Los Altos Quarterly Residential Newsletter



Proud to Serve the Los Altos Community

YOU CAN MINIMIZE STORMWATER POLLUTION

The discharge of pollutants and debris through the storm drain systems is the leading cause of water pollution in the Bay Area. During the dry season, pollutants build up on paved surfaces. When it rains, these accumulated pollutants are carried through the storm drain systems into the San Francisco Bay.

Here's what you can do:

- Put litter in its proper place. Prevent leaves and litter from getting into storm drains. Rake leaves into a pile and place them in your Organics cart.
- Avoid applying fertilizers or pesticides when rain is in the forecast.



- Check your driveway or regular parking area for build-up of auto fluids. If your car is leaking, place a drip pan under your car, then promptly take it to a professional repair shop.
- Keep all container lids closed; do not overload containers. If needed, contact MTWS to request a larger container to prevent overflow.

Shopping at the Farmers' Market?



Don't just remember to bring your favorite reusable bags, remember to wash them first.

Regular washing of your bags can help prevent bacteria and mold from growing and contaminating future food purchases. Follow the care instructions on your favorite bags. If you can't put a bag in the washing machine with detergent, wipe it down with disinfectant; pay special attention to the seams. Make sure your clean bags are dry before storing them in a cool, dry place.

KEEPING YOUR GREEN ORGANICS CARTS CLEAN

- 1. Wrap all wet waste in a paper bag or newspaper
- 2. Freeze food scraps prior to your collection day
- 3. Do not discard contaminates i.e., dirt, animal waste, hazardous materials, or clean recyclables into the green cart.

Our website is a great resource to answer any or your recycling questions: Please visit:

https://missiontrail.com/losaltos/

Avoid contaminating the bins:

- 1. Use clear bags
- Use green, black and blue bins inside all businesses and presort the material before bringing it outside to our collection bins
- 3. Create clear signage so employees can identify the material specific to your business

- 4. Do not purchase Styrofoam cups or takeout containers that are not recyclable
- 5. Rinse and dry all food solid containers





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Reusable Items Have a Home

Contact the following organizations:

Salvation Army @ satruck.org or (408) 283-3864 Goodwill Industries @ (650) 969-3382

