

## Trim Your Waste.



Novato Recycles!

Novato Disposal Service  
PO Box 3849  
Santa Rosa, CA 95402-3849  
(415) 897-4177

Now see us on the Web at  
[www.novatodisposal.com](http://www.novatodisposal.com)

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# Novato Recycling News

Spring 2003

Volume 11, Number 1

## Spring Clean-Up April 7-11

Novato Disposal's Spring Cleanup will be held during the week of April 7-11, 2003. Novato residential customers may place cleanup materials from their homes at the curb during this week (see "guidelines" below). All items should be at the curb the night before your regularly scheduled pickup day.

### Who Can Participate:

- Novato Disposal residential customers only
- Multi-family complexes:  
Complexes with central collection bins rather than separate can service for each household may request additional Cleanup Week collection service. Call Novato Disposal at 897-4177 no later than Friday, March 28.
- *Businesses and institutions are not included.*

### Guidelines:

#### These guidelines must be adhered to during all cleanups:

- A **maximum** of fourteen (14) bags, boxes or cans per household may be placed at the curb during cleanup week. Garbage cans and other containers that are used for clean-up will be emptied and left at the curb.
  - **Excess material will not be removed.**
- All material must be contained.
  - **Loose items will not be collected.**
- Items must be less than four (4) feet in length and width and must weigh less than 60 lbs. No sofas, tables, mattresses or other large items. You may call Novato Disposal to arrange for a special collection of these items for a fee.
  - **Oversize or heavy items will not be removed.**
- **No wood, lumber, rock, dirt, bricks, concrete, tires, or asphalt.**
- No hazardous waste including oil, batteries, propane tanks, televisions or computer monitors. See Household Hazardous Material Disposal information below and inside this newsletter.
  - **Hazardous waste will not be collected.**
  - **Rocks, lumber and concrete will not be collected.**
- Keep all recyclable items separate from Cleanup debris. See back page for a list of all recyclable items and how and where to recycle them.

#### Major Appliances:

Call 897-4177 by March 29 for collection of major appliances. A \$20 fee for appliance handling and freon removal is charged for collection of any type of refrigeration unit whether or not it still contains freon.

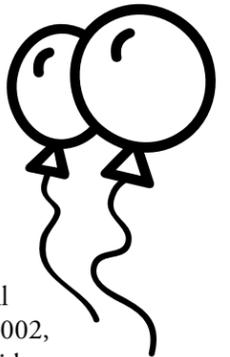
#### Hazardous Waste:

- Propane tanks, oil base paint, herbicides, pesticides, television and computer monitors, automotive fluids and other hazardous waste must be taken to the Household Hazardous Waste Facility. **Call 892-7344 to schedule an appointment or for HHW disposal information.** The facility is open by appointment only on the first and third Sunday and Monday of each month.
- Household & automotive batteries, fluorescent light tubes & compact bulbs, used motor oil, antifreeze and latex paint may be dropped off at Novato Recycling Center on Redwood Boulevard Tuesday through Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

#### Usable Items

Novato Disposal encourages residents to direct usable items to area second hand and thrift stores. Many reuse stores and charities would welcome your donation! Please see a list of second hand and thrift stores inside this issue of the Novato Recycling News.

## Novato Household Hazardous Waste Facility Celebrates 1st Anniversary



Congratulations Novato! On March 17, 2003, Novato's Household Hazardous Waste Facility will celebrate its first year of operation. Since March 2002, the Facility has successfully assisted over 1,500 Novato residents to properly dispose of their household hazardous waste.

