Costa Mesa's Green Guide for Green Living

A Resource Guide for Responsible Choices

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle...

Mention these words to most people and they only think about recycling bottles and cans. But conservation is more than just getting money for your CRV. The Costa Mesa Sanitary District (CMSD) has put together this Green Living Guide to help you make responsible choices in the disposal of your waste products.

In addition to taking advantage of the local programs listed in the Guide, the CMSD reminds you to:

- Use reusable bags *whenever* you shop, not just at the grocery store, to reduce the amount of plastic shopping bags;
- Purchase materials in bulk whenever possible to reduce packaging;
- Donate usable items to local residents or charities (see page 11) instead of throwing them away;
- Keep materials out of the streets. The storm drain system is for rain water only. Any trash and other pollutants in the street flow with the water directly to the Pacific Ocean.

For more information on the CMSD and other conservation programs, visit www.cmsdca.gov.

Door-To-Door HHW Collection Program for Immobile Residents

CMSD sponsors a ***FREE*** door-to-door household hazardous waste (HHW) collection program for individuals who may not otherwise have the ability to recycle or dispose of their hazardous materials at permanent HHW facilities. Qualified residents must be 62 years of age or older, or be a certified disabled person.

CR&R is the contractor that carries out the service. When a resident has a load of HHW, they can contact CMSD or CR&R. CR&R then verifies the quantity and types of waste and sets up a collection date. CR&R will provide information on how to properly store and package the materials. On the collection day, the resident must place the bags at the front of their house by 7:00 a.m. The resident does not need to be home when the bags are collected.

Residents who can not take their HHW to one of the local HHW collection centers (see page 4) are encouraged to call **CR&R Customer Service at (949) 646-4617 Monday thru Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.**

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Large Item Collection Program

CMSD customers can request convenient curbside collection of large or bulky items at their home. Residents are eligible for three (3) complimentary pick ups per year. There is a limit of 10 items per call or collections can be combined for a total of 30 items per calendar year.

To schedule, ***please call CR&R Customer Service at (949) 646-4617 Monday thru Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.*** Residents must provide a detailed list of items to be collected. Please note, drivers will not collect any items not specified in advance.

Residents who use dumpsters at their property are not eligible for this program. If you need to dispose of a large item, such as a refrigerator, furniture, etc., and you currently utilize dumpster service for your weekly trash pick-up, you will need to call your contracted waste hauler (the name and phone number is on the dumpster) to arrange for pick-up of the large item.

However, before you dispose of usable items, consider donating them to local charities (see page 11). You can receive a receipt for tax purposes, assist those less fortunate, and practice "Reuse & Recycle".

Sewer Lateral Assistance Program

The CMSD Sewer Lateral Assistance Program (SLAP) is a financial incentive program to encourage residents to maintain their lateral sewer lines. Without regular maintenance, sewer lines can become blocked and cause material to back up into the house and the environment.

The most common cause of damage to their lines are tree roots that enter the pipes. Roots not only block the flow of materials, but as they grow, they open the cracks where they entered and allow soil and other debris to enter and contribute to blockage. Without regular maintenance, the damage can become severe and costly excavation may be necessary.

In general, the CMSD's program will contribute 50% of the resident's cost up to a maximum of $1600 per residential parcel. Costs may include televising the lateral interior, cleaning the pipe, installing a clean out attachment, and reconstruction costs.

The program is only for residential property (not for commercial or industrial property). Residents may only apply for participation once every five years. The General Manager has discretion over all decisions.

To obtain an application and for more information, see the "Sewer" section at www.cmsdca.gov or call 949-645-8400 x 233.

Recycling Fundraiser

CR&R, one of our local trash haulers, is sponsoring a bottle and can recycling fundraiser to local schools. The program entails CR&R placing a storage container at the school's site. The school then promotes the program to the community and collects bottles and cans with the CRV label. Once the container is full, CR&R takes it, weighs the contents, and delivers a check to the school for the value. There is no cost to the school.

For more information, call the CR&R Recycling Coordinator at 714-372-8261.

