October 2026

Mission Trail Waste Systems

Los Altos Quarterly Multi-Family Newsletter

Proud to Serve the Los Altos Community

Together, We Kept Our Community Cleaner - Thank You!

How Your Efforts Make a Difference

As the year concludes, MTWS celebrates improvements across multi-family communities, including reduced contamination in recycling containers, increased use of organics programs, and more participation in reuse and waste-reduction efforts. Each unit contributes to a healthier, more sustainable Los Altos.

Holiday Waste Reduction Tips

Communal collection areas fill up quickly during the holidays, but a few simple choices can help reduce waste and keep recycling carts clean:

- Reuse and repurpose: Save gift bags, bows, ribbons, and undamaged wrapping paper for next year.
- Get creative: Wrap gifts with newspapers, old maps, fabric, or scarves instead of new paper.
- Skip glitter and foil: These materials make wrapping paper non-recyclable and can contaminate recycling carts.

Small actions help keep our building's waste streams cleaner and reduce seasonal waste.

Unsure About Tricky Materials?

End-of-year cleaning brings items like batteries, small electronics, and cooking oils that can be taken to Santa Clara County's local household hazardous waste collection facility. Take advantage of this free drop-off program! Visit https://hhw.santaclaracounty.gov/home or call 408-299-7300 for location, hours and more detailed information.

Recycling Tip: Keep Styrofoam Out of Recycling Carts

Styrofoam—whether from packaging, takeout containers, or block foam—cannot be recycled in your building's recycling containers. Please place all Styrofoam in the garbage, not the recycling. Keeping Styrofoam out of recycling containers helps prevent contamination and protects the recycling system for the entire community.



UPCOMING EVENTS



DOWNTOWN LOS ALTOS
A BOO-tiful Downtown Halloween
October 30th @ 12:00 - 4:00 pm

DOWNTOWN LOS ALTOS
Small Business Saturday
November 28th



DOWNTOWN LOS ALTOS
Holiday Tree Celebration
December 4th @ 6:00 - 8:00 pm



170 STATE STREET, LOS ALTOS
Holiday Market
December 10th & 17th @ 4:00 - 8:00 pm



Increased Cardboard over the Holidays

If your complex generates a large amount of cardboard from delivery service companies and holiday gifts these three ideas will help maximize space in your blue recycling cart.

1. Place all cardboard boxes in your recycling cart or bin and please place discarded packaging tape in the black cart.
2. Please break down all cardboard boxes, flatten and cut into sizes that allow the cardboard to sit loosely in your recycling container.
3. If your recycling container is full but you still have extra cardboard to discard, please break the cardboard down and place into bundles no larger than 3ft x 3ft. Place the bundles next to your blue recycling cart or bin on your service day. If the bundled cardboard is larger than 3ft x 3ft, we cannot take it.

MISSION TRAIL
WASTE SYSTEMS

1060 Richard Avenue
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Holiday collection schedule inside!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



Mission Trail Observes the Following Holidays:

THANKSGIVING • CHRISTMAS • NEW YEAR'S DAY

Customers may experience a delay in service when a holiday falls on a weekday. During a holiday week, service preceding the holiday is unaffected. Customers whose regular service day falls on the holiday or after, however, will receive service a day late. For example, during Thanksgiving week, only customers with Thursday and Friday service are affected. Thursday customers will have their containers serviced on Friday. Friday customers will have their containers serviced on Saturday.

Contact us:

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