

Island Recycling

A Community Newsletter from Alameda County Industries

January 2005

News Flash!

Customers can pick up their new **Alameda County Recycling Guide** in February at ACI's offices or by requesting a copy through www.stopwaste.org.

Reduce. Reuse. Remodel.

Visit the ReUse Bazaar on Alameda Point



When designers Graham Thiel and Ryan Borman needed materials for a 500 square-foot addition to a Grass Valley home, they drove all the way to Alameda to buy quality used lumber at The ReUse Bazaar. Like many customers who travel long distances to shop at the Bazaar, they knew about the great selection and low prices, which many local do-it-yourselfers haven't yet discovered.

The Bazaar, located at 2100 Ferry Point, #150, in Alameda, is the thrift store equivalent of Home Depot. The central office and retail outlet for The ReUse People of California (TRP), the Bazaar is a repository of reclaimed lumber, doors,

windows, cabinets, sinks, toilets, vanities, bathtubs, lighting fixtures, hardware, floor and roof tiles, bricks, and vintage architectural items.

Thiel and Borman calculated an average savings of 65% on lumber, windows, doors, and bricks. A new bathtub can clean you out at \$200. At the Bazaar you can get one for \$40. The least expensive toilet at Home Depot is \$40. At the Bazaar, it's only \$10.

The Bazaar also offers hard-to-find items like antique leaded and stained glass windows, pedestal sinks from the 1930s, custom redwood shutters, hand carved corbels, antique light fixtures, and handmade roof tiles.

"The Bazaar is the thrift store equivalent of Home Depot."

As a licensed demolition contractor, TRP obtains most of its materials from deconstruction jobs it completes throughout California. Traditionally, there have been only two viable options when removing all or a portion of a building – moving the structure, or complete demolition. Demolishing a building means completely destroying it, condensing the

materials as much as possible for ease of transport to the landfill. Not only does this method clog the landfills, it can cost owners thousands of dollars in landfill fees while depriving consumers of a wealth of quality products and materials.

Deconstruction is the careful dismantling of a structure and the salvaging of all useable materials. After a home has been deconstructed, wood, windows, doors, cabinets and other items are donated to TRP, often garnering the owner a substantial tax deduction. In all cases, the materials are kept out of landfills and reused. TRP is usually able to salvage up to 85 percent of a building's materials.

TRP's mission is "to reduce the solid waste stream and change the way the built environment is renewed by salvaging building materials and distributing them for reuse." You can see the results at the ReUse Bazaar any day of the week. Hours are Monday through Friday 10 to 6; weekends 10 to 4. Stop by and meet President Ted Reiff and Warehouse Manager Brandy Sosa. Visit the TRP website at www.thereusepeople.org, or call (510) 522-2722.

This article was written by Dianne Schilling, The ReUse People – Board of Advisors.

Helpful Tip: Clean the "Green" Way

Using environmentally responsible products is an easy way to be green when you clean! Less toxic or nontoxic products create less waste and are safer for the earth and your household. Here are some ideas you can try at home. For **Ant Control**, mix 2 Tbsp boric acid, 2 Tbsp sugar and 1 cup

water. Soak paper towels, and set out for ant control. Pour a line of cinnamon, cream of tartar, or black pepper where ants enter. For **Air Freshener**, simmer cloves and cinnamon in boiling water. Leave an opened box of baking soda or set out a dish of vinegar. And for **Furniture Polish**, mix 2 parts

vegetable oil and 1 part lemon juice. Apply, rub in, and wipe clean. For other "green" reading resources, check out "Clean House Clean Planet" by Karen Logan and "Home Safe Home" by Debra Dadd-Redalia.

Courtesy of: New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services

Out With the Old...

Make a Clean Sweep with the Alameda On-Call Clean Up Program

Thinking about starting the New Year with a clean slate? ACI is here to help. If unwanted, non-recyclable items are taking over your home, just call us to take advantage of your FREE yearly On-Call Clean Up. Single family and multiplex residents receive one personalized pickup each year. And if you really need to lighten your load, additional clean ups can be scheduled for just \$80. For complete details, log on to www.alamedacountyindustries.com, then give us a call at (510) 483-1400.



Just Ask Ozzie

Q Ozzie, I have finally just completed all my spring and summer painting projects. Would you please tell me how to get rid of all my leftover paint?

A You must feel a sense of accomplishment – good job! I'd be happy to tell you how to get rid of your unwanted paint. Here at ACI, we ensure the proper disposal and recycling of all latex paint for Alameda residents only. Here are a few tips to remember:

- Place your empty latex paint cans in your blue recycling cart.
- Bring full or partial cans of latex paint to ACI's office on Blanding Avenue
- All cans must have original labels clearly stating LATEX.

- If you have stains, enamels, varnish, thinners, adhesives, or acrylic paints, please take these to Alameda County Household Hazardous Waste Program located at 2100 East 7th Street in Oakland – right over the Park Street Bridge. Please call them in advance for hours of operation at (800) 606-6606, or visit their website at <http://household-hazwaste.org>.

Have A Question?

Do you have a question, comment, or recycling-related tip? Simply drop us a letter, send us an email, zap us a fax, or give us a call. Thanks.

2307 Blanding Ave., Suite B • Alameda, CA 94501
Phone: (510) 483-1400 • Fax: (510) 814-7314
Email: AskOzzie@alamedacountyindustries.com

Correction:

The feature article in the October 2004 issue highlighted the Restore, a facility affiliated with Habitat for Humanity. We did not receive the updated information before print time; thus the mistake. The correct information for the Restore is as follows:

New address:
9235 San Leandro Blvd.,
Oakland, CA
New phone number:
(510) 777-1447

"We're Easy to Find!"

Alameda Office
2307 Blanding Avenue, Suite B
Alameda, CA 94501
(510) 483-1400

Hours:
Mon - Fri 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

alamedacountyindustries.com



ALAMEDA COUNTY INDUSTRIES
ALAMEDA