

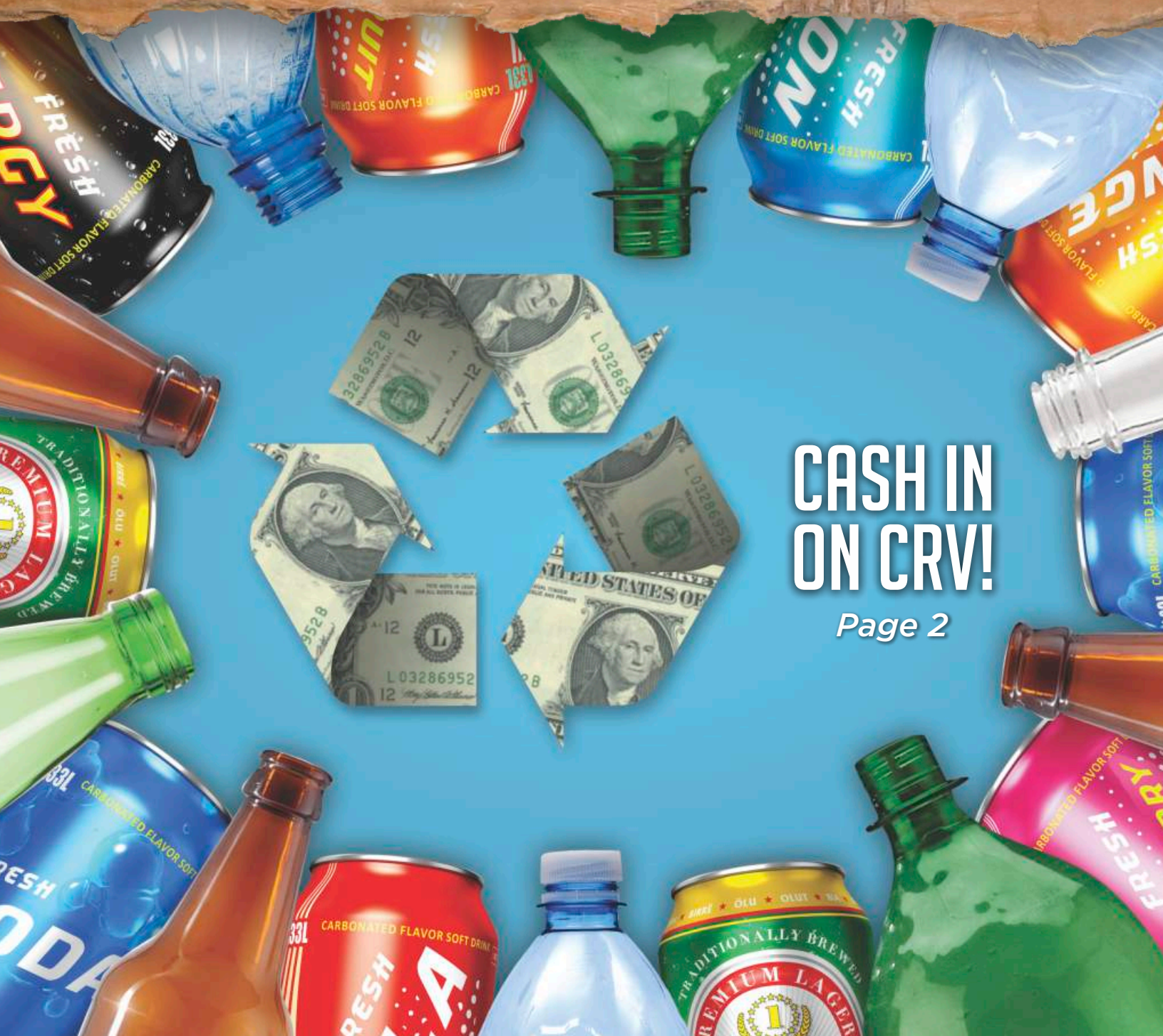
REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE



# ZERO WASTE

## News

A publication for County of Santa Cruz GreenWaste Recovery  
Multi-Family Residence Customers | Summer 2024



### CASH IN ON CRV!

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# CASH IN ON CRV!

