



February 2018



Show Mother Earth Some Love This February
By Reducing Your Waste!

China's Ban on Imported Recyclables



In 2017, China announced that they will stop accepting imports of 24 kinds of solid waste materials by the end of the year. It is now 2018 and China's waste import ban has been affecting, not just the US but other countries as well. The United States alone exported \$5.6 billion in scrap commodities to China last year, according to Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries. Municipalities in some states have considered dropping plastics 3-7. This means that those plastics will end up in the landfill. With the ban in place and more recyclables heading to the landfill, we need to be diligent about reducing our waste more than ever. National Public Radio (NPR) published an interesting report about this and how it is affecting a recycling company in Oregon. Click [here](#) to read the report.

Know the Numbers

**Upcoming
Events**



Most plastic products have a recycle symbol (Mobius Loop, aka chasing arrows) with a number inside it. Have you ever wondered what those numbers mean? The short answer is that they are there to indicate the type of plastic resin used to make the product (see below).

- 1 - PET or Polyethylene Terephthalate
- 2 - High Density Polyethylene (HDPE)
- 3 - Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC)
- 4 - Low Density Polyethylene (LDPE)
- 5 - Polypropylene (PP)
- 6 - Polystyrene (PS)
- 7 - Other (Mixed Plastics)

Number 1 and 2 plastics are readily recyclable, but the others are a bit more complicated. To get some details about the recyclability of plastics, check out this [website](#) and [video](#).



Mattress Recycling

According to the Mattress Recycling Council, over 50,000 mattresses end up in U.S. landfills each day - that's nearly 20 million annually! Worse even, is that many of those mattresses are illegally dumped, resulting in millions of tax dollars spent on clean up.

The good news is that California's Mattress Recycling Program (effective January 1, 2016) established extended producer responsibility legislation that covers the cost of mattress recycling. Consumers now pay a recycling fee when purchasing a new mattress, which helps fund the proper recycling of old mattresses and box springs.

Here at Salinas Valley Recycles, you can bring up to five mattresses or box springs and it's completely FREE! Click [here](#) for more information.

There are plenty of benefits that come with recycling your mattress. From the environmental impact to the money you can save, mattress recycling is a simple action that goes a long way. If you want more information about how mattresses are recycled and why it's important, visit the Mattress Recycling Council's [website](#).

Composting Workshop

Date: February 24, 2018

Time: 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Location: Jardin El Sol

139 Sun St., Salinas

South County Trashion Show & Luncheon (Alliance on Aging Event)

Date: February 15, 2018

Time: 11 am - 1 pm

Location: Salinas Valley Fairgrounds - Orradre Building
625 Division St., King City

Tickets: Call 831-655-1334

Pajaro Spring Clean Up

Date: March 10, 2018

Time: 8 am - 12 pm

Location: 416 Salinas Road,
Watsonville



Free School Assembly

Salinas Valley Recycles offers the Recycling Wizard school assembly for FREE to all schools within our service area. The Recycling Wizard is an interactive and entertaining multi-media assembly that uses juggling, comedy and magic to teach students about how to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle and protect the precious resources of our planet. For more information about how your school can sign up, visit our [website](#).

Contact Us

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