

City of Ridgecrest

Recycling News

Winter 2025-2026



Season's Greetings from WM!

We're excited to bring you this winter newsletter, filled with tips and resources to help make recycling and waste management easier and more effective for your community. As we prepare for a new year, we want you to know how grateful we are for your commitment to creating a cleaner, greener Ridgecrest. Thank you for being part of our extended family and Happy Holidays!

Holiday Tree Collection

You can recycle live trees and wreaths during the first two service days in January at no additional cost!

How to Prepare Your Tree

- Cut into 2-foot sections.
- Remove all decorations, tinsel, lights, and stands.
- Place pieces in your green waste cart. Live wreaths can also go in your green waste cart if decoration-free.
- **Note:** No flocked or artificial trees accepted.



Drop-Off Option: You can also take your live tree to the WM Transfer Station located at 237 County Line Road. Hours: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Community Recycling Bin & Soiled Waste Bin

The recycling bin and soiled waste bin are located inside the WM yard gates (237 County Line Rd) are open Monday - Friday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. During the week, please check in with the office staff prior to dropping off. The recycling bin is designated for flattened cardboard, bottles, cans, plastic to-go cups, glass, and paper, paper cups (please do not place recyclables in plastic bags). The soiled waste bin is available for diapers and animal waste.

Safely Dispose of Your Sharps

You can easily and safely dispose of sharps with WM's Sharps Mail Back Program.

Order Your Kit – Contact Customer Service today to get started.



Drop-Off Option – Bring sharps to the Ridgecrest Special Waste Facility on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (Closed on New Year's Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.)



Scan the QR code to visit the City of Ridgecrest website and view the 2026 Collection Schedule.

Household Hazardous Waste Disposal

You can dispose of household hazardous waste, such as household cleaners, pesticides, paint products, swimming pool chemicals, and automotive fluids, at the Ridgecrest Kern County Special Waste Facility located at 3301 W. Bowman Road at the Ridgecrest Landfill. Hours: 2nd & 4th Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Closed: New Year's Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day



Free Bulk Item Collection

Residents receive up to three (3) free bulk item collections per year with a maximum of up to three (3) cubic yards of solid waste, recyclables, and e-waste OR up to one (1) appliance or bulk item. Please schedule your pickup at least 48 hours in advance of your regular service day. Schedule online at home.wm.com/ridgecrest or contact WM.



Acceptable items include furniture, appliances, tires, wrapped mattresses, wrapped box springs, and electronics.

Non-acceptable items include hazardous waste, machinery and industrial discards, oil, grease, and other liquids, construction and demolition debris, or excessively large items. Please, no cardboard boxes or bags of trash.

Holidays

WM observes the following holidays:

**New Year's Day | Independence Day | Labor Day
Thanksgiving Day | Christmas Day**

If a holiday falls on a weekday, collections for the rest of the week will be pushed back a day. For a Thursday holiday, service would be on Friday, and Friday service would be Saturday. For holidays on Saturday or Sunday, there are no delays.

Organics | Recycling | Trash

Right Materials - Right Container - Know Which Container to Use

Why SB 1383? SB 1383 aims to slow climate change by diverting organic materials from landfills, recovering 20% of edible food, and redirecting it to food-insecure Californians. Disposing of organic waste rather than composting it creates 20% of California's methane emissions. Methane is a climate super pollutant and is 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide*.

(*CalRecycle, <https://calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/slcp>)

What Goes in the Organics Container:



Food Waste



Yard Waste



Produce



Meat, Fish & Poultry



Dairy



Bread, Pasta, Rice,
Grains, Coffee Grounds



Do Not Include:

Plastic Bags or Film
Serveware/Utensils
Plastic Containers
Foam Containers
Hazardous Waste
Fats, Oils, or Greases

Place organics materials directly into your organics cart - **To reduce odor, put food waste in a paper bag or an ASTM-certified compostable bag.**

What Goes in the Recycling Container:



Plastic Bottles, Cups
& Containers



Paper & Paper Cups



Glass Bottles & Containers



Flattened Cardboard
& Paperboard



Food & Beverage Cans



Do Not Include:

Food or Liquids
Plastic Bags or Film
Foam Containers
Clothing, Furniture
or Carpet
Batteries
Electronics
Hazardous Waste
Yard Waste

Place recyclables directly into your recycling cart - **Don't bag your recycling materials.**

What Goes in the Trash Container:



Foam Cups &
Containers



Garden Hose



Broken Ceramic
Dishes & Pots



Candy, Snack &
Food Wrappers



Do Not Include:

Food Waste
Recyclables
Hazardous Waste
Electronics
Batteries, Tires or Paint
Flammable Material



Plastic Bags & Film



Diapers



Pet Waste



Clothing & Textiles

Sorting guide magnets are available for residents to pickup at City Hall and public outreach events.