

West Valley Recycles!

Fall 2009

Holiday Tree Collection

Beginning December 28th 2009 and continuing through January 15th 2010, WVC&R will collect up to two Holiday trees per residence as part of your regular yard waste collection.

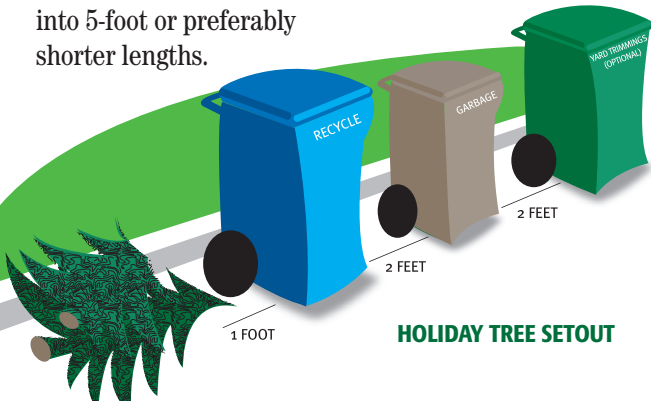
- Undecorated natural or flocked holiday trees are acceptable.
- Please remove stands, tinsel and decorations.
- All trees must be cut into 5-foot or preferably shorter lengths.

- Place the trees at least one foot away from WVC&R carts.

Holiday Schedule

Both December 25th 2009 and January 1st 2010 fall on Friday.

During these weeks, if your regular collection day is Friday, collection will occur on Saturday. No other collection days will be affected.



Fall Recipes

Toasted Pumpkin Seeds

Wash the sticky juice off the seeds and dry them. For every cup of seeds, melt a tablespoon of butter in a flat pan. Then add the seeds and shake the pan to coat with butter. Place the pan in a 425°F oven and toast for 20 minutes until light brown, stirring occasionally. Sprinkle with salt. Allow to cool before eating.

Recycle your Jack-O-Lantern Into Pumpkin Bread

This recipe not only provides a delicious treat it also helps reduce waste by recycling your Halloween pumpkin.

ALL YOU NEED:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| - 1 ½ cups (210g) flour | - ¼ cup water |
| - ½ teaspoon of salt | - ½ teaspoon nutmeg |
| - 1 cup (200g) sugar | - ½ teaspoon cinnamon |
| - 1 teaspoon baking soda | - ½ teaspoon allspice |
| - 1 cup (¼ L) pumpkin purée | - ½ cup semi-sweet chocolate chips |
| - ½ cup (1 L) olive oil | - ½ cup shredded coconut |
| - 2 eggs, beaten | |

1) Preheat oven to 350°F (180°C). Sift together the flour, salt, sugar, and baking soda.

2) Mix the pumpkin, oil, eggs, ¼ cup of water, and spices together, then combine with the dry ingredients, but do not mix too thoroughly. Stir in the chocolate chips and coconut.

3) Pour into a well-buttered 9x5x3 inch loaf pan. Bake for 50-60 minutes until a thin skewer poked in the very center of the loaf comes out clean. Turn out of the pan and let cool on a rack.

Makes one loaf. Can easily double recipe.

* To make pumpkin purée, cut a pumpkin in half and scoop out the seeds. Then place face down on a foil lined baking sheet. Bake at 350°F for approximately 45 min to an hour until soft. Let cool and scoop out the flesh.

You may freeze whatever you don't use for future use.



Paper or plastic is a question everyone hears

at grocery stores. Bags of all type add up. Trips to the mall, hardware store, grocery store, and other retailers add to the number of bags that Americans use every day. Each of those bags (paper or plastic) has an environmental impact. A simple thing that everyone can do to reduce their footprint on our environment is to bring a reusable bag to the store when you shop. Reusable bags are a great and easy way to lower the amount of energy and resources used to make single-use bags. Many retail stores have inexpensive reusable bags available for sale near the check-out counter. Some even offer a discount each time you bring your own bag to the store. A few tips to remember:

- Return your reusable bags to your vehicle after each trip to the store.
- Look for reusable bags made from recycled content. Help close the loop.
- Only buying a few items? Just carry them out without any type of bag.
- Look for small reusable bags that fit easily into a purse or pocket for those quick trips to the market.
- Too many reusable bags? Give some to a friend or family member and spread the message.



