

# Trash Talk

*"Don't Make a Mountain Out of a Landfill"*



SPRING 2020, April - June

## Spring is Here

With the sun out a little more often and the smell of flowers in the air, chances are your mind will turn to cleaning and freshening up your home.

In this quarter's newsletter, we are looking at ways to help you properly get rid of the clutter. You'll find out how to easily dispose of everyday household items that can't be tossed in the trash, learn how to slow the flow of junk mail into your home, how to use pesticides and fertilizers in your garden, and how to properly dispose of household hazardous waste.



## Junk Mail

On average, U.S. adults receive 41 pounds of direct mail each year. Much of this is unsolicited and ends up in our landfills, unopened. Here are a few services that help you slow the flow of junk mail coming into your home.

For a fee, DMAchoice will block unwanted direct mail for ten years. Visit [DMAchoice.org](http://DMAchoice.org) for information.

To have your name removed, for free, from the mailing lists used by insurance and credit card companies call **1-888-5-OPT-OUT** or visit [optoutprescreen.com](http://optoutprescreen.com).

Are you receiving too many catalogs? Choose which ones you want to receive and cancel those you don't by visiting [catalogchoice.org](http://catalogchoice.org).

## They're Multiplying!

A water bottle here, a soda can there, fluorescent bulbs, used motor oil and oil filters, that old TV (plus the one before that) and battery, after battery, after battery. They're multiplying! That is, until you ask, "How do I get rid of it all?"

Our online "How Do I Get Rid Of...?" tool gives you the information you need to properly dispose of household hazardous waste, recycle beverage containers and used motor oil, and find out other ways to reduce waste.



## DIY Oil Change

Do you change your own motor oil? Call us at **(530) 225-5789** for a free do-it-yourself oil change kit.

Discover where to take that old car battery that's been sitting in your garage. Or, find out where you can drop off sharps or unused prescription medication for proper disposal. Some of the results may surprise you, like clamshell food containers; depending on where you are in the county, some items get different treatment. We're here to give you a clear answer. Go to [recycle.co.shasta.ca.us](http://recycle.co.shasta.ca.us) and try it out. It's easy.

## Don't Wash Away Fertilizers and Pesticides

Are you maintaining your lawn and garden and unknowingly washing fertilizers and pesticides into our local waterways? Did you know fertilizers and pesticides that are rinsed into roadside ditches, drainage ways, and storm drains can pollute streams causing algae blooms, fish die-offs, and drinking water contamination?

Please consider the following to help prevent potential water pollution:

- Apply garden chemicals when rain is not expected for a few days. Doing so will give them time to absorb into the soil.
- Do not water your lawn immediately after applying fertilizers.
- Only apply garden chemicals where and when needed. Read the instructions and apply garden chemicals sparingly to reduce chemical runoff.
- When cleaning out sprayers or other pesticide equipment, make sure the rinse water will not contaminate waterways; use it for the purpose intended.



## Recycling Bins for Events

Do you have an event coming up? We have recycling bins and liners available to make recycling beverage containers and other waste items easy at special events like music festivals, car shows, arts and crafts fairs, weddings, and family reunions.

We can also provide you with tips for how to make your event a low-waste one. Email us at [recycle@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:recycle@co.shasta.ca.us) or call **(530) 225-5789** for information.

Check out the Department of Resource Management's Household Hazardous Waste Reduction page for safer, non-toxic alternatives to hazardous home and garden products or our Home Composting page for inexpensive and easy fertilizer ideas.

For more information on how to properly dispose of your household hazardous wastes, including fertilizers and pesticides that are no longer usable, visit [recycle.co.shasta.ca.us](http://recycle.co.shasta.ca.us) or call our staff at **(530) 225-5789**.

Remember, household hazardous waste can be dropped off at the City of Redding Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility located at 2255 Abernathy Lane, Redding. Call the facility at **(530) 224-6209** for details.

## Business Owners

Are you a business owner? A property manager? School staff member?

In December, Resource Management staff sent out information regarding California's commercial recycling requirements. These laws require businesses, apartments and mobile-home parks, and schools to recycle solid waste, including organic materials like yard waste and food scraps. We want to help you meet these requirements.

One way we can help is to visit your business, property, or school and perform a free waste assessment. By doing this, we can give you recommendations that will help you meet state requirements and, possibly, save you some money.

To schedule a visit, please call **(530) 225-5789** or email [recycle@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:recycle@co.shasta.ca.us).

Also, you can help us get a better understanding of commercial recycling activities throughout the County by completing our online survey. Go to [recycle.co.shasta.ca.us](http://recycle.co.shasta.ca.us) and answer a few questions so we can better serve the businesses, multi-family dwellings, and schools of Shasta County.

Please direct newsletter comments to:  
Shasta County Department of Resource Management  
1855 Placer Street, Suite 200, Redding, CA 96001  
[recycle.co.shasta.ca.us](http://recycle.co.shasta.ca.us)

(530) 225-5789 or (800) 528-2850



Please direct disposal service calls to:  
Burney Disposal Inc.  
37484 Cornaz Drive B, Burney, CA 96013  
[www.burneydisposal.com](http://www.burneydisposal.com)

(530) 335-2723