

Vallejo started curbside recycling in 1992. Since then, tons of material have been diverted from the landfill.

The City of Vallejo and Recology Vallejo have decided to reward Vallejoans for recycling correctly. This reward program started September 1 and will continue until September 1, 2012. It is open to both Vallejo residents and businesses.

Single family residents can earn one year of free recycling and garbage service. Residents are asked to mail a 3-inch by 5-inch postcard with their address only to Recycling Coordinator, 555 Santa Clara Street, P.O. Box 3068, Vallejo Ca 94590. You can submit more than one entry.

Each month, a card will be pulled from the entries. A city staff person will come to one lucky house before the recycling and garbage trucks come. They will make sure that you are recycling correctly and that there are no recyclables in your trash.

Mandatory commercial recycling in California will start on July 1, 2012. With that date in mind, Recology Vallejo is helping businesses set up recycling programs.

After their programs are set up, they can enter the recycling reward contest and win \$1000 off their garbage bill. A city staff person will come to your business and inspect your recycling and garbage bins. If they meet the criteria, they will get the prize money. Business are eligible to win more than once.

By submitting an application or postcard, residents, businesses, and apartment complexes are granting the city of Vallejo and Recology Vallejo the right to go through your trash and recycling if your card is pulled from all the entries. Submitting an application or postcard does not insure that you will be rewarded.

Here is a reminder of what materials are allowed in your blue recycling cart:

GLASS

YES: All beverage and food containers in all colors. Empty container, rinse, and remove lid.
NO: drinking glasses, ceramics, window glass or mirrors, fluorescent tubes, or light bulbs.

PLASTIC

YES: All #1 through #7 narrow-neck bottles (water, soda, and detergent bottles). All California Redemption Value (CRV) containers. All colors. Plastic tubs for margarine, butter, yogurt. Empty all containers, rinse, and remove lids.

NO: non-bottle plastic-like toys, trays, cups, garden hoses, plastic bags or Styrofoam, PVC or other piping.

METAL

YES: Food and beverage cans (aluminum, steel, and tin). Rinse. Clean aluminum pans or foil.

Empty aerosol cans and metal lids from jars.

NO: electronic or computer equipment, hangers, scrap metal, fuel tanks, propane tanks.

PAPER

YES: Newspaper, boxes, paper bags, cardboard (flattened), magazines, catalogs, glossy paper, phone books, softcover books, shredded paper in paper bags, rinsed milk cartons, rinsed juice cartons, junk mail, envelopes, all colors of office paper.

NO hardcover books, binders, soiled papers, food wrappings, napkins, tissues, or towels.

For more information call Recology Vallejo at (707) 552-3110 or Derek Crutchfield, Vallejo's Recycling Coordinator at (707) 648-5346.

COMPOSTING Classes

Free Backyard Composting Classes will be held on Saturday, October 1 and November 5 at VALCORE Recycling (38 Sheridan Street, Vallejo 707 645-8258) from 10:00 a.m. to Noon. Composting bins will be available for Vallejo participants for \$40 or others for \$75.

California Native Plant sale is on Saturday, October 15 for 9 am to 3 pm at Benicia City Park at Military and First Street. Information at 707 747-5816. View their plant list at www.cnpsjepson.org.

VALCORE Recycling Board Secretary Jane Bogner's "A Sorted Affair" is published every other week in the Times-Herald. For recycling information call VALCORE Recycling at 645-8258 or visit www.VALCORErecycling.org.