

# The RECYCLER

HOME EDITION

JAN/FEB/MARCH 2002

## On Call Clean-Up

Remember you don't have to wait until spring for your free clean-up. Residents of South San Francisco, Millbrae and Brisbane may have two free clean-ups a year at anytime. Please note, the clean-up is limited to ONE large item such as a sofa or washing machine or mattress and ONE cubic yard of trash (equivalent to 6-30 gallon containers or bags). Just call 650.589.4020 to schedule your free clean-up on your regular garbage collection day. Please be prepared to tell the customer service representative what items you have for disposal, for example, one sofa and 4 bags of trash.



## For Millbrae Residents

### City of Millbrae's Arbor & Earth Day Fair

.....Celebrate Our Earth!

**Green Hills Park - Saturday, April 13th, 2002, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM**

Join the City of Millbrae for tree planting, kids' activities, entertainment, free environmental handouts, demonstrations and more! This will be fun for the whole family!

**Call the Parks and Recreation Department for more information - 650.259.2360.**

*Sponsored by Millbrae's Parks and Recreation Commission and Environmental Programs.*

**Attend the Arbor & Earth Day Fair to see backyard composting, worm composting and organic gardening demonstrations.**



## Upcoming Free Workshops

The City of Millbrae's Recycling & Waste Prevention Program and San Mateo County is sponsoring the following workshops to encourage waste prevention and recycling.

All workshops are held from 9:30 am-11:30 am at the Millbrae Community Center, 477 Lincoln Circle.

To sign-up, call 650.259.2360.

For more information, call 650.259.2444.

### May 11 and June 22

#### Backyard & Worm Composting

Learn the basics of backyard and worm composting by attending one of these workshops. These workshops will be taught by a San Mateo County Master Composter.

## Resource Information

**South San Francisco Scavenger Co.**  
500 East Jamie Court  
650.589.4020

*e-mail to:* info@ssfscavenger.com

*web site:* www.ssfscavenger.com

### Blue Line Transfer, Inc.

500 East Jamie Court  
South San Francisco  
650.589.5511

- **Public Disposal**
- **Recycling - Buyback Center**
- **B. O. P. A. Center**  
(Batteries, Oil (motor oil & filters), Paint (latex), Antifreeze)
- **Electronics Recycling**  
(e.g., computers, televisions, cell phones, etc.)
- **Fluorescent Tubes**

### San Mateo County Recycling/Compost Hotline

1.888.442.2666  
[www.RecycleWorks.org](http://www.RecycleWorks.org)  
(comprehensive online recycling reuse directory)

### San Mateo County Household Hazardous Waste Program

By Appointment Only 650.363.4718

**For Millbrae Residents:**  
**City of Millbrae Recycling and Waste Prevention Program**  
650.259.2444

## Electronic "e-waste" Recycling

### Diverting Waste and Creating Jobs

**B**lue Line Transfer, Inc.'s Material Recovery Facility (MRF) has diverted over 33 tons of electronics from the landfill since the drop off e-waste recycling program began in June 2001. The e-waste program includes computers, key boards, printers, desk top copiers, fax machines, typewriters, power cables, stereos, VCR's and cell phones. These items are accepted at the MRF from Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm and Saturday from 8:30 am to 12:00 pm. The materials are collected by HMR, Inc., which specializes in electronics reclamation, re-use and recycling.



Due to increased reprocessing and salvaging costs for all e-waste material, a fee for recycling will be charged beginning January 1, 2002. To ensure environmentally responsible handling of electronic waste, HMR, Inc. will no longer ship any material overseas for reprocessing. Instead, e-waste will be sent to HMR, Inc.'s new plant in Sacramento for reclamation, which will create jobs, benefit our economy and protect the environment.

### Computer Monitors & Televisions

Televisions and Computer monitors may not be disposed of in the landfill. These items both contain cathode-ray tubes (CRT's) and

they must be recycled or disposed of as hazardous waste due to their high lead content. Therefore, televisions and computer monitors cannot be collected as part of the on call



clean-up service or disposed of in the trash. Listed below are the new handling fees for disposal of televisions and computer monitors effective January 1, 2002.