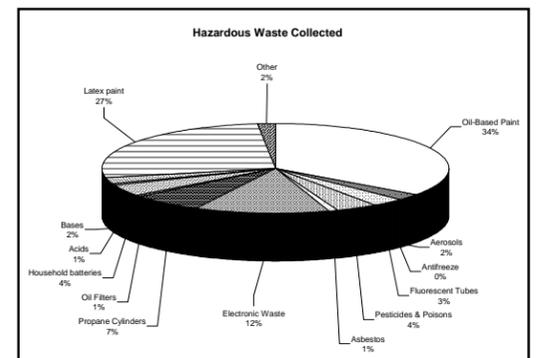
Open a total of 42 days, participation has steadily increased since its opening day. Over 190,000 pounds of hazardous waste has been collected since March 2002. This includes over 65,000 pounds of oil base paint products, 50,000 pounds of latex paint and 7,000 pounds of pesticides and other poisons. In addition, CRT's – computer monitors and old televisions – accounted for over 23,000 pounds of all waste collected. Over 53% of all participants are first time users of any Novato household hazardous waste program.

All hazardous waste collected is safely treated and disposed of. Over 92% of all hazardous waste collected is either sent for recycling – such as the latex paint, fluorescent tubes and batteries or used as an alternative fuel source, such as the solvents and oil-base paint products.

The remaining hazardous waste is sent for destructive incineration or treatment and neutralization.

The Household Hazardous Waste facility is open to all Novato residents by appointment only. Located to the rear of the Novato Recycling Center, the facility is open on the first and third Sundays and Mondays of each month, from 8:30am – 1:30pm. Call the hotline number at 892-7344, select the date you want and leave your name, address and telephone number. You will receive an appointment card and survey confirming your appointment.

**Put toxic waste in its place and visit the household hazardous waste facility! Call 892-7344 for an appointment and more information.**



## Spring 2003 Lawn Mower Trade-in Event

Saturday, April 12th - San Rafael Home Depot  
111 Shoreline Parkway - 8am to Noon

Receive an instant \$100 REBATE on a new electric mulching mower with the trade-in of your gas-powered mower. The Marin County Department of Public Works is co-sponsoring the event with the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, Home Depot and Black & Decker.

#### To Participate:

- Marin County residents ONLY.
- Must trade in a gas mower. Bring to SR Home Depot on April 12.
- Gasoline & oil MUST be drained from old mower. Novato residents call the Novato HHW Hotline (892-7344) for disposal information.
- Rebates available are limited. First come first serve basis only.

#### Information about Electric Mulching Mowers

- Mulching mowers leave short clippings on the grass, which helps recycle nitrogen and eliminates time spent raking and bagging. Also reduces yard waste and lawns need less fertilizer.
- Effortless to start and maintain.
- Helps the air quality by producing less air pollution.

For more information, please call the Marin County Department of Public Works, Office of Waste Management at 499-6647.

# Novato Recycling News

## From Customer Service

### Guidelines and Reminders

- Customer Service reminds you to place garbage loosely in your cart. Carts that are overstuffed of have material jammed into them may not empty completely.
- Yardwaste must fit inside the yardwaste container. Materials may not protrude from the top by more than one (1) foot. If you regularly generate more than 95 gallons of yardwaste, please call our office for an extra green cart.
- Be sure to push your garbage, recycle and greenwaste carts beyond your carport or any overhang to avoid damage. Keep carts away from low branches and all overhead obstructions.
- Set your cart at the curb with the arrows on the lid pointing toward the street to help avoid damage to the containers.
- Leave a full three feet between garbage and yard waste carts to prevent tipping.
- Place carts at road edge for ease of pickup.

Most drivers will leave carts in the optimum location for future pickups. Please try to put your carts close to where your driver leaves them on future pickup days.

### 2003 Holiday Schedule

Novato Disposal collects solid waste, recycling and yard waste each week from Novato residents and businesses. The only holidays where service is changed is during the weeks of Christmas and New Years. Service will be delayed by one day for customers whose service falls on or after the holiday during those weeks.

Because Christmas and New Years Days fall on Thursday this year, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday collection will remain unchanged in 2003.

**Regular service will resume the week of January 5, 2004**

### 20 gallon garbage cart available

Novato Disposal offers an insert to convert a 32 gallon garbage cart to a 20-gallon size container for residents who are "super recyclers" or who have small families that don't generate much garbage. The fee for a 20-gallon cart is \$7.74 per month. Make sure this size will work for you because there is a \$3.55 fee per extra bag of garbage. Please call our office and request this new service.

