



"Reduce – Reuse – Recycle"

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May the Green Be with You

After April showers, May is bursting forth with fresh blooms and bargains to behold. With all the new, there is sometimes the not so new to manage, and we have just the news to make that amazingly easy.

If those May flowers have created more yard waste for you, consider turning all that green stuff into compost. It's easy to create your own nutrient-rich soil amendment in your own backyard, and Salinas Valley Recycles will show you how at a free compost workshop on Saturday May 28th at Natividad Creek Park in Salinas.

May is one of the best times of year to (get a great deal?) (save some green?) on a new mattress, especially Memorial Day Weekend. Thanks to a new State law effective January 1st, gone are the days of dreading a trip to the landfill to dish out disposal fees to dump your old mattress. Expect to pay a nominal fee up front when purchasing any new mattress in California, but now it's free to recycle all old mattresses and box springs – regardless of when or where they were purchased – at any of the Salinas Valley Recycles locations (daily limits apply).

Some garbage haulers also offer bulky item pick up service right at your curb for big things that don't fit in curbside carts like mattresses, furniture, tires and appliances. Check with your garbage service to see what is offered in your area and under your service agreement.

Through May 29th, it's free for all Salinas Valley residents to recycle tires at any of the three Salinas Valley Recycles locations in Salinas, Gonzales and King City. Up to nine passenger vehicle and small truck tires may be recycled free per visit, with or without rims (fees apply for businesses). Recycling tires is important to keep those rubber resources rolling and out of our landfill, but it is especially important to get old tires out of your yard where they can collect and hold water, creating a breeding ground for disease-carrying mosquitoes.

Did you buy your favorite mom a new appliance for Mother's Day? If she's still talking to you, help her recycle her old appliance. It's always free to recycle appliances (without refrigerant) at Salinas Valley Recycles locations, but there's a special incentive to bring your old appliances and electronic "dinosaurs" to the *Dinosaur Roundup* on Sunday, June 12th at the Johnson Canyon Landfill. There will be raffles for prizes, and a *Viva La Familia* ticket giveaway to make it more fun and rewarding to clear out the old clutter.

Recycling and composting are easy ways to make every day Earth Day, and keep our Salinas Valley green. Details on all compost workshops and recycling events are available at www.SalinasValleyRecycles.org.