Christmas Tree Recycling

The Costa Mesa Sanitary District collects Christmas trees for the two weeks following Christmas and recycles them into mulch.

Residents should place their tree on the ground next to their collection containers for pick up with the regular trash. Please remove all tinsel, ornaments, and the stand. All trees taller than 6 feet must be cut in half to be eligible for this special collection.

The mulch is used both locally and in other parts of California and helps nutrients remain in the soil.

Household Hazardous Waste

Because of their potential for danger to humans and the environment, it is very important for residents to remove household hazardous waste (HHW). These items should never be thrown into the trash. Instead they should be taken to one of the listed Orange County HHW Collection Facilities. The HHW program is ***free*** to Orange County Residents.

Common HHW products include:

- Antifreeze
- Automobile fluids
- Batteries
- Cleaning products
- Fertilizers
- Fuels
- Herbicides
- Pesticides
- Paint
- Paint thinner
- Pesticides
- Pool chemicals
- Propane tanks
- Polishes
- Road flares
- Used cooking oil
- Used motor oil and filters
- Waxes

Electronic and Universal Waste

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) no longer allows TVs and computer monitors to end up in landfills because the glass screens have approximately seven pounds of lead embedded in the glass. Lead can contaminate the ground water supply and is dangerous to humans. These two electronic items are now known as E-waste.

Other E-waste and Universal Waste (U-waste) that can not be placed in the trash include:

Batteries
Camcorders
Cell phones
CD players
Cordless phones
Computers
DVD players
Florescent tubes
Game consoles
Keyboards
iPads and iPods
Mercury switches
Mercury thermometers
Microwave ovens
MP3 players
PDAs
Stereos
VCR players

E-waste and U-waste can be dropped off at one of the Orange County HHW Collection Facilities listed on the right during regular business hours.

Orange County HHW Collection Facilities

Orange County residents can take HHW, E-waste and U-waste to any of the county HHW Collection Facilities. The facilities include:

Irvine:
6411 Oak Canyon
Huntington Beach:
17121 Nichols Street, Gate 6
Anaheim:
1071 N. Blue Gum Street
San Juan Capistrano:
32250 La Pata Avenue

The facilities are open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday (closed on major holidays and during rainy weather).

For more information on these facilities, call (714) 834-6752 or visit www.oclandfills.com.

Medication Disposal

Residents can now safely dispose of their unwanted prescription or over-the-counter non-controlled pharmaceuticals. Please visit the following pharmacies and deposit your medicine in the specially designed drop-box.

Steven's Pharmacy
1525 Mesa Verde Dr. East
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
(714) 540-8911

Ramsay Rexall Drugs
2246 Newport Blvd.
Costa Mesa, CA 92627
(949) 646-7744

Sharps Disposal

A free home generated sharps recycling program is available to residents of the Costa Mesa Sanitary District.

Residents can safely dispose of used sharps by utilizing a drop box at the pharmacies below. It is no longer necessary to use a purpose made sharps container. Needles can now be accepted placed in any type of rigid, sealed container such as plastic water bottles, soda bottles, laundry soap, bleach or coffee containers, etc.

Residents can safely dispose of used sharps by utilizing a drop box at the pharmacies on map page 6 which shows where each of these pharmacies are located.

When transporting HHW to a facility, be aware that:

- A maximum of 15 gallons or 125 pounds may be transported per vehicle, per trip.
- Containers larger than five gallons will not be accepted.
- Materials should be in original containers (except automobile fluids).
- All containers must have lids, be sturdy, non-leaking, labeled and protected from breakage.

Residential FOG Recycling Program

The Residential Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) Recycling Program encourages residents to keep FOG materials out of the sinks and sewer system. These types of materials can solidify and clog sewer pipes which can potentially cause backups and overflows.