### Are you getting credit?

Some Novato customers are taking advantage of some of the new online "check free" or automatic bill paying services now available on the internet. Your service provider must mail payments to the correct address or they are subject to return and your account may not be credited.

Novato Disposal  
PO Box 3849  
Santa Rosa, CA 95402-3849

### No Styrofoam or Plastic Bags

Please do not place styrofoam or plastic bags inside your recycling cart.

- Clean, dry and empty plastic bags may be returned to many grocery stores for recycling collection.
- Clean, dry styrofoam peanuts may be taken to many packing or shipping stores for reuse.

### Ongoing HHW Dropoff

Novato residential customers may bring the following hazardous waste to the Redwood Boulevard Recycling Center Tuesday through Saturday from 10am -4pm

- Latex paint (not oil based) in original can with label
- Fluorescent bulbs (unbroken tubes and compacts)
- Used oil & antifreeze (5 gallon maximum in closed container)
- Automotive batteries
- Household batteries (all types - flashlight, lantern & button)

## Household Hazardous Waste Disposal

The Novato Permanent Household Hazardous Waste Facility is open to serve you on the first and third Sundays and Mondays of each month from 8:30am - 1:30pm. To schedule an appointment call 892-7344, select the date you want and leave your name address and phone number.



### What is a Household Toxic:

- In the Workshop:** Latex and oil based, stains, wood finishes & preservatives, solvents & thinners, adhesives, caulk, epoxy, glues and putty.
- In the Garage:** Used oil & filters, fuel, antifreeze, automotive batteries, engine cleaner, brake fluid, propane, waxes and polishes
- In the Yard:** Pesticides, herbicides, fungicides, poisons, insecticides, bait, pool chemicals and propane tanks
- In the House:** Computer monitors & televisions, batteries, fluorescent tubes & bulbs, photo chemicals, waxes, polishes, polish remover, bleach cleaners.
- Other Products:** Small quantities of asbestos (double bagged), mercury containing thermometers, thermostats and switches.

This is a partial list. If you have a product with the following label: poison, danger, warning, caution or other precautionary statements, call the HHW hotline at 892-7344.

### Business or Commercial Waste:

Call the Novato Business Hazardous Waste Hotline at 892-6395.

### Transportation Tips:

Place in sealed containers in trunk away from passengers and pets. Pack to prevent spills. Include original labels if possible. Never mix chemicals. Do not transport more than 15 gallons or 125 pounds at one time.

## US Senate Passes Bill to Ban Sale of Mercury Thermometers

Old mercury thermometers may be taken to the HHW facility. See above for more information.

The US Senate unanimously passed a bill on September 5 that would impose a nationwide ban on the sale of mercury fever thermometers and improve management of surplus mercury. The Mercury Reduction and Disposal Act, which has now moved to the House for consideration, would prohibit the sale of mercury thermometers except by prescription.

According to critics of mercury thermometers, each thermometer contains about one gram of mercury, enough to contaminate a 20-acre lake. "We need a comprehensive national and global strategy to eliminate all mercury uses and keep surplus mercury out of commerce," said Michael Bender, director of the Mercury Policy Project.

*Waste Management World, Nov.-Dec. 2002*

## Novato Recycling Center & Buyback Depots

- ✓ Customers must separate all products by type: CRV glass, CRV plastic, and CRV metal cans. Each material needs to be in separate bags or containers. Recycle Centers accept non-CRV containers for dropoff only.
- ✓ Most NON- carbonated beverage containers now have CRV "Cash Back" value. Look for the words CA Cash Refund or CA Redemption Value.
- ✓ Bring other recyclable materials such as cardboard and mixed paper to the Redwood Boulevard Recycling Center only.
- ✓ The buy-back and recycle depots are for household recycling only. For commercial recycling collection, please call 897-4177.