Have you looked at your receipts lately? You should! You might notice a 25-cent charge for each paper bag, and a 5-cent California Redemption Value (CRV) charge for each can, plastic bottle, or glass bottle of your favorite drinks. January 1, 2024 stores started charging 10 to 25 cents CRV on your bottle or box of spirits. If you currently redeem your CRV at the Ben Lomond Transfer Station, it's time to make a change to save money, time, and gas costs for those trips to Ben Lomond.

Next time you visit the store, ask how to redeem your CRV items and get ready for more saving, and less driving. When you head to the market or store, place your emptied CRV items in your reuseable bag. Returning 24 cans or empty bottles at 5 cents each would bring you \$1.20; returning more cans, bottles, box wine, pouches and other redeemable CRV containers brings even more that you can use towards your purchase. Bringing your reusable bags saves you more, and every penny counts!

As of July 1, 2025 the Ben Lomond Transfer Station CRV redemption center will not be available for CRV redemption. However, starting January 1, 2025 any beverage retailer will have to either join a dealer cooperative or offer in-store redemption to customers. Don't wait to cash in! Do it weekly when you go shopping. Most places such as supermarkets will refund up to 50 cans or bottles so stay current to prevent a pile up.

What stores take CRV? Scan this code and enter your zip code to find CRV redemption stores near you.





# SWAP SINGLE-USE TO REUSABLE

Even one simple swap from single-use to reusable can make a difference in reducing trash:



SINGLE USE
Travel toiletries
Paper napkins
Plastic utensils
Tissues
Packaged deli & meats
Takeout cups
Plastic bottles
Dryer sheets
Liquid laundry detergent in plastic
Paper towels
Plastic zip bags
Products in plastic packaging

REUSABLE SWAP
Refill small containers
Cloth napkins
Spork or silverware
Cloth handkerchief or bandana
Butcher counter
Thermal mug/cup
Refillable bottle
Dryer balls
Laundry detergent sheets
Cloth towels
Silicone bags
Refill your containers from bulk



## SUMMER CELEBRATIONS

Summer is a great time to get together outdoors for a barbeque with friends and family. Skip the single-use items that get thrown in the trash. Use real plates, glasses and silverware. Have your friends bring a to-go container for leftovers to remind them of the fun you had together! For more tips on zero waste celebrations, check [protectyourcentralcoast.org/tips/celebrations/](https://protectyourcentralcoast.org/tips/celebrations/)



# SANTA CRUZ COUNTY HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) PROGRAM

Many common household products are legally defined as hazardous. If a product label has the words danger, caution, poison or “handle with care” then it’s likely HHW. Items such as batteries, cell phones, computers, smoke detectors, solar panels and propane cylinders can pose a threat to human health, animals, and the environment when improperly used or disposed. Hazardous items cannot be disposed in the trash or recycling. The Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program with trained professionals provides the only proper way to dispose of hazardous products when they are no longer wanted.

HHW Collection Facilities are open FREE OF CHARGE to residents of the unincorporated County of Santa Cruz and the Cities of Scotts Valley, Capitola and Santa Cruz. Please bring proof of residency with you (e.g. driver license, utility bill). For locations and hours of operation, check our website at [www.santacruzcountyrecycles.org](http://www.santacruzcountyrecycles.org).

When you buy batteries, check if they are alkaline or lithium. Knowing what type of battery you are buying can help you to know how to dispose of your used batteries. Always tape the two terminals on a 9-volt battery, and both ends of lithium batteries. If terminals touch each other or other metal, they could spark a reaction.



# SANTA CRUZ COUNTY TAKE BACK PROGRAM

The Santa Cruz County Take Back Program allows you to take back certain hazardous items to a retail location for disposal, to save you a trip to the HHW Collection Facility.



## Paint

Find paint drop off locations [www.paintcare.org/drop-off-sites/#/find-a-drop-off-site](http://www.paintcare.org/drop-off-sites/#/find-a-drop-off-site)



## Fluorescent Light Bulbs

NEVER throw your used fluorescent bulbs in the trash or recycling! Locate a drop-off retailer at [www.santacruzcountyrecycles.org](http://www.santacruzcountyrecycles.org)

Limit: 10 bulbs per day. Compact fluorescents and tubes up to 4' length accepted.