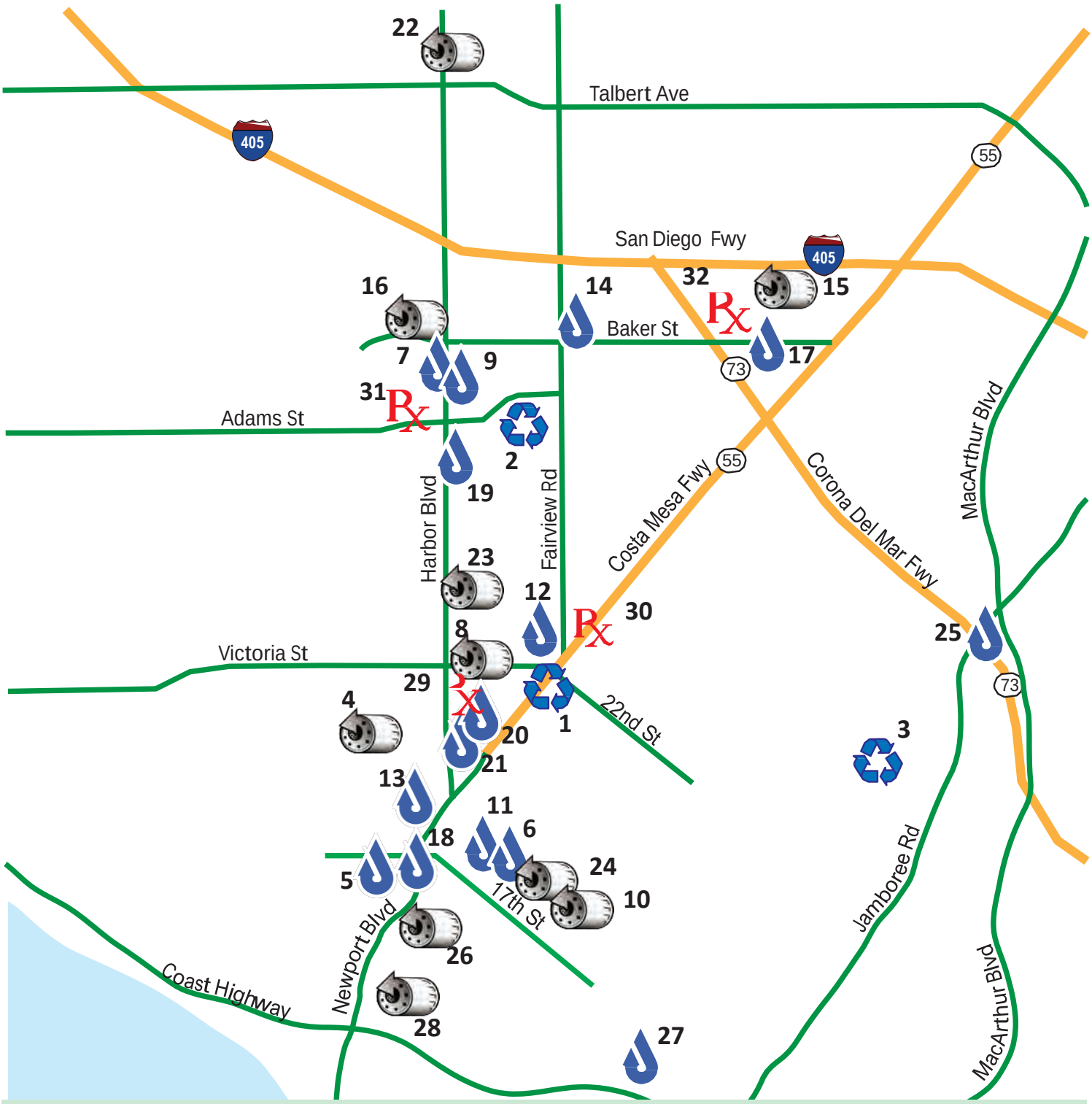
CMSD joined with the Orange Coast College (OCC) Recycling Center to promote recycling FOG. Residents are encouraged to place the material into a plastic container, like a milk jug, and then take the container to the recycling center.

The program also offers ***FREE*** FOG funnels that fit most plastic containers to reduce spills. FOG funnels are available at CMSD headquarters and at the OCC Recycling Center.

For more information, visit the recycling center on Adams Avenue between Harbor Boulevard and Fairview Road, or call CMSD at 949-645-8400.

