

We Want Our Service to Be The Best, and You Can Help

Please place your cart at the curb edge with at least 3 feet of clearance from other objects, including other carts, basketball hoops and motor vehicles.



What Do I Put Into the Greenwaste Cart?

The reason Greenwaste carts are so important is that they help divert tons of materials away from our landfills which saves costs and is better for the environment. Here is a helpful list to help you utilize your cart efficiently.

Greenwaste Acceptable List

- Grass and weed clippings
- Shrubs and tree prunings (less than 4" in diameter)
- Leaves, plants and flowers
- Food scraps and food soiled paper products

Non-acceptable Greenwaste List

- No household garbage
- No plastic bags
- No dirt or rocks
- No overloading - lid must be closed

Thank you for helping us provide you with the best possible service.

What Color is the PGS News?

A thoughtful reader wondered who prints PGS News, and whether the printer uses environmentally sound methods. We're happy to report that this newsletter is quite "green," thanks to Wayne and Pam Yeaw of Allegra Print & Imaging.

Many readers will be familiar with the Yeaws already; they have owned their Pleasanton business (located at 1063-A Serpentine Lane) since 1985 and include many non-profit groups as well as small and large businesses among their clients. For example, the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department, the City of Pleasanton, and the Pleasanton School District of Allegra.

Allegra is a certified Business of County. This really means Allegra's prac-



tices in the areas of solid waste reduction, pollution prevention, energy conservation, and water conservation have been examined. In fact, Allegra is the only certified green printer in eastern Alameda County. Who had to "sign off" before Allegra was declared green? Here's the impressive list of those who confirmed that Allegra follows best practices in their use and handling of recycled paper and non-oil-based ink, disposal of cleaning fluids, training of employees in environmental concerns, and more: Pacific Gas & Electric, Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department, Dublin San Ramon Services District, Bay Area Air Quality District, and, yes, the Pleasanton Garbage Service!

The PGS News is printed using green business practices, on 30% post-consumer recycled paper, by Allegra Print & Imaging of Pleasanton.

**PLEASANTON GARBAGE
SERVICE INC.**

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PGS NEWS

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Battery Bunny Says "Please No Batteries in the Trash!"



**Important New Law Takes Effect
See Inside**

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 Recycled Paper

Expiration of the Temporary Disposal Exemptions for Universal Waste

How Has The Law Changed and What Are Universal Wastes?

Until February 8, 2006 households were allowed to put waste batteries, electronic devices and fluorescent light bulbs in the trash. Homeowners were also allowed to throw away mercury-containing thermostats until that date. **As of February 8, these items, called Universal Wastes, may no longer be placed in the trash.**

Universal Wastes are hazardous wastes that are generated by households, and businesses. Hazardous wastes contain harmful chemicals, which, if put in the trash may harm people or the environment. Universal Wastes include:

Common Batteries - These may contain a corrosive chemical that can cause burns as well as toxic heavy metals like cadmium.

Fluorescent Tubes and Bulbs and Other Mercury-Containing Lamps - These lights contain mercury vapor that may be released into the environment when they are broken. Mercury is a toxic metal that can cause harm to people and animals including nerve damage and birth defects. If mercury is released into the environment it can contaminate the air we breathe and enter streams, rivers and the ocean, where it can contaminate fish that people eat.

Electronic Devices - These devices often contain heavy metals like lead, cadmium, copper and chromium. Electronic devices have previously been banned from landfills.

Stop Battery Contamination



Mercury-Containing Devices - Thermostats, switches, thermometers, dental amalgam, pressure and vacuum gauges, novelty items, counterweights and dampers, medical devices known as dilators and weighted tubing, certain rubber flooring and gas flow regulators used in older residential gas meters.

Non-Empty Aerosol Cans that Contain Hazardous Materials - Many products in aerosol cans are toxic. And many aerosol cans contain flammables, like butane, as propellants for products like paint. If your aerosol can is labeled with words like TOXIC or FLAMMABLE, don't put it in the trash unless it is completely empty.

How Can I Properly Dispose of My Universal Waste Items?

For information on local Universal Waste Disposal Stations please visit the Web site www.household-hazwaste.org or call the **Alameda County Household Hazardous Waste Program at 800-606-6606.**

Learn More About Greening Your Home and Garden! Inspirational Tour and Hands-on Workshops Coming This Spring

Bay-Friendly Garden Tour: Sunday, April 30, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Visit a wide assortment of Bay-Friendly Gardens on this free, self-guided tour. The 2006 tour will feature a whole new crop of 30 private and public gardens throughout Alameda County. Several of the clusters are walkable and/or bikeable.



This year's tour celebrates the diverse styles of Bay-Friendly gardens. A Mediterranean inspired retreat behind olive, fig and pomegranate trees. A corner garden with rooms hedged in by drought tolerant plants from around the globe. A native plant hillside terraced under a lofty oak. An edible kitchen garden complete with hens and bees-this is just a taste of what you'll find

throughout your day's exploration. For a sneak preview of the tour, visit: www.BayFriendly.org

Registration for the tour is required. Registrants will receive a tour guide book with garden directions and descriptions. Native plants can be purchased at select sites on the tour.

Let the tour inspire, while getting hands-on experience with our free how-to workshops, starting March 18. Topics include Bay-Friendly design, plant selection, gardening with edibles, managing pests naturally...and more! Every workshop participant will receive the free 70 page+ Bay-Friendly Gardening Guide.

To register for the tour or for more information on our workshops, visit www.BayFriendly.org or call 510-444-SOIL for more information.

Build It Green Home Tour: Sunday, June 4, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

More than 15 Bay Area Homeowners in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties will open their doors and offer tour goers the opportunity to meet homeowners and builders who have built or remodeled green. See houses that look great, save money and are easier on the environment.



Discover green materials like fiber-cement siding, recycled wood decking, and bamboo cabinetry and flooring. Learn about green technologies such as radiant floor heating and solar electric systems.

Beginning in June a variety of green building workshops will be offered to further your green building knowledge. Don't miss this chance to see for yourself what a green home can do for you!

For more information on signing up for the tour or for building green workshops, visit www.BuildItGreen.org.