

# aci Island Recycling

A Community Newsletter from Alameda County Industries  
Your **Recyclables**, **Organics** & **Garbage** Service Provider

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## Keep the Recyclables Stream Clean!

Last year, China announced “National Sword,” a change in its import policies that has a profound impact on recycling efforts in California.

Strict new contaminant thresholds have been applied to certain grades of paper, and import bans on mixed paper and various grades of post-consumer plastics are in effect. Until this year, 85% of California’s mixed paper and cardboard was exported to China. China no longer wants a large portion of our material and the rest of the export market is working to absorb the extra volume. A clean material stream is now more important than ever before.

### Recyclables continue to be collected and recovered.

Mixed paper makes up over 40% of the material in the blue cart. There are very limited markets for mixed paper and various plastic containers.

### How Can You Help?

- **Keep up the good work and continue recycling!**
- **Please avoid contamination and properly sort your recyclables.**
- **Maintain the cleanest stream possible.** For an alphabetized list of what belongs in your **Recyclables** cart, please visit: [www.alamedacountyindustries.com/alameda/residential/resources/containers/](http://www.alamedacountyindustries.com/alameda/residential/resources/containers/).
- **Avoid purchasing products with excessive packaging.** Buy bulk or large size containers and avoid single-serve or single-use items.
- **Don’t forget to reuse!** Shop with reusable bags and totes, bring your travel mug to the coffee shop and carry a reusable water bottle with you!
- **See proper sorting tips listed to the right.** Thank you!



## Proper Sorting is Now More Important Than Ever Before!

The cleanest and most efficient sorting to achieve high quality recovered materials starts with you, the generator. We thank you for all of your efforts.



### -SUPPORT THE SORT!

Please place recyclable materials in your blue **RECYCLABLES** cart.

### -JUST SAY “NO” TO CONTAMINANTS!

Garbage and Organics **DO NOT** belong in the blue **RECYCLABLES** cart.

### -MAINTAIN A CLEAN STREAM!

When possible, empty and rinse recyclable plastic, metal and glass food containers before placing them in the blue recycling cart.



### -KEEP AN EYE ON SIZE!

Corrugated cardboard and paper boxes should be flattened and large pieces cut to 2’ x 2’ or smaller. This prevents materials from getting stuck in the cart or blocking the hopper of the collection vehicles.



## ACI's On-Call Clean Up Program

Once every 12 months, residents of single-family and multi-plex buildings (with 4 or fewer units) can schedule a free clean up. ACI will collect:

- Up to 2 cubic yards of unwanted household items
- Properly contained latex paint
- Household batteries
- Up to 3 bulky items like sofas, large appliances, mattresses, etc.



Ask about our low-cost options for multifamily buildings with 5 or more units. For more information, or to schedule your on-call clean up, call **(510) 483-1400** or visit [www.AlamedaCountyIndustries.com](http://www.AlamedaCountyIndustries.com).

## Reuse Resources on the Web

- [www.FreeCycle.org](http://www.FreeCycle.org) is all about reuse and keeping good stuff out of landfills.
- [www.RecycleWhere.org](http://www.RecycleWhere.org) - find the highest and best use for items you no longer want.
- [www.epa.gov/recycle](http://www.epa.gov/recycle) - Learn more about reducing, reusing, and recycling.



Donate gently used items to these charities:

- [www.EastBayGoodwill.org](http://www.EastBayGoodwill.org) - Goodwill Industries
- [www.SATruck.org](http://www.SATruck.org) - Salvation Army
- [www.SVDP-Alameda.org](http://www.SVDP-Alameda.org) - St. Vincent de Paul
- [www.ChangingGearsBikes.org](http://www.ChangingGearsBikes.org) - Changing Gears Bike Shop (bikes and bike parts only)

## SERVICE REMINDERS: Batteries & Bulbs

Residents may drop off household batteries and fluorescent bulbs at the ACI Alameda office: Monday - Friday from 7am to 6pm. Car batteries are NOT allowed.



## Holiday Service Schedule

There are NO changes to the collection schedule during the weeks of Memorial Day or July 4th.

## Event Calendar

### Earth Day Festival

Saturday, April 21  
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Washington Park

### Downtown Alameda's Spring Festival

Saturday & Sunday, May 12 & 13  
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Downtown Park Street

### Mayor's 4th of July Parade

Wednesday, July 4, 10:00 a.m.  
Downtown Alameda



Remember to:  
**Reduce,**  
**Reuse,**  
**Recycle,**  
**Rot & Donate!**

Printed on recycled paper.  
Please recycle again!



## Alameda County Industries

We are proud to be your service provider for  
**Recyclables, Organics & Garbage.**



### Contact us:

[www.AlamedaCountyIndustries.com](http://www.AlamedaCountyIndustries.com)  
510-483-1400

### Office:

Monday-Friday: 7am-6pm  
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Suite B  
Alameda, CA 94501