Collection Centers

Listed are locations that serve CMSD residents. Please call specific locations for hours of operation and collectable items before visiting each site.



= Beverage Container Recycling

= Oil Collection Center

= Oil and Filter Collection Center

= Sharps and Medication Disposal Location

Beverage Container Recycling Buyback Centers (CRV*)					
1	EarthWize Recycling	2180 Newport Blvd	Costa Mesa	(909) 605-5770	
2	Orange Coast College Recycling Center	On Adams Ave. between Harbor Blvd. and Fairview Rd.	Costa Mesa	**(714) 432-5131**	
3	rePLANET LLC	2555 Eastbluff Dr	Newport Beach	(877) 737-5263	
Scrap Metal					
	Waste Management Sunset Environmental Transfer Station	16122 Construction Cir E	Irvine	(714) 558-7761	
	Rainbow Disposal Facility	17121 Nichols St	Huntington Beach	(714) 847-3581	
State Certified Used Oil Collection Centers					**Accepts Used Oil Filters?**
4	AutoZone #5520	744 W. 19th St.	Costa Mesa	(949) 642-1342	Y
5	Balboa Auto Repair	137 Industrial Way	Costa Mesa	(948) 722-8601	N
6	Big O Tires, LLC	322 East 17th Street	Costa Mesa	(949) 642-4131	N
7	Coast General Tire Performance	2855 Harbor Blvd.	Costa Mesa	(714) 540-5710	N
8	Coast Transmission	447 West Bay Street	Costa Mesa	(949) 548-2288	Y
9	Connell Chevrolet	2828 Harbor Blvd.	Costa Mesa	(714) 546-1200	N
10	Firestone Store #27JJ	475 E 17th St	Costa Mesa	(949) 646-2444	Y
11	Jiffy Lube #1969	300 E 17th Street	Costa Mesa	(949) 548-2505	N
12	Jiffy Lube #1970	2175 Newport Blvd	Costa Mesa	(949) 548-4150	N
13	O'Reilly Autoparts #0725	1739 Superior Ave	Costa Mesa	(949) 642-3384	N
14	O'Reilly Autoparts #0796	1175 Baker Street	Costa Mesa	(714) 662-2005	N
15	Oil Stop Inc.	3045 Bristol Street	Costa Mesa	(714) 434-8350	Y
16	Orange Coast Chrysler Jeep Dodge	2929 Harbor Blvd	Costa Mesa	(714) 546-1934	Y
17	Pep Boys #660	2946 Bristol St	Costa Mesa	(714) 549-1533	N
18	Scher Tire Inc #15 dba Goodyear Tire	1596 Newport Blvd	Costa Mesa	(949) 548-9384	N
19	South Coast Cadillac	2600 Harbor Boulevard	Costa Mesa	(714) 444-5200	N
20	South Coast Toyota	1970 Harbor Blvd	Costa Mesa	(949) 764-4130	N
21	South Coast Toyota Scion	1966 Harbor Blvd	Costa Mesa	(949) 722-2000	N
22	Valvoline Instant Oil Change GN-0015	3599 Harbor Blvd	Costa Mesa	(714) 966-1647	Y
23	Valvoline Instant Oil Change GN-0044	2248 Harbor Blvd	Costa Mesa	(949) 945-1440	Y
24	Valvoline Instant Oil Change GN-0046	400 E. 17th St.	Costa Mesa	(949) 945-1700	Y
25	Fletcher Jones Motorcars	3300 Jamboree Rd.	Newport Beach	(888) 897-1581	N
26	MB Elite LLC	488 Old Newport Blvd	Newport Beach	(949) 722-7667	Y
27	Newport Auto Center	445 E. Pacific Coast Hwy	Newport Beach	(949) 673-0900	N
28	Sterling BMW	3000 West Coast Highway	Newport Beach	(949) 645-5900	Y
Sharps and Medication Disposal Locations					Accepts Medications
29	Ramsay Rexall Drugs	2246 Newport Blvd.	Costa Mesa	(949) 646-7744	Y
30	Steven's Pharmacy	1525 Mesa Verde Dr. East	Costa Mesa	(714) 540-8911	Y
31	White Front Pharmacy	801 Baker Street, Suite B	Costa Mesa	(714) 540-2882	N

*CRV means California Redemption Value. This means that beverage containers with the words CRV on it can be turned in for cash when taken to a buy-back recycling center. Visit www.bottlesandcans.com or call 1-800-RECYCLE to find your nearest center.