BILL PAY THE EASY WAY

West Valley Collection & Recycling has made it easier than ever to pay your bill. Choose the method that works best for you.

Mail it. Make your check payable to West Valley Collection & Recycling. Be sure to include the payment stub to get credit for your payment right away. Use the pre-addressed envelope included with your bill.

Drop it off. We accept payments at our office Monday through Friday from 8 AM – 4:30 PM

Deliver checks to:
West Valley
Collection & Recycling
1333 Oakland Road,
San Jose, CA 95112

Pay / View Your Bill Online. Visit our new online payment system at www.wasteconnections.com; click on "Online Bill-Pay" and follow a few simple instructions. You must have your current invoice and credit card or debit card information available.

Home banking customers continue to use the remit address:

West Valley
Collection & Recycling
PO BOX 60248
Los Angeles CA 90060-0248

You must have your current invoice available.

Have questions about your recycling service?



Ask Randy

Q: Randy, can I place my wire coat hangers in my recycling cart?

A: Wire hangers are notorious for jamming recycling equipment, please do not place them in your recycling cart. I suggest you take them back to your dry cleaners so they can be re-used otherwise place them in your garbage cart for collection.

To submit a question for "Ask Randy" send him an e-mail at customerservice@westvalleyrecycles.com with "Ask Randy" in the subject line.

Green Your Halloween

The scariest aspect of Halloween may not be the ghosts in the attic, but the waste on the floor. Halloween generates ghosts, goblins and plenty of extra garbage. Don't be afraid, West Valley Collection & Recycling is treating you to a little bag of tricks to help you stay environmentally friendly on the big night.

Costumes: Use what you already have at home or shop at the thrift store for your costume this year. Don't buy those cheap throwaway costumes that fall apart after one night. Get creative with scrap fabric, household accessories, and even cardboard.

Loot: Don't buy a plastic trick or treat bag or a plastic pumpkin to collect your treats. Instead dig through the linen closet and grab some old pillowcases. Pillow case candy bags are stronger than those picked up at the local dollar store and they hold much more candy.

The Waste: There really doesn't have to be any. Donate your costume, return the pillowcases to the linen closet and eat your candy. You can even check out ehow.com and search "how to make a candy wrapper purse" for instructions on how to make an eco-friendly, ultra trendy bag out of the candy wrappers you've collected.

There's No Time Like the Present to Grow Your Own Presents for the Holidays

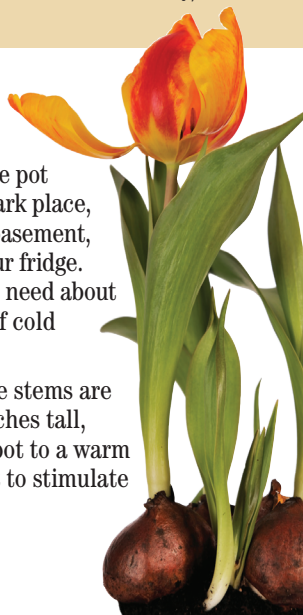
Start tulips, hyacinths, and narcissus bulbs right in early October for beautiful holiday gifts that are green, gorgeous, and a welcome sight in dark December.

1. Choose a pot that is at least twice as tall as the bulbs.
2. Mix bulb fertilizer into your potting soil.
3. Fill the pot with a light potting soil so that

when the bulb is placed on top of the soil, the growing tip reaches the top of the pot.

4. Place the bulbs on top of the soil. They should be placed close together, but should not touch each other or the pot.
5. Sprinkle soil around the bulbs until only the shoulders are showing. Water the soil and keep it moist.

6. Place the pot in a cool dark place, such as a basement, or even your fridge. Most bulbs need about 12 weeks of cold storage.
7. When the stems are about 2 inches tall, move the pot to a warm sunny spot to stimulate bloom.



IMPORTANT TO NOTE:



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San Jose CA 95112-9894
(408) 283-9250

www.westvalleyrecycles.com
customerservice@westvalleyrecycles.com

How To Eliminate Litter: Remember to place all loose light items such as shredded paper, plastic grocery bags, styrofoam packing peanuts and any other items in a tied plastic bag before placing in your cart.

Household Hazardous Waste: Call the Santa Clara County Household Hazardous Waste Program at (408)299-7300

Clean Yard Trimmings: Keep your yard trimmings "Green" and your recyclables clean by keeping all garbage out of your yard trimmings and recycling cart. Garbage contaminates recyclable materials.