

# What Can I Recycle and Compost? *(School and Single-Family Homes Only\*)*

## RECYCLE (BLUE BIN)

- EMPTY GLASSES, BOTTLES, AND JARS
- ALUMINUM
- METAL & PLASTIC CONTAINERS (plastic #'s 1-5, 7)
- PAPER & CARDBOARD including mixed paper, milk and food cartons, paper cups, and wax paper
- BUNDLED PLASTIC BAGS (single bags clog the sorting machines)

## *Fun Recycling Facts*

- *Recycle your coffee cup with the plastic cap removed first!*
- *During World War II Americans saved aluminum foil and even peeled off the silver wrapping from chewing gum wrappers to contribute to the war effort! Today, we recycle the foil to conserve energy and protect the environment – two other patriotic causes!*
- *Car batteries are the most recycled product in America!*

*\*If you would like to see these programs extended to multi-unit dwellings, please contact Santa Monica's Resource Recovery and Recycling Division:  
Phone: 310-458-2223  
Fax: 310-264-7750  
email: [recycling@smgov.net](mailto:recycling@smgov.net)*

## COMPOST (GREEN BIN)

- ALL FOOD (including meat and dairy)
- PAPER OR CARDBOARD with food on it
- GARDEN/YARD CLIPPINGS

## *Fun Compost Facts*

- *Composting fruit scraps and more can quickly reduce waste!*
- *Compost can be fertilizer for your garden!*
- *Placing red worms into compost can speed up the process!*

## LANDFILL (BLACK BIN)

- STYROFOAM
- Broken ceramic items (e.g., plates and cups)
- BUBBLE WRAP
- ZIPLOC BAGS
- THIN PLASTIC that makes a crinkly sound when you wrinkle it
- HOUSEHOLD ITEMS that cannot be donated

## *Fun Landfill Facts*

- *Even biodegradable material doesn't decompose in landfills, because it is all so packed in!*
- *Compostable materials, like food scraps and yard trimmings that are sent to landfills, produce methane, a greenhouse gas which is up to 72 times more potent than carbon dioxide!*
- *Recycling and composting greatly increase the amount of materials available to make new products, reducing the need to extract more resources from the Earth!*

GRADES OF GREEN  
YOUTH CORPS

## WHAT ABOUT OTHER STUFF THAT I CAN'T GIVE AWAY?

- **CLOTHING, SHOES, AND HOUSEHOLD TEXTILES (E.G., SHEETS):** can be dropped off at **2500 Michigan Ave,** near the Resource Recovery & Recycling offices during normal business hours (8am – 5pm). Future program expansion will provide additional bins Citywide, including at City Hall.
- **USED OR EXPIRED PRESCRIPTION DRUGS:** can be left in the drop-box at the Public Safety Building, Main Entrance, 333 Olympic Drive, near 4th Street on-ramp to 10 Freeway. This service helps to act as a safeguard against harmful contaminants entering the environment when drugs are improperly flushed down the toilet or thrown in the trash.
- **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE:**

Motor Oil & Filters	Solvents	Fertilizers	Electronic Waste
Fuels	Pool and Photo Chemicals	Fluorescent Tubes	Household Cleaning Chemicals
Paints	Art Supplies	Batteries	Sharps

Up to 125 lbs. can be picked up at your home. Call 1-800-714-1195 or use the [Pickup Request Form online](#):  
<http://www.stericycleenvironmental.com/santa-monica/>

Note that the program cannot accept explosives or explosive waste, ammunition, biological, biohazard, or medical waste, or radioactive waste. There are also drop-off locations for these items, listed here:  
[https://www.smgov.net/Departments/OSE/Categories/Hazardous\\_Materials/Neighborhood\\_Drop-off\\_Sites.aspx](https://www.smgov.net/Departments/OSE/Categories/Hazardous_Materials/Neighborhood_Drop-off_Sites.aspx)

**You can also drop off household batteries at Franklin in the Main Office and at Santa Monica libraries!**

- **CRAYONS:** can be donated to Crayon Collection at Wells Fargo Bank and other participating locations. See [www.crayoncollection.org](http://www.crayoncollection.org)

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