

# West Valley Recycles!

Fall 2007



## ORDER YOUR FREE JUGS FOR RECYCLING MOTOR OIL TODAY



**Call Today (408) 283-9250**  
Orders must be placed at least one day prior to collection day.

You may be familiar with recycling paper, metal, glass and plastic but you may not know how to recycle your used motor oil to prevent it from leaking into our waterways and ground water supplies.

West Valley Collection & Recycling (WVC&R) provides special oil jugs and filter bags FREE to customers who want to conveniently recycle their motor oil and oil filters curbside. These jugs and bags are designed to keep toxic materials safely contained and prevent leaks and spills.

To recycle used motor oil and oil filters curbside, you must only use WVC&R-issued oil jugs and filter bags. Place

**If you recycle just two gallons of used oil it can generate enough electricity to run the average household for almost 24 hours.**

filled oil jugs and filter bags on the curb near your recycling cart for collection.

After collecting your used motor oil or oil filter bags, the driver will replace them. For example, if one oil jug is picked up, then one empty oil jug is left in exchange (limit of four one-gallon oil jugs.) If one oil filter bag is collected, then one empty filter bag is left in exchange (limit of two oil filter bags.)

Caution! Do not mix oil with antifreeze, transmission fluid, or any other automotive fluid. For safe disposal of these automotive fluids, contact the Santa Clara County Household Hazardous Waste Program at (408) 299-7300 or visit [www.hhw.org](http://www.hhw.org) to schedule a free appointment.

### Three Reasons To Feel Good About Recycling Motor Oil

#### 1) THE JUGS ARE FREE.

How often do you get a bargain like that? Remember to order AT LEAST one day before your collection day. Call (408) 283-9250

#### 2) MOTOR OIL HAS VALUE

The oil you recycle is sent to a Bay Area refinery that specializes in processing used oil and re-refines it into lubricating base oils that can be used to formulate engine oils.

#### 3) IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO.

Improperly disposed used oil ends up in landfills, sewers, back yards, or storm drains. In all of these cases, soil, groundwater and even drinking water may be contaminated. Used oil poured down your sewer line can damage our community's water treatment system—contaminating drinking water, costing money and our health.

## HERE COMES AUTUMN!

And here come those leaves. Remember to put yard waste in your green waste cart(s). Want to do something clean and green for the environment? Composting leaves in the fall is a great way to dispose of them. In fact, composting is nature's way of recycling. It's a great way to turn overripe fruit, vegetables and yard trimmings into a dark, crumbly, sweet smelling soil conditioner. Composting is easy, it's smart, and it's recycling.

### Follow these guidelines for autumn composting success.

1. Rake up fallen leaves. Putting them through a shredder or running over them with the lawn mower helps to increase the surface area available to micro-organisms.
2. Choose a site for your compost pile at least several yards away from the house. Build your compost pile on top of the soil, not on concrete or plastic sheeting.
3. Start the pile with a layer of leaves about 4-6 inches thick. Cover that with a thinner layer of grass clippings. If you have any kitchen scraps add those too. Don't forget those jack o' lanterns!
4. Continue adding layers until all your organic materials are used up. Lightly water the heap after you add each layer.
5. If you are worried about the leaves blowing around,

sprinkle some soil on top of the final layer. Your compost needs air, so add just enough soil to weigh the leaves down.

6. Wait for about a month, then turn your pile over once every week or 10 days. The compost should be ready to use in about 8 weeks, longer if you don't turn it often. The process can take up to 8 months if the heap is not turned.



## Pumpkin tricks & treats

### Some good options for disposing of your Halloween Pumpkin:

You may place pumpkins in your GARBAGE cart. Do not use your green waste cart.

But first, consider the green alternative, and some tasty ones too:

- Pumpkins make great compost. Add old jack to your home compost pile.
- Roast the seeds for a great snack; it's easy as pie!
- Pumpkins make great soup!

