



# Old Town Monrovia Trash & Recycling Bulletin

## Hazardous Waste Reminder!

To avoid an interruption of your service, please do not place hazardous materials into your trash. Most paints, pesticides, and petroleum derivatives such as motor oil and solvents are considered hazardous wastes. Additionally, electronic waste such as fluorescent tubes, all batteries, televisions, computer monitors, and other items containing mercury are no longer allowed in your trash. Tires are also not allowed in the trash. State and Federal laws require special handling for these wastes.

For more details, please visit: <http://lacitysan.org>

## Smart Business Recycling

Reducing the amount of trash your business creates is the best way to reduce monthly waste disposal costs and improve your company's bottom line. All waste reduction activities, be they waste prevention, reuse, or recycling practices will help you achieve your goal of reducing the amount you pay for waste disposal and sending less trash to landfills. Take advantage of the tips listed below to help you reduce your waste.

### Reduce/Reuse

Work with suppliers to encourage them to deliver goods in reusable containers that they take back. This practice reduces the need for disposal or recycling on your part, and may save your suppliers money, possibly reducing your costs.

- Ensure that mailing lists are kept current and send out only one mailing per address. Specify "address correction requested" on all mailings.
- Ask suppliers to reduce the amount of packaging used to ship goods if it appears to be excessive and not necessary.
- Reuse foam packaging "peanuts" or call the Plastic Loosefill Council at (800) 828-2214 for the nearest reuse drop-off location..
- Donate salvageable display racks, damaged stock, inventory, office equipment, and furniture to local charity organizations. List available items for donation on the County's material exchange web site at : [www.lacomax.com](http://www.lacomax.com) or call (800) 741-9236.
- If your company is a clothes retailer and receives items on hangers, do not throw the hangers away. Ask your supplier to take them back or donate them to local thrift shops or other charity groups.



### Recycling Fact:

A glass bottle takes 4000 years to decompose in a landfill but it can be recycled indefinitely.



Have you ever wondered what happens to your office paper or cardboard once it discarded in the recycling barrel (or mixed waste bin) or what happens to that bottle you placed in a recycling container? Do you know what items are made from the materials you recycle? Here is a couple of different material types and the answers to these questions.

### Recycling Paper & Cardboard

Paper is made from trees (of course) through a pulping process where ingredients are wetted and mixed then pressed through rollers and dried. Paper products are graded and sorted into five categories.

- Newspaper
- Magazines
- Mixed Paper
- White paper
- Cardboard

Processing involves shredding and mixing the recycled materials with water to convert it back to pulp. Compared to making paper products from raw materials, producing it from recycled stock uses 60% less water, 25 to 75% less energy and also reduces polluting air emissions up to 75%.

New Products:

- Newspaper: paperboard, new newsprint, insulation, and animal bedding products
- White Paper: writing paper, tissue and paper towels
- Cardboard: paperboard and new boxes
- Telephone Books: egg cartons and wine boxes
- Mixed Paper: additive for cardboard

### Recycling Glass

Glass is made of silica sand, limestone and sodium carbonate. Most glass can be recycled. Some glass such as mirror glass and crystal can't be recycled because it contains a lot of lead.

Glass that is collected is separated by color. The glass is first sent for beneficiation (which means it is divided back into constituent particles) and then it goes to be remanufactured.

New Products:

- New jars and bottles
- Aggregate for asphalt
- Swimming pool filters
- Abrasive cleaner for jewelers

### Recycling Plastics

Plastic is manufactured from ethylene which is a by product of the oil refining process. There are many different types of plastic compounds. Plastics marked 1-7 are recyclable

Plastics collected are sorted by grade and baled ready for transport. Recycled plastics are washed, shredded or chopped, and heated to form pellets or powder, ready to be remade into new products.

New Products:

PET (polyethylene terephthalate) can be made into the same container type that was recycled and used in sleeping bag liners, pillow stuffing and clothing HDPE (high density polyethylene) is used in a wide variety of products, including electrical insulation, underground drainage pipes, farm irrigation pipes, planter pots and milk and bread crates.

### Recycling Aluminum & Tin Cans

Aluminum cans are made from bauxite, an ore mined from the earth. Tin coated steel cans are made from iron ore and tin.

The aluminum and tin cans are sorted, crushed and baled into "bricks" ready for transport. Aluminum bricks are sent to smelters. The bricks are fed into a furnace to melt the aluminum. It is then cast into small ingots or sheets ready for processing into new products.

Tin bricks are sent to steel mills where they are recast into new products.

New Products:

- New cans
- Office and folding chairs
- Construction beams and girders
- Reinforcing rods