## USED MOTOR OIL & FILTERS

Find used oil certified collection centers [www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/UsedOil/CertifiedCenters/](http://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/UsedOil/CertifiedCenters/)



## MEDICATIONS AND SHARPS

Locate a safe drop off [med-project.org/locations/santa-cruz-county/](http://med-project.org/locations/santa-cruz-county/)



# SAVE THE DATE!



## California Coastal Cleanup Day

Saturday, September 21, 2024

For more info go to [www.saveourshores.org](http://www.saveourshores.org)

**County of Santa Cruz  
Community Development & Infrastructure**  
701 Ocean Street, Room 410  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
(831) 454-2160

Presort Standard  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Complete Mailing  
Service, Inc.



Printed on 55% recycled 30% post-consumer waste paper processed chlorine-free, using soy-based inks.

# RECYCLING RESOURCES



**Recycle Information Line** ..... 831-454-2333

- What and where to recycle (recorded messages)

**Curbside Refuse, Recycling and Yard Waste Collection** ..... 800-665-2209

(operated by GreenWaste Recovery)  
[www.greenwaste.com/santa-cruz-county](http://www.greenwaste.com/santa-cruz-county)

- Begin new service
- Report missed recycling or trash service
- Request delivery or removal of carts
- Obtain oil recycling jugs



**County Community Development & Infrastructure.** 831-454-2160  
[www.santacruzcountyrecycles.org](http://www.santacruzcountyrecycles.org)

- Apartments and business recycling inquiries
  - Complaints, compliments or suggestions
  - Report roadside trash ..... 831-477-3999
- Download and use the "My Santa Cruz County" free mobile app

**Household Hazardous Waste.** ..... 831-454-2606  
(recorded messages)

- Schedule for free disposal
- Non-hazardous alternatives

**Contact Zero Waste Outreach Team** ..... 831 454-2160  
or [ZeroWaste@santacruzcounty.us](mailto:ZeroWaste@santacruzcounty.us)

- Questions
- Volunteer as a Zero Waste champion



**Composting Resources** ..... [www.compostsantacruzcounty.org](http://www.compostsantacruzcounty.org)

**Buena Vista Landfill & Recycling Center** ..... 831-454-5153

- Recorded information ..... 831-454-2430

1231 Buena Vista Drive, Watsonville 95076  
Open: Mon-Tues, Thurs-Sat 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM;  
Wed 7:30 AM to 2:30 PM

HHW Facility - Open: Wed 7:30 AM to 2:30 PM;  
Fri and Sat 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM

**Ben Lomond Transfer Station & Recycling Center** ..... 831-336-3951

- Recorded information ..... 831-454-2430

9835 Newell Creek Road, Ben Lomond 95005  
Open: Mon-Tues, Thurs-Sat 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM;  
Wed 7:30 AM to 2:30 PM

HHW Facility - Open Thursdays 7:30-3:30

**California Grey Bears Recycling Centers** ..... 831-479-1055 ext. 235

Mid County, 2710 Chanticleer Avenue, Santa Cruz 95065  
Open: 7:30-3:45 daily

Buena Vista Landfill -  
Open: Mon-Tues, Thurs-Sat 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM;  
Wed 7:30 AM to 2:30 PM

Ben Lomond Transfer Station -  
Open: Mon-Tues, Thurs-Sat 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM;  
Wed 7:30 AM to 2:30 PM

**City of Santa Cruz Resource Recovery Facility & Recycling Center** ..... 831-420-6270

- Open to unincorporated county residents in Davenport and Bonny Doon only

605 Dimeo Lane, Santa Cruz 95060  
Open: Mon-Sat 7:30-3:30

HHW Facility - Open: Saturdays 7:30-3:30



Para información en español sobre el reciclaje en las áreas no incorporadas del condado de Santa Cruz, favor de llamar al (800) 665-2209.