



# Happy New Year!

January 2018

**Still Searching for a New Year's Resolution?  
Resolve to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle in 2018!**

## 4 Ways to Reduce Waste for the New Year

The new year is here and it is time to start working on those resolutions! If you still haven't decided on any, here's an idea, live a more sustainable lifestyle. Studies show the average person generates over four pounds of trash every day ([source](#)). Here are a few ways how you can start living a more sustainable lifestyle.

### 1) Donate or Reuse Clothes

Textiles end up in the landfill when throw away. To help a us achieve a future without landfills, donate your used clothes. There are many Goodwill locations where you can donate gently used clothing and other household items; click [here](#) to find a Goodwill location near you. Old clothes can also be repurposed, like turning an old sweater into cup cozies for your coffee. There are many great DIY ideas online, like this article from [Good Housekeeping](#).

### 2) Reduce Food Waste

According to [USA Today](#), Americans throw away enough food each year to provide a 2,000-calorie diet to 84% of the population. Here's some food for thought, before you cook, plan to serve appropriate portions so everyone can finish what's on their plate and there are fewer leftovers. Store the food you don't eat in vacuum sealed jars, so it will last longer. Another way to reduce food waste from going into the landfill is to compost. Composting veggies, fruits, and other kitchen scraps not only reduces food waste, but helps your garden grow. For more information on composting, head over to our website: [SalinasValleyRecycles.org](#).

### 3) Grow Your Own Food

Growing your own food not only helps reduce waste but also helps saves you money! I'd say that's a win-win situation! Container gardening is a good way to go if you don't have space for a garden. If you don't want to grow a garden in your own space, look for a local community garden. There are a few community gardens in the Salinas area, such as the Local Urban Gardeners' Natividad Creek Community Garden.

### 4) Use Reusables

When you go shopping, don't forget to bring reusable bags instead of using plastic or paper bags provided by the store. Another great idea is using reusable bottles that can be refilled over and over, instead of purchasing drinks in disposable plastic bottles. You can also use

your own coffee/tea mug when you need that mid-day pick-me-up, instead of single-use coffee cups. All of these items can be kept in your car so you have them when you need them.

Good luck keeping your resolutions throughout the year and let's make 2018 a year with less waste!

## Composting



**What is Composting?** Composting is the natural decomposition of organic materials by microorganisms. Those organic materials get turned into a soil-like material called humus, not to be confused with hummus! But how hummus is to people, this humus is to plants. Compost feeds the soil food web; it helps water-holding capacity of soil, promotes soil fertility, stimulates healthy root development, and much more. If you'd like to learn more about composting, come to one of our free composting workshops or check out our [website](#) for more information.

## Upcoming Events

### Composting Workshop

**Date:** January 27, 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 to purchase tickets

## Holiday Tree Recycling

## E-waste Recycling



Throwing away E-waste can be hazardous to the environment. Electronics contain heavy metals and other hazardous materials that can pollute soil and groundwater if they are not properly disposed.

Whether you're upgrading electronics, or just need to get rid of your old ones, Salinas Valley Recycles can help!

Recycle your E-Waste FREE at our facilities in Salinas, Gonzales and King City. For directions,

**SALINAS VALLEY RECYCLES HOLIDAY TREES!**

- Trees are composted, not landfilled
- Remove all tinsel, lights and decorations
- Remove plastic, wooden and metal stands
- No flocked trees

**CURBSIDE PICKUP**  
Place trees next to your yard waste cart on your regular collection day. Larger trees (6 ft or greater) should be cut into 3-foot sections and placed in your yard waste cart.

**FREE DROP-OFF**  
FOR RESIDENTS - Dec 26-Jan 31  
Simply drive in and drop off your tree at the designated tree recycling station!

**King City**  
Dec 26 - Jan 12  
Mon - Fri, 8 am - 4 pm  
Sat, 8 am - 12 pm

**Gonzales, Greenfield, Soledad**  
Jan 3 - 16  
Mon - Fri, 7 am - 4 pm  
Sat - Sun, 8 am - 4 pm

**Salinas**  
Jan 2 - 23  
Mon - Fri 7 am - 5 pm  
Sat 8 am - 4 pm

**Unincorporated Monterey County**  
Dec 26 - Jan 12  
Mon - Fri 7 am - 5 pm  
Sat 8 am - 4 pm

**WOOD MULCH/CHIPS BUY 1 CUBIC YARD, GET ONE FREE**

Get a chance to Recycle/Landfill your holiday tree and receive wood mulch/chips in one of our drop-off facilities.

**Salinas Valley Recycles.org**  
SALINAS VALLEY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY

Questions? 831-775-3000

Did you know that clean holiday trees and greens can be recycled into compost? Recycle your holiday tree using your curbside collection service or for FREE through January 31st at any Salinas Valley Recycles facility. For more information on how when and where to recycle your holiday tree, check out this [link](#) to our site.

and to learn what else is FREE to recycle, visit [SalinasValleyRecycles.org](http://SalinasValleyRecycles.org).

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Visit our website