Christmas Tree Recycling, Fall Tips

The holiday season is rapidly approaching, so this is the perfect time to think about recycling your Christmas tree. Just cut your tree in half and stack it next to the green yardwaste Toter® between December 26 and January 2. Trees may also be cut to fit inside the yardwaste Toter®.

Trees sent for recycling must be free of tinsel, flocking, ornaments, and tree stand. Trees with these materials may be cut up and placed in your gray trash Toter® for collection.

Treecycling Donations

Tree recycling is one way Boy Scout troops and other youth groups raise funds after Christmas. These groups will collect whole trees for a small donation. Please consider supporting these groups.

Call the City's recycling information line 454-5705 or click their website at *www.vacavillerecycling.com* during the holiday season for a listing of Boy Scout troops that will do pickups in your area.

Cardboard Box Recycling

Large corrugated cardboard boxes are accepted at the **VSS** Recycling Facility at 855 1/2 Davis Street in Vacaville which is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9 AM until 3 PM. Boxes may also be flattened and placed in the blue recyclables Toter® for collection.

Extra Yardwaste Solutions

Extra tree and shrub prunings may be bundled (2′ x 3′) with twine (please, no wire), then placed next to the green Toter®.

Extra green Toters® are available for an additional charge. Extra 32-gallon cans owned by customers may be used for yardwaste only. The yardwaste containers must be sturdy and must have handles and lids. Your green Toter® must be set out in order to put out extra cans of yardwaste. There is no extra charge for this service.

We're Here for You!

Antonio Peralta was the hero of the day when he came to the aide of a Vacaville resident who was lying in distress in a driveway. Antonio rushed from his route truck and assisted the man to his feet and then completed his route.

"When you see people in trouble you just help," explains Antonio. "We are part of the community and we all need to help each other out."

The wife of the resident called the **VSS** office to thank Antonio for being a good samaritan. Pictured above are **VSS** Route Supervisor, Paul Bandettini and Operations Manager, Scott Pardini who also congratulated Antonio on a job well done.

Antonio has been employed with **VSS** for four years as a route driver. He lives in Dixon with his wife Gloria; his four children David, Andrea, Elizabeth and Laticia; and his granddaughter Alehandra.

This newsletter was printed on recycled paper. Please recycle after reading.

People • Service • Environment

VACAVILLE SANITARY SERVICE

1 Town Square Place, Suite 200 • Vacaville, CA 95688 • 707-448-2945

www.vacavillesanitary.com

Trash Talk

The newsletter from Vacaville Sanitary Service

www.vacavillesanitary.com

The Warmth of a Smile!

Your unwanted coats, jackets and blankets might soon bring smiles to your neighbors. Vacaville residents once again have the opportunity to participate in the **Give Winter Garb a Second Chance** program. This is one of the most effortless ways to help others. Just gather your unwanted coats, jackets, and blankets and set them out for collection during the week of November 9 through November 13. Place your items in a plastic bag that is clearly marked "**Winter Garb**."

Help keep families in need warm by donating clean used coats, jackets, and blankets to the **Winter Garb** program. Items will be collected by **VSS** drivers between November 9 and 13.

Donated items will be distributed by local community groups in time for the holidays. All donations go directly to Vacaville residents. Call 448-2945 for details of the distribution date, time, and location. Advertisements will also be placed in local newspapers announcing the distribution dates.

Staff from the City of Vacaville works with **VSS**, local schools, organizations, and businesses to provide the annual **Winter Garb** effort to the community.

"There are so many children and adults in need of a warm coat," said Ed Farewell, **VSS** General Manager. "This is a great way for all of us to spread the warmth of generosity."

The **Winter Garb** program is seen as a unique way to reduce the amount of materials that go to the landfill while providing a much needed family support service.

Route drivers from **VSS** will collect donations right at the curb. Make sure that your driver can clearly see the label on your donation bag. Only clean coats, jackets, and blankets can be accepted.

Holiday Schedule

There will be no change in the collection schedule for Thanksgiving. Refuse collections will be made as usual on Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 26.

Christmas and New Year's Day both fall on Friday this year. All Friday collections during these holiday weeks will shift to Saturday.

The Hay Road Landfill and the Recycling Facility in Vacaville will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Holiday schedule information is available at www.vacavillesanitary.com.

Fall 2009

People • Service • Environment

VACAVILLE SANITARY SERVICE

Trash Talk

Blue for Recyclables

The blue Toter® is used for recyclables. The recycling program is easy and convenient, but you should know what materials can be recycled. Placing only the proper materials out for collection helps keep the cost of this service low. Materials that can be recycled are determined by the recycling company that purchases the materials. Check the list below for accepted and unaccepted items.

Following is a list of acceptable and *unacceptable* materials for the blue recyclables Toter®:

Tin and Aluminum Cans

You do not need to remove labels or crush cans.

Aluminum cans (soda and beer cans); tin cans (soup, pet food, canned vegetable and meat products, and other foods).

NO: Aluminum foil, food trays or pans, scrap metal, coat hangers, spray cans (e.g. hair spray or paint), or propane tanks.

Glass Bottles and Jars

Remove lids and throw them away.

Glass bottles (from juice, soda, wine and liquor–clear, green, and brown–CRV and non-CRV); glass jars (from spaghetti sauce, apple sauce, and other food items).

