



## Recycling: Back to the Basics



**RECYCLE ALL BOTTLES,  
CANS AND PAPER**



**KEEP ITEMS  
CLEAN & DRY**



**NO PLASTIC BAGS**



Recycling is at a crossroads in California and across the globe. A crackdown from China on what materials it will accept and how "clean" those materials must be, is causing a ripple effect throughout the industry that ends in how you sort materials in your kitchen.

What you think is recyclable might not be and how you handle the materials you recycle might need to change.

Our primary and immediate task is to clean up the recycling stream.

Contamination impacts the quality of recyclable materials. For example, food and liquid in a recycling container can mix with otherwise good paper and cardboard turning those recyclable materials into trash.

Please make sure you're not placing trash in your recycling. If you stick to general rules you will help the environment and keep recycling sustainable.

Visit [nevadacounty.wm.com](http://nevadacounty.wm.com) for more information.

### Do You Know the Basics?

Take this recycling quiz to see if your household recycles right. Choose between recycling and trash.

(Answers at the bottom)



A) Greasy/Soiled Pizza Boxes



B) Plastic Cutlery and Plastic Plates



C) Plastic Water Bottles  
Plastic Detergent Jug



D) Pet Waste (including litter) & Diapers



E) Plastic Tubs  
(ex.: Yogurt, Margarine, Sour Cream)

A) Trash B) Trash C) Recycling  
D) Trash E) Trash



## Make Your Property Fire Safe

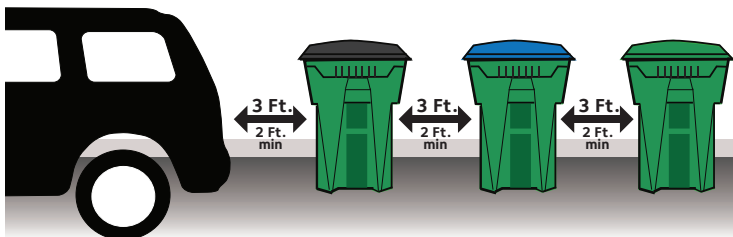
Reduce the risk of wildfires and protect your home and our community by ensuring your property is fire safe.

Waste Management of Nevada County can help by hauling away your yard debris. All you have to do is sign up for green waste disposal – *it's less than half the cost of self-hauling to McCourtney Road Transfer Station!*

Follow these steps for a fire-safe property:

- Maintain landscaping for a 100 foot radius around your house.
- Remove dead and downed vegetation (especially leaves, pine needles and dry grass).
- Thin trees and limbs.
- Remove "ladder" fuels (vegetation under trees).
- Create safe home ignition zone.
- Conduct routine cleanups year-round.

## Proper Cart Set Out Spacing



Please leave a minimum of 2 feet of space between carts and other objects such as cars, utility poles and mailboxes. Learn more online at: <http://bit.ly/cartsetout>

## Keep Your BBQ's Toasty, Not Our Trucks

Just as those coals helped to get the fire started while camping or for your backyard BBQ, they can also start a fire in a trash cart or in the back of one of our trucks!

Hot coals and fresh ashes can easily ignite surrounding materials but you can help by properly disposing of coals and ashes.



Please follow these simple rules:

- **Coals or fresh ashes should never be placed in a trash cart.**
- **Cool coals for several days in a fireplace or grill, then place in a metal container with a tight lid before placing in trash cart.**
- **Do not use galvanized containers, as hot coals on the galvanized metal will release noxious fumes.**
- **Never place used coals in plastic, paper or wood containers.**
- **To speed the cooling process, carefully place coals in a metal container full of water to extinguish any residuals.**
- **Do not place other combustibles in the container with the coals or ashes.**

The importance of following these rules cannot be overstated. Seventy-five percent of our waste and recycling collection truck fires are a result of the improper disposal of materials such as hot barbecue coals and ashes.

Please follow the simple rules above to help keep our drivers, our community and you and your family safe.

### Waste Management of Nevada County

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### Hours of Operation

Monday – Friday – 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Visit us at [NevadaCounty.wm.com](http://NevadaCounty.wm.com)