### Novato Recycling and Buyback Center

**7576 Redwood Blvd. (next to Shamrock Materials).  
Open Tuesday - Sunday, 10 - 4**

**This Novato Recycling Center pays California Redemption Value (CRV) AND accepts non CRV glass, cans and plastic beverage containers for dropoff.**

We also accept newspaper, single layer cardboard (paperboard), mixed household/office paper (colored & white paper), magazines, catalogs, and corrugated cardboard.

### Recycling Redemption Depots

The recycling depots buy-back CRV plastic, glass bottles, and aluminum cans only. Recycle Depots accept non-CRV containers for dropoff only. The Depots do not accept other recyclable materials. Please go to Redwood Recycling Center with non-CRV drop-off recyclables such as cardboard and mixed paper.

Two locations to serve you:

**Southern Novato: Temporarily Closed Center**  
(Behind shopping center on Linada Dr., near Ignacio Blvd.)

**Northern Novato: The Square Shopping Center**  
(Novato Blvd. & Wilson Ave., located behind Market in alley.)

**Open Tuesday - Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

Recycle. It's Good for the Bottle. It's Good for the Can.

# Novato Recycling News

## Novato Charter School

### *Making Recycling a Part of Life*

Recycling is about so many things: conserving land and resources, reducing pollution and energy consumption, caring for our earth, and building and maintaining a healthy community. Novato Charter School has taken these ideas and incorporated them into the school environment and teaching techniques. At the nature-based charter school, source reduction, reuse, recycling, repair, nutrition, composting and gardening are all part of everyday life for teachers and students. Children learn to care for and respect the earth, which the school believes will encourage global responsibility and promote environmentally conscious living. Kindergarten classes begin with composting and recycling. As the students progress through the grades, gardening, farming, and ecology become part of the daily curriculum. Novato Charter School presents their philosophies and attitudes towards the environment in the school's parent handbook and has developed a "Green" Policy, which includes following organic gardening methods, using "least toxic" techniques for cleaning and to control pests and weeds, and the use of environmentally responsible materials and techniques in the construction of all future structures and infrastructures.

Awareness of source reduction is practiced by having students bring their own towel and cloth napkin to school. This helps to minimize the disposable paper products used at school. At school festivities, participants are asked to bring their own tableware and cups to have a zero-waste celebration.

Each classroom and office has a collection container for "mixed" recycling and a bucket for composting food scraps. Students empty classroom recycling into larger rolling carts placed throughout the campus. The rolling carts are taken out by the school's custodian for pick-up by Novato Disposal.

The school is lucky to have a volunteer parent recycling coordinator, Janine Pera. Janine makes sure that all classes have appropriate recycling containers and signs, and educates teachers and staff on what is recyclable. Teachers then work with students to keep the program running smoothly.

Reuse is also an important part of the school's nature-based program. At the end of the school year, when classrooms are being cleaned out for the summer, teachers and students recycle what they can and set aside all materials that can be re-used. These reusable items

the buckets daily, odors are kept down. Teachers have developed a way of cleaning the buckets that is "fun" for the students. It utilizes a device that is basically a cleaning brush with water spewing out of the top. Students place the empty bucket upside-down on it and swish the bucket around until it is clean. They really seem to enjoy the task now! During warmer months, cleaning buckets also becomes a way to cool off by getting a little wet during the "swishing." Food scraps are composted in one of five piles in the rear of the garden area. When a pile is full, it is covered with leaves and a "Rest" sign is placed over it. New composting piles have a sign that says, "Feed me." When they fill the fifth pile, they return to the first, harvest the compost, and then mix it with soil for



Novato Charter School students composting school food scraps

planting in their organic garden. The school also has a worm bin. The worms are fed mostly mushy food scraps, but nothing with citrus (they don't like citrus, according to the school's garden program coordinator, Kathy Sinclair of Master Gardeners of Marin.) Worm castings are used to make a "compost tea" that is mixed with water and showered over the school's garden.