NO: Mirrors, light bulbs, ceramic, window panes, dishware, drinking glasses or mugs, and vases.

#1 - #7 Narrow-neck Plastic Bottles and Jugs

Remove the lids from the bottles and throw them away. You do not need to remove the labels. Look on the bottom of the bottle for the #1 - #7 recycling symbol.

Plastic bottles and jugs (from soda, juice, milk, bottled water, or other household products).

NO: Plastic bags, tubs such as yogurt and margarine containers, food trays or deli containers, Styrofoam, plant trays or pots, irrigation pipe, small plastic furniture, and plastic toys.

Newspapers, Magazines and Chipboard

Junk mail; newspapers (includes inserts); office paper; magazines (includes glossy publications); chipboard (boxes from cereal, shoes, crackers, or gifts); brown paper bags; paperboard egg cartons (not Styrofoam); corrugated cardboard (cardboard with ridges typically used for heavy-duty boxes). Please flatten cardboard or cut to fit inside Toter®.

NO: Adhesive-backed paper, carbon paper, photographs, facial or toilet tissues, books, plastic or foil lining from cereal or cracker boxes, paper contaminated by food, and thermal fax paper.

Green for Yardwaste

Your green Toter® is used for yardwaste. Leaves, grass clippings, weeds, vegetables, bread, fruit, and tree or shrub prunings should be placed in the green Toter®. Cut tree and shrub prunings small enough to fit inside. Lids must be closed. Extra tree and shrub prunings may be bundled (2′ x 3′) with twine (please, no wire), then placed next to the green Toter®.

Extra green Toters® are available for an additional charge. Extra 32-gallon cans owned by customers may be used for yardwaste only. The yardwaste containers must be sturdy and must have handles and lids. Your green Toter® must be set out in order to put out extra cans of yardwaste. There is no extra charge for this service.

Yardwaste is not landfilled but instead is used in a number of recycling processes, including composting at local facilities.

Do not put the following in your green yardwaste Toter®:

Plastic or paper bags, hazardous waste, animal feces, lumber, dirt or rocks.

Gray for Garbage

The gray Toter® is used for garbage that cannot be recycled. **Personal cans or bags outside the Toter® will not be collected.** Extra gray Toters® are available for an additional charge.

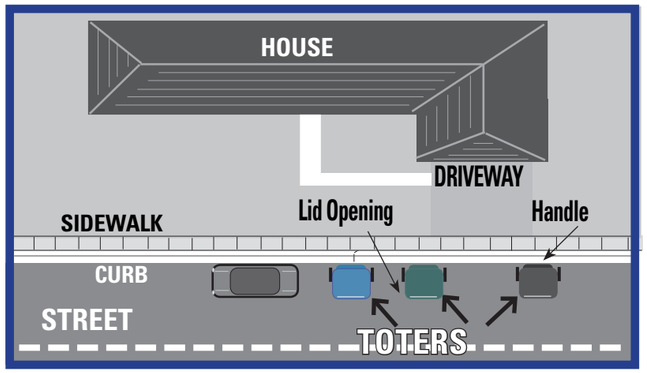
Generally, food waste products must be placed in covered containers. Plastic bags may be used in gray Toters®. Loose ash, sawdust, animal waste, and packing peanuts must be secured in bags and then placed into your gray Toter®.

Items such as dirt, rocks, cement, wood, furniture, and large items that require special handling will not be picked up if they are placed in your Toter®. Call for disposal instructions and information on additional charges for this extra service.

It is illegal to dispose of hypodermic needles, syringes or lancets in the trash. Place these items in an FDA-approved plastic container, and bring the container to the Vacaville Recycling Facility, 855 1/2 Davis Street in Vacaville *on Saturdays only* between 9 AM and 3 PM.

No Plastic Bags

Plastic bags must never be placed in the green yardwaste or blue recyclables Toter®. Plastic bags should be returned to the store or placed in the gray trash Toter®. Only leaves, grass clippings, weeds, vegetables, bread, fruit, and tree or shrub prunings may go inside the green Toter®. No other materials may go inside your green Toter®.



- **Toters® should be placed out with the wheels touching the curb. The lid should open to the street with the handle in the back.**
- **Don't block the sidewalk.**
- **Don't park cars within 5 feet of Toters®.**
- **Place Toters® 5 feet apart.**
- **Put Toters® out by 6:00 AM on your pickup day.**
- **Remove Toters® from curb by 6:00 PM and place them out of view from the street.**
- **Call Vacaville Sanitary Service at 448-2945 if you have questions.**

Congratulations Vacaville!

Do you ever wonder what type of impact recycling is making in Vacaville? **VSS** collected over 21.5 thousand tons of recyclables between April of 2007 and August of 2009. That is roughly equal to 43,000 standard pick-up trucks full of materials that were reused and diverted from the landfill. Great job Vacaville!

Phone Book Recycling

New phone books will be distributed in October. Old phone books may be placed in your blue recyclables Toter® on your normally scheduled collection day. Phone books may also be dropped off at the **Vacaville Sanitary Service** Recycling Facility, 855 1/2 Davis Street, which is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9 AM until 3 PM.

The City of Vacaville has a wealth of information on recycling phone books and other materials. Get updated information on recycling options by clicking on www.vacavillerecycling.com.

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