



## Recycling News Winter 2020

### Tips to Reduce Food Waste in the New Year

Did you know, according to CalRecycle, Californians throw away nearly 6 million tons of food waste each year? This accounts for nearly 20% of all waste in our landfills. You can be a part of the solution by resolving to reduce food waste in 2021! Here are a few tips to get started:



1. Make a plan before grocery shopping. Check your fridge to see what items you already have and plan your meals around these items to ensure they are used. Once you make a list, stick to it and only buy what you need.
2. Micro-shop. Instead of purchasing a lot of groceries in one large trip, make smaller ones throughout the week. If you know you will be coming back to the store within a few days, this will prevent you from buying more than what you need.
3. Store your food strategically. By keeping everything neat and following the "first in, first out" principle, it will allow you to see older products and use them before they go bad. Visit [SaveTheFood.com](http://SaveTheFood.com) for all kinds of storage tips and tricks!
4. Eat your leftovers or use your leftover food when cooking a new meal. Keep in mind, some foods can be frozen and prepared later as well.

### Free Bulky Item Collection

Need to make room for all those holiday gifts? Schedule a free bulky item pick-up to get rid of extra junk! Residents receive up to three (3) free bulky item pick-ups per year. Please contact Waste Management Customer Service at (760) 463-6024 at least 48 hours in advance of your regular service day to schedule a pick-up, or schedule one online at [home.wm.com/ridgecrest](http://home.wm.com/ridgecrest).



**Acceptable items include:** furniture, appliances, tires, mattresses and electronics.

**Non-acceptable items include:** hazardous waste; machinery and industrial discards; oil, grease and other liquids; construction and demolition debris or excessively large items. Please no cardboard boxes or bags of trash.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:**

### Recycle Week Service Change

To accommodate future growth, we will be adjusting the service week for recycling containers for select City of Ridgecrest residential customers. All customers will continue to maintain their same service day of the week (i.e. Monday customers will remain Monday customers) and this change will not affect any trash routes. In preparation, we will be distributing service change information, including an updated map, to impacted customers. For more information, please visit [home.wm.com/Ridgecrest](http://home.wm.com/Ridgecrest) or contact Customer Service at (760) 463-6024.



WASTE MANAGEMENT CUSTOMER SERVICE  
(760) 463-6024 [home.wm.com/ridgecrest](http://home.wm.com/ridgecrest)



# Holiday Tree Recycling

Ridgecrest customers can recycle trees and wreaths during the first two service days in January at no additional cost! Just place them at the curb on your service day. Trees longer than six (6) feet must be cut in half. Please remove all decorations including tinsel, lights, ornaments and tree stands.



# Holidays

Waste Management observes the following holidays:

- New Year's Day** (Friday, January 1, 2021)
- Memorial Day** (Monday, May 31, 2021)
- Independence Day** (Sunday, July 4, 2021)
- Labor Day** (Monday, September 6, 2021)
- Thanksgiving Day** (Thursday, November 25, 2021)
- Christmas Day** (Saturday, December 25, 2021)

Residential collection service will be delayed one day following the above holidays. If a holiday falls on a Saturday or Sunday, there will be no delays.

## Do You Have Hazardous Waste?...Don't Toss It! The Kern County Special Waste Facility is the Solution!

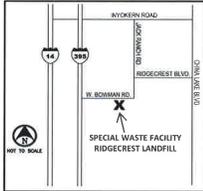
### FROM YOUR HOME

- Automotive Products
- Batteries (Home & Auto)
- Cleaning Products
- Medications
- Fluorescent Bulbs
- Home Generated Sharps
- Paint & Paint Products
- Pesticides & Weed Killers
- Pool Chemicals & more



- Residential Waste Only
- No Business Waste
- No Leaking Containers
- Label All Containers

**RIDGECREST**  
3301 W. Bowman Rd.  
2<sup>nd</sup> SATURDAY  
EVERY MONTH  
10 AM – 1 PM



Transport no more than 15 gallons or 125 lbs. of waste per trip. (no containers over 5 gallons)

For more information call (661)862-8900 or visit us on the web at [www.kerncountywaste.com](http://www.kerncountywaste.com)

## Reminder:

Please remember that items such as disposable gloves, face masks, disinfectant wipes and any other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) should be properly disposed of in your green trash cart.



**RECYCLE OFTEN.  
RECYCLE RIGHT.**

## Always Recycle:



Plastic Bottles & Containers



Food & Beverage Cans



Glass Bottles & Jars



Paper



Flattened Cardboard



## Please do not include:



Food Waste



Plastic Bags & Film



Foam Cups & Containers



Needles

*Please place recyclables directly into your recycling cart. No plastic bags.*



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