The school's organic garden is run by the students for the students. The school combines natural science with organic gardening and recycling. Although they have not produced a lot of food yet, the goal is to be able to provide the students with fresh organic produce from the garden that they helped to grow. The garden really completes learning about life cycles. Students prepare food, compost the scraps, use the compost with soil to grow food, and then are eventually able to eat the food that they grew. Ms. Sinclair states that the students love knowing that the "new" soil (or compost) use to be their peanut butter and jelly sandwich, a piece of fruit, etc.

The school also has chickens and rabbits. Chickens are fed fruit and vegetable scraps. Eggs produced by the chickens are sold back to parents. Money from the eggs is then used to buy chicken feed. Rabbits are fed carrot and other vegetable scraps. Third grade is focused on life experiences. They partake in a variety of hands-on activities like cooking, baking, weaving, and farming.

This school is truly unique. They attempt to teach the children to develop love and respect for the earth. Families are encouraged to live ecologically through recycling, conservation of resources, and maintaining a healthy diet.

Walking through the campus one notices instantly that there is something different about it. There is no trash litter in the quad. Classrooms are plainly decorated with signs of cultural and ecological teachings. The garden and animals create a serene environment for fun and hands-on learning. What really makes the school unique (at least to me) is the parent involvement. This aspect allows the school to accomplish many goals that may otherwise be difficult or impossible.



Everyone helps out with the paper recycling program

are then made available to teachers for the following year.

Food is often prepared in the classroom as part of the lesson plans. All non-meat and non-dairy food scraps are placed in a composting bucket. Even the small amounts of paper towels used on campus are composted. Everyday after lunch, third grade students are responsible for collecting and emptying compost buckets from the classrooms and offices. By emptying

## Recycling Facts

*From the California Integrated Waste Management Board.*

### Aluminum

- Recycling aluminum results in 95% less air pollution and 97% less water pollution than producing aluminum from natural resources.
- It takes less than 6 months for a recycled aluminum can to return to the grocer's shelf.

### Glass

- Using recycled glass to make new glass cuts related air pollution by 20%.
- Glass never wears out-it can be recycled forever.

### Oil

- A quart of motor oil can pollute 250,000 gallons of water and 1 acre of land 1 inch deep.
- One gallon of used oil can produce the same amount of motor oil as 42 gallon of crude oil – while requiring about a third of the energy.
- Oil never wears out, it just gets dirty.

## Novato Thrift Stores

- **Angels' Attic Thrift Shop**  
967 5th St.  
415-898-4659
- **Hodgepodge II**  
910 Grant Ave.  
415-893-9036
- **Discovery Shop of the American Cancer Society**  
876 Grant Ave.  
415-898-1149
- **Goodwill Industries**  
936 7th St.  
415-898-4043
- **Novato Human Needs Center Thrift Store**  
1523 So. Novato Blvd.  
415-892-2172  
Will pick-up furniture.
- **Consignment Shop**  
818 Grant Ave.  
415-892-3496
- **Second Story**  
408 Ignacio Blvd.  
415-883-2400
- **Goodwill Marin store pick-up service**  
Scheduling desk for pick-up of furniture.  
415-456-5273
- **Goodwill Industries Drop-Off**  
Vintage Oak Shopping Center  
(behind Marshall's)  
415-575-2133  
Accepts most household items and clothing. No bed or futon mattresses, metal cabinets, beds or frames. No large appliances or computers. Drop-off hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. seven days a week.
- **Salvation Army pick-up service**  
Drivers have discretion on type and condition of items to be collected.  
1-800-958-7825
- **Salvation Army drop-off bin**  
Located behind Hamilton Exchange, Hamilton Village  
Small items and clothing only. No furniture or large appliances.  
Drop-off hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., seven days a week.