### Drop off rates for Televisions

Up to 13" - \$12.00	32" - \$55.00
19" - 20" - \$20.00	36" - \$65.00
27" - \$35.00	

### Drop off rates for Computer Monitors

15" - 17" - \$20.00
19" - 21" - \$25.00

## 2002 Yard Waste Calendars

### South San Francisco Residents

Your new yard waste calendar is enclosed with your first garbage bill for 2002 (charges for January, February, March). Please refer to your garbage bill to see what your yard waste collection days are for your address. For example, 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month. Then, mark your collection days on the calendar, and keep it for future reference.

### Millbrae & Brisbane Residents

Please note that yard waste calendars for Millbrae & Brisbane residents were mailed on December 1, 2001. Please call the office at 650.589.4020 and request a calendar if you did not receive one.

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SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO  
**SCAVENGER**  
COMPANY, INC.

## Announcing Backyard Composting Workshop

Sponsored by South San Francisco Scavenger Company and San Mateo County Recycling Program



**Saturday, March 16, 2002  
from 9:30 am to 11:30 am**

**At South San Francisco  
Scavenger Company**

**500 East Jamie Court**

**Please call 650.589.4020 to  
reserve a space!**

### What is composting?

Composting is nature's process of recycling decomposed organic materials into a rich soil known as compost. Anything that was once living will decompose. Basically, backyard composting is an acceleration of the same process nature uses. By composting your organic waste you are returning nutrients back into the soil in order for the cycle of life to continue. Finished compost looks like soil-dark brown, crumbly and smells like a forest floor.

### 10 good reasons why you should compost

10. Home composting is a valuable tool in educating children about nature and the cycle of life.
9. Feeding your plants well will improve your own diet. Plants grown in depleted soils have a reduced nutrient content.
8. Composting saves money -you avoid the cost of buying soil conditioners, fertilizers, manure, etc.
7. Compost provides a balanced, slow-release source of nutrients that helps soil hold nutrients long enough for plants to use them.
6. Compost amends both sandy and clay soils.
5. Adding decomposed organic material to the soil feeds beneficial organisms.
4. Adding organic material to the soil improves moisture retention.
3. Healthy plants from healthy soil look better, produce better and have a much greater ability to fight off pests and diseases.
2. You will significantly reduce pest problems-and your use of pesticides.
1. Yard and food waste make up 30% of the waste stream. Composting your kitchen and yard trimmings helps divert that waste from the landfill, water, and water treatment facilities.

Article on composting reprinted with kind permission from San Mateo County Recycling Program. For more information on composting including worm composting go to their web site at [www.recycleworks.org](http://www.recycleworks.org).



### Household Hazardous Collection Days

Do you have Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) that you need to dispose?

- Fluorescent tubes
- Paints, varnishes & stains
- Paint thinner
- Cleaning products
- Furniture & metal polishes
- Mercury thermometers
- Pesticides
- Art & hobby supplies
- Pool chemicals
- Other toxics



The San Mateo County HHW program holds collection events at various locations throughout the County.

County residents need to call 650.363.4718 to make the required appointment.

Following are dates through March for collection events to be held at Blue Line Transfer, Inc. in South San Francisco.

### Household Hazardous Collection Days

January 10

February 14

March 14

### Cell Phone Donation Update

Thank you for your donations! Since the cell phone and pager donation program was announced last summer over 136 cell phones and 13 pagers have been dropped off at Blue Line Transfer Station and more recently the Millbrae Police Department. The cell phones and pagers are mailed to Motorola where they are refurbished and set to dial 911, and then distributed through the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence to domestic violence victims and organizations.



### Stop Unwanted Junk Mail

With a little effort, you can stop most unwanted junk mail. For example, send a post card to Mail Preference Service and ask to be put on their "suppress" file. Also, when ordering from a catalog or making a donation, ask that your personal information not be traded or sold.

For more ideas go to the San Mateo County web site [www.recycleworks.org](http://www.recycleworks.org) or call our office at 650.589.4020.

**Mail Preference Service  
C/O Direct Marketing  
Association  
PO Box 9008  
Farmingdale, NY 11735**

City of Millbrae residents may call the Recycling & Waste Prevention Program at 259-2444 for a free copy of their Junk Mail Reduction Kit and learn how to reduce unwanted mail. Using this Kit will be time well spent for you and the environment.