what is and is not medical waste in the [MEDICAL WASTE INFORMATION BULLETIN AND DISPOSAL GUIDE](#).

If the item you are discarding does not meet the definition of medical waste, you can dispose of it as normal garbage/ solid waste.

If the item you are discarding does meet the definition of medical waste, it must be stored separately (from your normal garbage) and treated/ autoclaved before it can be disposed of. Businesses which generate medical waste are classified by the amount of medical waste they produce see the [MEDICAL WASTE INFORMATION BULLETIN AND DISPOSAL GUIDE](#). For home generated medical waste see the [MEDICAL WASTE INFORMATION BULLETIN AND DISPOSAL GUIDE](#).

- 4) How do I dispose of old prescription drugs/ medications?

Old prescription drugs/ medications can be taken to a number of locations throughout the county. Please follow the link to Recycle Butte to find a location near you:

<http://www.buttecounty.net/recyclebutte/HouseholdHazardousWaste.aspx>

US Food & Drug Administration has tips on disposal of your unwanted prescription drugs and medications. You can check out these tips on their website at:

<http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm101653.htm#1>

US EPA has easy to read tips on disposal of your unwanted medications. You can find these tips on their website at: <https://archive.epa.gov/region02/capp/web/pdf/ppcpflyer.pdf>

Narcotic drugs or pharmaceutical controlled substances should be disposed of properly.

The Drug Enforcement Agency has provided additional information on properly disposing of pharmaceutical controlled substances on their website at: <https://www.dea.gov/diversion-control-division>

- 5) Where can I dispose of used hypodermic needles (sharps)?
Sharps can be disposed of in any of the Butte County provided sharps kiosks (see [PH SHARPS KIOSKS LOCATIONS](#)).
Or, you can follow the link to Recycle Butte to find additional locations to drop off your sharps:
<http://www.buttecounty.net/recyclebutte/HouseholdHazardousWaste.aspx>
- 6) Who do I call about a trash/ garbage complaint?
You can call Butte County Environmental Health to report a garbage/ trash complaint at 530) 552-3880.
- 7) Where can I recycle my used items if I don't want to place the items in my recycling bin?
You can recycle/ donate your items at various locations. Please follow the link to Recycle Butte to find businesses/ locations to donate your items:
<http://www.buttecounty.net/recyclebutte/RecyclingGuide.aspx>
- 8) How do I properly dispose of my used car tires? What if I have a lot of car tires to dispose of?
Vehicle tires can be properly disposed of at Neal Road RWF. Some companies that sell tires will also take back the used tires.
Neal Road Recycling and Waste Facility, (also Northern Recycling) periodically holds a Tire Amnesty Day, please contact Neal Road RWF to obtain additional information at 530) 538-7681. If you need to dispose of more than 9 tires, you will need to obtain an application for a one day exemption to haul waste tires.
http://www.buttecounty.net/Portals/21/Env_Health/Solid_Waste/TireHaulingExemption.pdf
- 9) Who would I call to get garbage service started?
Depending on where you live, there are 3 garbage companies in Butte County.
If you live in the county:
The county was recently divided into franchises, so the garbage company servicing your area will depend on your geographical location. You can use this website to determine which company to contact: <http://www.buttecounty.net/recyclebutte/CollectionAreas.aspx>
Garbage services in the cities has not been franchised at this time.
- 10) How do I properly dispose of old furniture/ bulky items?
You can take your old furniture or bulky items to Neal Road RWF or, you can call your garbage company to make arrangements for pick-up of your bulky items.
- 11) Where can I find more information on "unique disposal opportunities"?
You can check out the "News you can Reuse" Recycling Newsletters on the Recycle Butte website: <http://www.buttecounty.net/recyclebutte/Home.aspx>
- 12) Can I bury or burn my own trash?
No. Trash cannot be burned or buried on your own property.

13) Where can I take a load of brush/ tree trimmings/ yard waste? Where can I get compost to use in my garden/ yard?

You may have green waste pick-up as part of your garbage service. You can also take loads of green waste (including brush, tree trimmings, grass clippings, etc) to one of the facilities that make compost. You can also purchase compost at these locations for use in your garden or yard. These facilities can be found using the [GREEN WASTE/ COMPOSTING](#) website link.

14) I am interested in composting on my property. This may include composting food scraps. What do I need to know to start?

You can compost your own household food scraps in your backyard by mixing them with leaves, wood chips, dried/ dead plants and mixed yard waste. You should cover the fresh food scraps with a layer of sawdust/ wood chips and a little dirt. You will need to water the compost, and turn it regularly. If the pile gets too wet, or too dense with food scraps, it can start to smell bad. You can check out CalRecycle's website for additional tips on home composting: <https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Organics/HomeCompost/>

If you have a larger piece of property, and want to compost food scraps on a relatively small scale: composting green material, food material, vegetative food material and agricultural material alone or in combination does not require a solid waste permit issued by Environmental Health if the total amount of feedstock and compost on-site at any one time does not exceed 100 cubic yards and takes up an area of less than 750 square feet. Please note: If you are operating under this exclusion, you will still need to check with other regulatory agencies, such as the Regional Water Board and County Planning and obtain all necessary approvals/ permits.

If you are interested in composting on a larger scale, or have additional questions, you can call Butte County Environmental Health at 530) 552-3880.