



SFRECYCLING.com

Sunset Scavenger and Golden Gate Disposal & Recycling, your local recycling companies

- 1 RECYCLE
- 2 COMPOST
- 3 TRASH

20 years at the curb: Recycling changes everything

This spring we mark the 20th anniversary of the Curbside Recycling Program that today is best known for the blue and green carts.

By recycling and composting, San Francisco residents and businesses help save forests, provide materials for manufacturing, return nutrients to local vineyards, reduce landfill disposal, and protect oceans and beaches.

Benchmarks:

1989 – With city approval Sunset Scavenger Co. and Golden Gate Disposal Co. start the Curbside Recycling Program in San Francisco.

Customers place glass, #1 and #2 plastic bottles, and cans together in blue bins and put newspapers, magazines, and junk mail in paper grocery bags. The rollout includes the city's first dedicated recycling trucks.

1995 – San Francisco exceeds state mandate of 25 percent landfill diversion.

1997 – Sunset and Golden Gate test different ways to collect more recycling from homes and businesses and begin collecting food scraps from restaurants for composting.

2000 – City meets state mandate to divert 50 percent of waste from landfill.



Curbside recycling has come a long way: Items for collection in 1989 (left) and the three-cart system we use in 2009.

2001 – Residential and commercial customers begin receiving new collection carts: blue for bottles, cans, and paper; green for food scraps and yard trimmings; black for non-recyclable trash.

Program expands to accept all plastic bottles in the blue cart.

Co-collection trucks carrying trash on one side and recycling on the other are introduced to reduce truck trips on neighborhood streets.

2002 – Recycle Central, a state-of-the-art facility on Pier 96, opens to sort co-mingled recycling.

Board of Supervisors sets goals of achieving 75 percent diversion by 2010 and zero waste by 2020.

2004 – Program expands to accept plastic tubs and lids #2, #4, and #5.

2006 – City records 70 percent landfill diversion.

2007 – Entire collection fleet (more than 300 vehicles) switches to bio-diesel.

2008 – Program expands to accept almost all plastics. No film plastic of any kind, including plastic bags and plastic wrap. No Styrofoam.

2009 – The Curbside Recycling Program helps San Francisco more than double its recycling rate in 20 years thanks to customers who recycle and compost every day.

Order your debris box now



Great prices. Timely service.

Spring and summer are the busy seasons for cleanup and construction projects.

Save time and money by ordering a debris box from Sunset and Golden Gate Debris Box companies. We are local, fast to deliver and pick up, and we recycle up to 75 percent of your construction waste.

Our customers can rest assured they comply with the city's Construction Debris Recovery Ordinance. We are registered haulers, and we operate a permitted, state-of-the-art sorting facility for San Francisco's construction debris recycling program. We

can collect and sort up to 600 tons of metal, concrete, wood, and other construction and demolition debris a day.

Whether you are renovating your home or building something new, Sunset and Golden Gate have the right debris box for any job, big or small. Our Bin-by-the-Day service works especially well for small cleanups.

For more information, go to DebrisBoxRental.com. To order a debris box delivered to your home or work site, call (888) 404-4008.



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Cleanup, remodeling debris sorted on new line



A new sorting line at the city dump ensures more items brought in by self-haulers get recycled.

People visiting the San Francisco transfer station and recycling center, fondly known as the city dump, can't miss the new sort line built to recycle wood, metal, and other debris brought in by homeowners and small contractors.

The elevated sort line features a conveyor belt staffed by 10 recycling workers. The sorters pull materials that

can be recycled off the line and drop them into large metal debris boxes.

About 110 tons of debris move across the line each day. Metal, wood, sheetrock, carpet, bricks, concrete, and rigid plastics (such as five-gallon buckets) are just some of the materials recovered from the sort line. Metal pulled off the line goes to a scrap yard and then a foundry. Cardboard

goes to a paper mill. Concrete is crushed and used for road base.

Self-haulers, which can include homeowners and businesses, bring their materials in as usual. After customers unload, the material is fed onto an incline conveyor and sent down the sort line.

"Many of our self-haulers are general contractors so most of the material recovered is from construction and demolition projects," said Mike Crosetti, General Manager of SF Recycling & Disposal. "Thanks to this new line as much as 68 percent of the materials brought to the public disposal area is now being recycled."

SF Recycling & Disposal is a registered facility under the city's Construction Debris Recovery Ordinance.

Facility hours are 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday and 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. For a fee schedule and locator map, visit SFRecycling.com and click on SF Dump.

Recycle your old TV

With the switch to digital TV in June, many people are either buying a converter box or purchasing a new set. San Francisco homeowners and renters who buy a new TV have several convenient recycling options.

Residential customers, including apartment tenants, can call Sunset Scavenger or Golden Gate Disposal & Recycling and schedule a Bulky Item Collection (BIC) pickup. City residents using this program place old computers, used furniture, outdated TVs, and other junk at the curb on the agreed upon collection day. The BIC Program is available to residential and apartment customers at no additional cost. To learn more go to SFRecycling.com.

Residents and commercial customers who want materials collected from inside their home or business can utilize RecycleMyJunk.com for an additional fee.

To make a BIC or RecycleMyJunk.com appointment call Sunset Scavenger at 330-1300 or Golden Gate Disposal & Recycling at 626-4000.

Once collected, the TVs are brought back to the transfer station and off-loaded onto flat bed trucks. From there they go to a state-approved recycling facility in the East Bay where they are dismantled.

"Most TVs and computer monitors contain circuit boards, copper, steel, aluminum, glass, plastic, and even wood, all of which is readily recyclable," said Brad Drda, S.F. Recycling's Environmental



Manager. "People should know, too, it is now against the law to put TVs in the trash because the lead in glass and circuitry can poison groundwater if not properly handled."

Nearly all parts of TVs collected through these programs are recycled. Plastics, for example, are chipped into pellets then mixed with virgin plastics to make new products. Glass is used to make new CRT tubes, and copper wiring is used to make new wiring.

You can also take old TVs to Goodwill for reuse or recycling.

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Useful
Phone
Numbers

Residential Collection:
Sunset Scavenger, 330-1300
Golden Gate Disposal & Recycling, 626-4000

Debris box service, 888-404-4008
RecycleMyJunk.com, 330-1300
Shredding & Destruction Services, 621-6200



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