

# The Recycler

Winter 2013



## Food Waste Collection?

**W**e have received many calls and emails this past year from our residential customers letting us know that they would prefer to put their food waste into the green waste cart instead of the garbage cart and asking us if and when we planned to collect food waste. We are pleased to announce that the planning is complete, the permitting is in progress and we anticipate providing food waste along with green waste collection service for our residential customers sometime in the late summer or fall of 2013.



SSF Scavenger Company (SSFSC) has been collecting food waste from commercial food producers and businesses for several years. The compost facility that we use has been unable to accept more material, and since there were not many feasible alternatives, we began to look at new technologies to manage residential food waste and green waste.

The plans are to install an Anaerobic Digestion (AD) facility at Blue Line Transfer in South San Francisco. AD is a natural process in which bacteria breaks down organic matter in an oxygen free environment. The AD facility will be capable of processing all food waste and green waste from residential properties and converting it into compost. Also, this biological process will produce a biogas which can be upgraded into a usable fuel. The AD facility is expected to produce enough compressed natural gas (CNG) to fuel the SSFSC's organic waste collection fleet.

We appreciate your interest in food waste and green waste collection and we will keep you informed of our progress and provide you with more details about this service in the coming months.

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

650.589.4020

[www.ssfscavenger.com](http://www.ssfscavenger.com)

### BACK YARD COMPOSTING

## Announcing 12th Annual Backyard Composting Workshop

Sponsored by  
*South San Francisco Scavenger Co.*

And San Mateo County  
*RecycleWorks Program*

**C**omposting fruit and vegetable scraps, leaves and plants and grass cuttings is the best way to enrich your garden soil, improve water retention and reduce the need for pesticides. Come and learn about backyard composting and vermiculture (worm bin) from a master composter. Workshop attendees will be eligible for a drawing to win a compost bin and a worm bin!



*Please call 650.589.4020 x 105  
and reserve a space now.*



### Free Compost Workshop

**Saturday, March 23, 2013**

**10:00 am to 12:00 pm**

**South San Francisco Scavenger Co.  
500 East Jamie Court  
(East Grand/Haskins Way)**



## City of South San Francisco Adopts Reusable Bag Ordinance

**T**he City of South San Francisco has adopted a reusable bag ordinance. The ordinance will go into effect, April 22, 2013 and will prohibit the use of single-use carryout bags (thin plastic shopping bags) at retail stores. This ordinance will help reduce litter and encourage the use of reusable shopping bags.



The ordinance prohibits the free distribution of single-use carryout paper and plastic bags and requires retail establishments to charge customers for recycled paper bags and reusable bags at the point of sale. The minimum charge will be ten cents per paper bag until December 31, 2014 and

twenty-five cents per paper bag on or after January 1, 2015.

Customers participating in the California Special Supplement Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children and the Supplemental Food Program may be provided with a recycled paper bag at no cost.

The ordinance does not apply to protective types of bags without handles provided to customers for items such as meat, produce, bakery goods, small hardware, dry cleaning and prescription medications. This ordinance does not apply to restaurants.

***If you have any questions regarding this ordinance, please call 650-829-6634 or e-mail sustainable.ssf@ssf.net.***



## City of Millbrae

### Sustainable Millbrae 2013 Workshop Series

Please check the City's website at [www.ci.millbrae.ca.us/sustainablemillbrae](http://www.ci.millbrae.ca.us/sustainablemillbrae) to learn of upcoming rainwater harvesting, energy efficiency, composting and organic gardening workshops.

### Bring Your Own Bag (BYOB)

A number of cities and counties throughout California have implemented single-use carry out bag ordinances. The City of Millbrae's bag ban took effect September 2012. In November, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors voted to ban carryout bags at stores in the unincorporated areas effective April 2013. Many other cities on the peninsula are considering similar bans.



**Rebuilding Together Peninsula** is a non-profit, volunteer organization dedicated to repairing the homes and community facilities of those in need. Volunteers complete repairs at no cost to qualified homeowners across the Peninsula. *To apply for repair services or to volunteer, call Rebuilding Together Peninsula at (650) 366-6597 or visit [www.RebuildingTogetherPeninsula.org](http://www.RebuildingTogetherPeninsula.org).*

## Resource Information

### South San Francisco Scavenger Co.

- ◆ **Debris and mini debris box service**
- ◆ **On Call Clean-Ups**  
Take advantage of your **two** annual On Call Clean-Ups for extra trash and bulky items.
- ◆ **No Trace Mobile Document Destruction** –  
At your home or business



500 East Jamie Court, SSF • 650.589.4020 • [www.ssfscavenger.com](http://www.ssfscavenger.com)

### Blue Line Transfer, Inc.

Public Disposal and Recycling Facility

- ◆ **Drop off for San Mateo County Residents**
  - Car batteries
  - Household batteries (\$) • Used motor oil & filters
  - Sharps Containers • Latex paint
  - Fluorescent tubes & bulbs (\$) • Antifreeze
  - Cooking oil (\$)

### San Mateo County

- ◆ **Household Hazardous Waste Program**  
Free drop off – by appointment only  
For pesticides, toxic garden & cleaning products, oil based paint, varnishes, stains, household batteries, fluorescent tubes & bulbs, etc.

650.363.4718  
[www.smhealth.org/hhw](http://www.smhealth.org/hhw)

### San Mateo County RecycleWorks Program

Provides information on **where to donate reusable items** & where to recycle items that are not accepted in your curbside recycle cart.

Hotline 1.888.442.2666 [www.RecycleWorks.org](http://www.RecycleWorks.org)



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