Green Waste Recycling

Green waste is typically plant material, including grass clippings, leaves, and trimmings from your yard. It also includes fruit and vegetable waste from your kitchen. These materials can be transformed into valuable compost, vermicompost, and plant food through the process of backyard composting, vermicomposting, and grasscycling.

Composting is the process of helping nature speed up the decomposition of green waste materials into compost. When used as a soil amendment, compost enriches the soil, increases soil structure, balances pH, and increases water retention.

The basics of composting is placing green waste into an enclosure, and then adding water and turning the material periodically. Nature does the rest.

The District offers free composting workshops throughout the year. Please visit www.cmsdca.gov for upcoming dates and times of future workshops. For specific composting questions, e-mail Dr. Kaplan at priestessofrot@yahoo.com.

Vermicomposting, or composting with worms uses red worms to break down kitchen scraps into vermicompost, commonly known as castings or "worm poop". The castings are a great organic fertilizer that can be used on house plants as well as garden beds.

Typical home vermicomposting involves placing worms in a plastic tub containing a bedding of moist, shredded paper; feeding them kitchen scraps; and waiting for the worms to digest the material and turning it into vermicompost.

Grasscycling is the natural recycling of grass by leaving clippings on the lawn when mowing. Since grass clippings are fine materials that are mostly water, they decompose quickly and release valuable nutrients back into the soil.

Compost and Vermicompost Bins for Sale

Compost bins can be purchased at the District office for a contribution of $30 for a Dual-Chamber compost bin or Vermi-compost bin. Only cash or checks are accepted as payment.

What Do I Do With...

Do you have an item and are not sure where to dispose of it? Check the following pages to find help. Note: This listing identifies local businesses that repair, recycle and haul unusable items. The CMSD does not endorse any particular business.

BATTERIES

Household Batteries
Please place tape over terminals to prevent fires.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility - (714) 834-4000
Various Locations.
See page 4.

OCC Recycling Center - (714) 432-5131
On Adams Ave. between Harbor Blvd. and Fairview Rd., Costa Mesa.

Auto/Marine Batteries
Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility - (714) 834-4000
Various Locations.
See page 4.
NOTE: Large commercial truck batteries not accepted.

O'Reilly Auto Parts - (949) 642-3384
1739 Superior Ave, Costa Mesa

Firestone Auto Care - (949) 646-2444
475 E 17th St, Costa Mesa

BEVERAGE CONTAINERS

See list of centers on pages 6 & 7.

BOOKS

OCC Recycling Center - (714) 432-5131

On Adams Ave. between Harbor Blvd. and Fairview Rd., Costa Mesa

See Thrift store sidebar page 11.

CELL PHONES

You can return your used cell phone to distributors such as:
Sprint Store - (714) 437-7460
3030 Harbor Blvd Ste. H2, Costa Mesa

AT&T - (949) 764-0021
298 E 17th St Unit C, Costa Mesa

You can also donate them to the following causes:
911 Cell Phone Bank provides emergency cell phones to law enforcement and affiliated victim services agencies.
For more information, visit www.911cellphonebank.org.

Cell Phones for Soldiers provides deployed and returning troops a cost-free method to communicate with their families while serving in the military. For more information, visit www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com.

HopeLine from Verizon collects and distributes cell phones to victims of domestic abuse. For more information, visit www.verizonwireless.com/hopeline.

CLOTHING

See Thrift Store sidebar page 11.

COMPUTERS

Pickup Service
Orange E-Waste
(866) 923-7766

APPLIANCES

If it still works and is less than eight years old, consider donating it to a thrift store (see page 11) or the Orange County Habitat for Humanity ReStore - (714) 590-8729 / 12827 Harbor Blvd., Garden Grove.

