City of Simi Valley

2026 Summer Recycling News

Dear Simi Valley Residents,

We are proud to serve your community with reliable residential organics, recycling, and trash collection. We hope you enjoy this newsletter and invite you to explore the programs and services designed to make sustainability simple and convenient for you.

Free Bulk Item Pick Up

Residents may request up to two (2) free bulk item pick ups per calendar year, with up to four (4) items per collection. Additional bulky requests are available for a fee. Visit home.wm.com/simi-valley to schedule your pickup.

Bulk items include: couches, washers, dryers, refrigerators, desks, and electronic waste. Items are to be placed curbside and will be collected on your regular collection day.

Connect With WM

Your Community Website

Visit **home.wm.com/home.wm.com/simi-valley** to check pickup schedules (including holidays), review service guidelines, submit requests, and contact us—all in just a few clicks. It's your one-stop hub for staying informed and in control.

My WM Account

With My WM, you can easily view your service and holiday schedules, manage your account, pay bills, and even set up autopay and paperless billing for added convenience. Getting started is simple—scan the code, visit **wm.com/mywm** or download the My WM App from Google Play or the Apple App Store.

Let's Chat

Visit **wm.com/support** to chat with our virtual assistant or connect with a customer service representative who's ready to help.

Electronic Waste Drop Off

You can drop off your e waste for FREE at the WM G.I. office located at 195 West Los Angeles Ave. Simi Valley, CA 93065.

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Typical e waste items include computers, monitors, TV's, phones, batteries, etc.

Household hazardous waste such as house cleaners, pool and garden chemicals, and paint, are not accepted.

Cart Monitoring

To help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve composting, California's SB 1383 requires cities—including Simi Valley—to monitor recycling and organics carts for contamination.

Avoid fees and help keep our city sustainable by keeping your recycling and organics clean and properly sorted.

What is Contamination?

Contamination happens when you place the wrong material in the wrong cart such as trash in your recycling or organics cart. To reduce contamination, view the Tips for Smart Tossing.

What is an Overfilled Cart?

Overfilling occurs when too many materials are placed in one cart and the lid is not able to close completely.

home.wm.com/simi-valley

Recycling the Right Way. Every Day.

New Ways to Recycle Right®

Thanks to new recycling capabilities, more everyday items are now accepted in curbside recycling. You can now include the following items in your recycling cart:

- Plastic (#5) to go cups
- Yogurt and butter tubs
- Fruit cups
- Coffee and other paper cups

Plastic Bottles, Cups & Containers

Quick tip: Be sure containers are empty and free of food before recycling. Clean items help keep the recycling process running smoothly.

Recycling Tips

Keep These Items Out

Avoid placing these items in your recycling cart:

- Bagged recyclables
- Food
- Liquids

No loose plastic bags and no bagged recyclables.

Avoid Wish Cycling

It's tempting to toss questionable items into the recycling cart and hope for the best—but this is called wish cycling, and it can do more harm than good. Non recyclable items can contaminate the recycling stream and slow down the process.

When in doubt, leave it out.

Keep food and liquid out of your recycling.

Small Actions. Big Impact.

Recycling the right items the right way helps give materials a second life, conserve resources, and keep our community clean—today and tomorrow.

RECYCLE RIGHT®

WM®

Free Your Recyclables

Due to global changes in the recycling industry and commodity markets, collecting quality recyclable materials is more important than ever. WM needs your help to reduce recycling contamination. To launch this initiative, we are focusing on one of the biggest contaminants - bagged recyclables. We are asking customers to **"LOOSE LOAD"** their recycling.

Don't Bag Recyclables - Place items directly in recycling container.

What is the problem and why does it matter?

Plastic bags add another step to recycling: Breaking open bags containing recyclable materials requires additional labor, slows down the recycling process and increases the cost of recycling.

Plastic bags interfere with machinery: Plastic bags get wrapped around the equipment, requiring us to shut down the recycling process several times a day. Workers are then required to climb into the machinery and cut plastic bags out of gears and screens. This poses a safety threat to workers and increases the cost of recycling. *(see the flip side for steps you can take.)*

To learn more, visit **wm.com/recycleright**

What can you do?

"Loose Load" your recycling! Here's how:

1) If needed, use only plastic liners for smaller recycling bins typically used inside your facility in offices or for breakroom recycling.
2) Check the liners for food or liquid contamination before you empty the recyclable materials into the recycling dumpster. If the liners contain food or liquid, they are contaminated. Cinch these bags and place in the trash.
3) If recyclable materials in the liner are clean and dry, leave the bag untied and take it to the dumpster.
4) At the recycling dumpster, empty the recyclable materials directly into the container. Reuse, take back to accepting local retailers, or dispose of the liner in the trash.

Let's all get back to the basics of good recycling and remember these three simple rules each time you toss something into your recycling container:

Recycle empty and dry plastic bottles & cups, cans, paper and cardboard.

Keep food and liquid out of your recycling.

No loose plastic bags and no bagged recyclables.

Thank you for being a WM customer. We look forward to helping your business recycle right.

For more information, tools, and resources to set your business up for recycling success, visit **wm.com/recycleright.**