Bay View Refuse & Recycling Service, Inc.

May 2023

What REALLY happens to your food waste after you place it in your GREEN bin!

After collection, your material is taken to the Organics Processing Facility located in West Contra Costa County (which is operated by Republic Services). There begins a process using an innovative Covered Aerated Static Pile (CASP) System. Material is off loaded, screened to remove contaminants, then ground. The process involves placing the material in bunkers and covered with a bio-filter to insulate and retain heat evenly. A piping system underneath the compost bunkers insures adequate aeration and proper oxygen reaches the material. Monitoring to insure proper temperatures are reached and moisture is applied throughout this process. After this, material is removed, screened again and placed in curing piles to mature. The entire process can be in excess of 60 days.

This system works to minimize the environmental impacts of processing food and yard waste. Benefits include maintaining optimal pile conditions during the process, capturing and reducing greenhouse emissions and minimize odors. The result is a soil amendment product called super compost, which consists of 100% recycled organic materials and 100% natural product with no additives or chemicals. Republic Service's Super Compost participates in the US Composting Council testing assurance program, is approved for organic farming by the Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI) and is certified by the California Department of Food and Agriculture for organic input material.

Recycling By the Numbers, Good JOB Kensington!

In 2022, the Kensington Community generated approx. 3,200 tons of waste (landfill/recycling/organics) which is equal to about 3.2 pounds for each resident per day. Although that seems like a lot, it is below the National average. A quick breakdown of the numbers show that of the 3,200 tons, **1,109 tons were landfilled, 748 tons were recycled and a whopping 1,356 tons were composted.** By participating in the recycling and organics programs, Kensington is diverting 2,104 tons. Keeping 2/3 of material generated out of the landfill!

The numbers show Kensington residents are participating in the food waste program. In the 11 months of 2022 when the program started, 380 additional tons were composted over the previous year. This is important because studies have found that composting organic waste vs landfilling can reduce more than 50% of carbon dioxide equivalent greenhouse gas emissions. Using compost after it's processed is useful as a soil amendment in traditional agriculture and home gardening, providing nutrients to plants and storing carbon in soils.

SAVE THE DATE!

Compost Giveaway
June 3, 10am–2pm
(weather permitting)

Kensington Community Center parking lot. Bring your own cans/bags.

Neighborhood Cart Reminder

Contra Costa has an ordinance which prohibits garbage cans (carts) being left in public view from the street for more than 36 hours. Remember to RETURN carts to YOUR storage area after collection. As well as being unsightly, leaving carts at the curb can also attract animals and an open invitation for dumping.

Have A LOT of cardboard?

Breakdown boxes and place in blue bin. ADDITIONAL boxes MUST be broken down, tied or taped in bundles and placed next to the blue bin.

Need A Kitchen Pail?

Call or email us for one at **510-237-4614** or **info@BayViewRefuse.com**

RECYCLING TIDBITS

Photo: Derek Rose

Bring your own coffee mug/tumbler to the coffee shop. Look for shops that sell everyday products in REFILLABLE containers.

Photo: beeswrap.com

Use beeswax wraps as a food wrap. The waxy coating is water resistant yet breathable-making it perfect for food storage. A great way to eliminate single-use plastics.

Photo: Saphirevn

SAY NO to the plastic bags at the grocery store. Keep your own shopping bags in your car for trips to the store.

Visit our website for a variety of recycling, landfill and composting information **www.BayViewRefuse.com**

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