## Easy Pumpkin Soup

- 1 large pumpkin, cut in chunks
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1 medium red chilli, chopped
- 1 can coconut milk or cream
- lots of coriander leaves
- salt and pepper

1. Cut the pumpkin into quarters so they are a manageable size to work with. Scoop out the seeds and remove the skin.
2. Chop the flesh into small chunks and cook in boiling water until soft.

3. Meanwhile, add the chilli, garlic, half the coriander, salt and pepper to a blender and whiz until well blended.

4. When the pumpkin is soft, drain the cooking water but reserve it. Put the pumpkin into the blender with the chilli mix and blend.

5. Put the mixture back into a saucepan, add the coconut milk and simmer. If it is too thick, add some of the reserved cooking water.

6. Serve in large bowls and add the remaining chopped coriander for garnish.



## 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. Using the pre-addressed envelope included with your bill, mail it to:

West Valley Collection & Recycling  
Dept. 1433  
Los Angeles, CA. 90084-1433

### 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 Old Oakland Road,  
San Jose, CA 95112

### Pay Online.

Contact your bank for information on how to set up online bill pay. Be sure to update your payee information to:

West Valley Collection & Recycling  
Dept. 1433  
Los Angeles, CA. 90084 -1433

## WHY COMPOST?

Because it:

- Saves you money by lowering garbage bills and replacing store-bought soil conditioners.
- Helps garden and house plants by improving the fertility and health of your soil.
- Saves water by helping the soil hold moisture and reducing water runoff.
- Benefits the environment by recycling valuable organic resources and extending the life of our landfills.



## READING, WRITING AND RECYCLING

### West Valley Collection & Recycling offers school outreach programs.

As another new school year gets underway, West Valley Collection & Recycling (WVC&R) will be bringing recycling demonstrations and presentations into a classroom near you. The WVC&R outreach program, available to Campbell, Monte Sereno, Saratoga and the Town of Los Gatos schools, aims to raise awareness while preparing the next generation to create and care for a sustainable environment. Classroom presentations will demonstrate the benefits of recycling, reducing and reusing. WVC&R feels that educating our children today on environmental issues and concerns in a creative & interactive setting will result in tomorrow's adults being an educated, environmentally aware bunch. If your school or classroom is interested in starting a recycling program or scheduling a demonstration, contact the outreach department at (408) 283-9250 or email us at [customerservice@westvalleyrecycles.com](mailto:customerservice@westvalleyrecycles.com)



## Ask Randy **Most frequently asked questions about your recycling services**



### Question: How can I recycle my old computer?

**Answer:** Visit [www.crc.org](http://www.crc.org) (The Computer Recycling Center) to find a used computer drop off center near you. Residents of the City of Campbell, Monte Sereno, Saratoga and Town of Los Gatos have the option of dropping off used computers by appointment at our Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) located in San Jose. Just call (408) 283-9250 to make your appointment today.

Good News! On January 1st 2005 the Electronic Waste Recycling Act went into effect. It states "a non-refundable \$6 to \$10 advance-recycling fee is included at time of purchase to cover future expenses for proper disposal of E-waste." Ask your retailer for information about e-waste disposal in advance the next time you buy electronics.



## IMPORTANT TO NOTE:

### West Valley Collection & Recycling, LLC

1333 Oakland Road  
San Jose CA 95112-9894  
(408) 283-9250  
[www.westvalleyrecycles.com](http://www.westvalleyrecycles.com)  
[customerservice@westvalleyrecycles.com](mailto:customerservice@westvalleyrecycles.com)

**County of Santa Clara Household Hazardous Waste:** (408) 299-7300

### Call (408) 283-9250 for:

**Large Item Pickup** (Sofas, refrigerators, etc.)  
Call to schedule an appointment.

### Free !

- oil jugs
  - oil filter bags
- Call prior to collection day.

### Drop-off

- TV's,
  - computers,
  - household batteries,
  - motor oil
  - H2O (water-based) paint
- Call for appointment.

### Holiday Schedule

Collection occurs on all holidays EXCEPT December 25th and January 1st.

If these holidays occur on a weekday, your collection will be the following day. For example, if the holiday falls on a Thursday, Thursday collection occurs Friday and Friday collection occurs Saturday.