Also, if it is an old, but still working refrigerator or freezer, contact Southern California Edison for possible programs. For more information, call 1-800-234-9722 or visit www.sce.com and click on "Rebates and Savings".

If it no longer works, those living in a single family residence can also contact CR&R at (949) 646-4617 , and have it hauled away as part of the bulky item collection service (see page 3 for instructions).

Orange Coast College

Orange Coast College Recycling Center (located on Adams Avenue between Harbor Boulevard and Fairview Road) redeems bottles and cans for CRV value. All caps from bottles must be removed prior to arriving at recycling center.

Buy back hours are:
Monday - Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

On Sundays, they also accept donations of:

- Aluminum and tin cans
- #1, #2, and #4 plastic bottles
- Glass food/beverage containers
- Scrap metal, old appliances
- Paper (including newspaper, magazines, etc.)
- Reusable clothing
- Books

They also accept E-waste, household batteries, fluorescent light bulbs, and used cooking oil.

For information, please call (714) 432-5131 or email recycling@occ.cccd.edu .

COMPUTERS (CONT.)

Drop Off
Goodwill - (949) 646-2479
620 W 19th St, Costa Mesa

OCC Recycling Center - (714) 432-5131
On Adams Ave. between Harbor Blvd. and Fairview Rd., Costa Mesa

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility - (714) 834-4000
Various Locations. See page 4.

ELECTRONICS

Pickup Service
Orange E-Waste
(866) 923-7766

Drop Off
Goodwill - (949) 646-2479
620 W 19th St, Costa Mesa

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility - (714) 834-4000
Various Locations. See page 4.

OCC Recycling Center - (714) 432-5131
On Adams Ave. between Harbor Blvd. and Fairview Rd., Costa Mesa

FLUORESCENT LIGHTS

Home Depot - (949) 646-4220

2300 Harbor Blvd, Costa Mesa

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility - (714) 834-4000
Various Locations. See page 4.

OCC Recycling Center - (714) 432-5131
On Adams Ave. between Harbor Blvd. and Fairview Rd., Costa Mesa

FURNITURE

Gently Used
Orange County Habitat for Humanity ReStore (714) 590-8729
12827 Harbor Blvd., Garden Grove.
Certain types of furniture are also accepted at thrift stores. See Thrift Store sidebar page 11.

Unusable Furniture
Bulky Item Collection
(for single family residents only)
Call CR&R at (949) 646-4617.
See Page 3 for details.

HANGERS

Some dry cleaners will take back hangers and reuse them. Check with your dry cleaner. Donate others to thrift stores (see page 11.)

Otherwise, place metal and plastic hangers in your trash container and they will be recycled for you at the Material Recovery Facility (MRF).

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility - (714) 834-4000
www.oclandfills.com
See page 4.

INKJET AND PRINTER CARTRIDGES

Office Depot - (949) 646-2162
2200 Harbor Blvd, Costa Mesa

Staples - (949) 548-4955
241 East 17th St, Costa Mesa

MATTRESSES

Bulky Item Collection
(for single family residents only)
Call CR&R at (949) 646-4617.
See Page 3 for details.

OIL

Cooking Oil
Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility - (714) 834-4000
Various Locations
See page 4.

OCC Recycling Center - (714) 432-5131
On Adams Ave. between Harbor Blvd. and Fairview Rd., Costa Mesa

Motor Oil and Filters
Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility - (714) 834-4000
Various Locations. See page 4.

Certified used oil collection centers are listed on page 6 & 7.

PACKING PEANUTS

Mail Boxes and More - (949) 544-1616
2618 San Miguel Dr, Newport Beach

To locate other locations, call (800) 828-2214

PAINT

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility - (714) 834-4000
Various Locations
See page 4.

PLASTIC GROCERY BAGS

Recycle plastic grocery bags at your local grocery or drug store, including.