# Single Stream Recycling Guide

**Please do not place garbage or plastic bags in your recycle containers!**

- Empty containers
- Remove plastic lids and throw in trash
- Remove metal lids and recycle
- No plastic bags
- No styrofoam
- No hazardous or liquid waste

*Place the following together in the Blue Cart:*

## Cardboard & Mixed Paper

- ✓ **Cardboard** -Break down boxes, cut to fit loosely in cart.
  - ✓ **Newspaper and inserts**
  - ✓ **Mixed paper** -Junk mail, magazines, catalogs, construction paper, paperback and phone books.
  - ✓ **Office paper** -White & colored, envelopes with and without windows, post it notes.
  - ✓ **Paperboard** -Single-layer cardboard - egg cartons, tissue, cereal & shoe boxes, etc.
- Please place shredded paper in a paper bag



### Do not include:

- ✗ No paper with food waste (i.e. pizza boxes)
- ✗ No soiled paper (i.e. paper towels, tissues)
- ✗ No plastic bags, wrap, bubble wrap
- ✗ No waxed cardboard
- ✗ No plastic coated paper
- ✗ No photographic paper
- ✗ No hardcover books
- ✗ No blueprints
- ✗ No painted paper

## Milk Cartons and Juice/Rice/Soy boxes

- ✓ **Milk cartons**
  - ✓ **Juice Concentrate Containers**
  - ✓ **Drink boxes** -Juice, soy and rice milk containers and other aseptic packaging.
  - ✓ **New! Frozen food packaging (with no plastic lining)** Tear paper to identify plastic liner.
- Please empty before recycling • Remove plastic pop-tops and straws.



## Glass Bottles & Jars

- ✓ **Food & Beverage Glass** -All clear and colored food and beverage bottles and jars.
- Please empty before recycling • Leave labels on



### Do not include:

- ✗ No window glass
- ✗ No mirrors or light bulbs
- ✗ No ceramic or dishes
- ✗ No drinking or wine glasses
- ✗ No candle holders

## Plastic Containers

- ✓ **Plastic Bottles & Containers with recycling codes 1-7**
    - Milk & water jugs, yogurt & margarine tubs and deli trays. Fresh pasta and tofu tubs.
    - Colored plastics like shampoo, detergent and vitamin bottles.
- Please empty before recycling • Leave labels on • Discard caps



### Do not include:

- ✗ No styrofoam
- ✗ No plastic bags or wrap
- ✗ No chip bags
- ✗ No plastic buckets
- ✗ No plant/flower pots
- ✗ No plastic hangers
- ✗ No videos, floppies or CD's

## Metal Cans

- ✓ **Aluminum cans and foil**
  - ✓ **Steel cans, metal lids from jars**
  - ✓ **Tin and Bi-metal cans**
- Please empty before recycling • Leave labels on
- Aerosol & metal paint cans will be accepted if completely empty and dry.



### Do not include:

- ✗ No scrap metal
- ✗ No metal hangers
- ✗ Propane tanks
- ✗ No fire extinguishers

**Residential recycling is picked up on your regular garbage day.**

**Multifamily and commercial may have a different collection schedule depending on service type.**

**Businesses or other large generators can arrange for a bin for mixed recycling by calling Novato Disposal at 897-4177.**

## Novato Disposal Yard Waste Guidelines

**Mowing your lawn or raking the leaves? Trimming the hedges or pulling some weeds? Pruning your trees or having it out with berry bushes and brambles?**

Place all grass cuttings, leaves and weeds, tree & shrubbery trimmings, berry bushes and other yard waste inside your **green rolling cart** only. Branches under 3" in diameter and less than 4 feet long are accepted.

\* Place your greenwaste cart at the curbside next to your trash container allowing at least three feet of space between containers.

\* All greenwaste must be in the container. Loose material will not be collected.

\* Do not put yard waste in plastic bags.

**The following are NOT acceptable for greenwaste recycling:**

- garbage
- sod or dirt
- rock
- gravel or concrete
- lumber
- playground bark
- plastic bags
- nursery pots or plastic
- pet waste
- food waste
- processed or treated wood products

**Keep greenwaste "green". You may be assessed fee for contaminated yardwaste!**