Albertsons - (949) 515-7227
2300 C Harbor Blvd, Costa Mesa

Vons - (714) 751-4270
2701-B Harbor Blvd, Costa Mesa

Vons - (949) 548-8911
185 E. 17th Street, Costa Mesa

Target - (714) 979-0372
3030 Harbor Blvd, Costa Mesa

SHARPS & SYRINGES

See Sharps Disposal program on page 5 and locations of drop off locations on map and table on pages 6 & 7.

TELEVISIONS

Pickup Service
Orange E-Waste
(866) 923-7766

Televisions - Drop Off
Goodwill - (949) 646-2479
620 W 19th St, Costa Mesa

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility - (714) 834-4000
Various Locations. See page 4.

OCC Recycling Center - (714) 432-5131
On Adams Ave. between Harbor Blvd. and Fairview Rd., Costa Mesa

TIRES

The following Costa Mesa businesses will accept your tires for a nominal disposal fee:

Just Tires - (714) 557-8000
3005 Harbor Blvd, Costa Mesa

Becker's Tires - (714) 545-5666
375 Bristol St, Costa Mesa

Big O Tires - (949) 642-4131
322 E. 17th St, Costa Mesa

Discount Tire Centers
(949) 407-6588
1950 Newport Blvd, Costa Mesa

TOILETS AND SINKS

Gently Used
Orange County Habitat for Humanity ReStore (714) 590-8729
12827 Harbor Blvd., Garden Grove.

See Thrift Store sidebar page 11.

Unusable
Bulky Item Collection
(for single family residents only)
Call CR&R at (949) 646-4617.
See Page 3 for details.

WATER HEATERS

Bulky Item Collection
(for single family residents only)
Call CR&R at (949) 646-4617.
See Page 3 for details.

THRIFT STORES AND FREECYCLE

Thrift stores, charitable organizations, and Freecycle are all places where you can donate or give away usable items.

Pick-up Service
Salvation Army
1-800-SA-TRUCK
(1-800-728-7825)

Vietnam Veterans of America
(800) 822-VETS (8387)

Drop-off
Assistance League - (949) 645-6929
2220 Fairview Rd, Costa Mesa

Goodwill - (949) 646-2479
620 W 19th St, Costa Mesa

Salvation Army - (949) 642-3636
2126 Harbor Blvd, Costa Mesa

Ticktocker - (949) 646-4024
540 W 19th St, Costa Mesa

Freecycle
Freecycle is an internet bulletin board where you can give away or obtain items for free. The local group is coordinated out of Huntington Beach. Visit: groups.yahoo.com/group/FreecycleHB/

ABOUT THE COSTA MESA SANITARY DISTRICT

The Costa Mesa Sanitary District was formed in 1944 under the Sanitary District Act of 1923. The District boundaries encompass all of the City of Costa Mesa, and portions of Newport Beach and unincorporated Orange County. The population is approximately 116,700.

The District is responsible for residential trash collection and transmittal to a recycling facility for recycling and disposal. The District also provides liquid waste collection and transmission to Orange County Sanitation District facilities for treatment and disposal.

The District's method of recycling allows residents to place all their trash in standardized containers without any sorting. The trash is taken to a recycling facility in Stanton where it is mechanically and hand sorted and the recyclables are removed. The District reached 50% diversion prior to the year 2000 and is in full compliance with all State mandates.

The District uses a combination of public and private services. The private services include a trash hauler, a recycler, an attorney, a treasurer and an engineer. The District throughout its history has used the combination of public and private services.

Since Proposition 13, the District no longer sets a tax rate. Solid and liquid waste collection fees are collected on the property tax bill as special assessments.

The CMSD is governed by a five member Board of Directors, each elected to a four year term. District maintenance, operations, and administration is provided by employees and contractors. The CMSD has received several awards, most notably the District of Distinction Accreditation by the Special District Leadership Foundation, one of the most prestigious local government awards in the state of California.

Costa Mesa Sanitary District
628 W. 19th Street
Costa Mesa, CA 92627-2716

Phone: (949) 645-8400
Fax: (949) 650-2253
Hours: Monday - Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Friday 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

After hours sewer emergency: C & R Drains (714) 641-1545