

Disposing of Used PPE

As we continue to wear disposable gloves and masks to protect ourselves, please remember to properly dispose of used Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in the trash bin. Littering of these types of materials not only pollutes the environment but also poses a serious threat to human health and safety. We are encouraging residents to make smart decisions to help us all stay safe and healthy during these unprecedented times. **For more information on COVID-19 and protecting yourself, please visit [CDC.gov/Coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/Coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html).**



Rainy Season Pick-Ups

Storms with heavy rainfall may cause debris to be washed onto the street or debris flows that go into waterways. Help prevent pollution caused by spillage from waste, recycling or green waste carts by taking the following steps:



- ✓ Be aware of potential stormwater runoff in and around your property.
- ✓ Place bins at least two feet away from the curb so that they are not in the stormwater runoff area.
- ✓ Place bins back on your property immediately after being serviced to prevent bins from getting washed away.

If you are unable to locate your bin after heavy rains, please contact us at [ValleyVistaServices.com/Contact-Us](https://www.valleyvistaservices.com/contact-us).

Stay Tuned for Upcoming Events

Out of an abundance of caution, many of the community events scheduled for 2020, including monthly Special Waste Collection events, in City of La Puente have been suspended to protect the public's health and safety amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. While we are all eager to get back to regularly participating in community events, maintaining the welfare of the community is of the utmost importance to City of La Puente and Valley Vista Services. As new safety guidelines for hosting public gatherings develop, we will do our best to keep you informed. For now, please stay tuned for events coming soon in 2021! **For the latest updates on upcoming calendar events, please check LaPuente.org/Living/City-Calendar regularly.**



• SPRING •

2021

City-wide Cleanup coming 2021!

The annual City of La Puente Cleanup Week will be taking place spring of 2021.

Event flyers including pickup dates and a list of acceptable items will be mailed to residents at least 2 weeks in advance of the event. For the most current information related to your trash and recycling services in City of La Puente, please check [ValleyVistaServices.com/Residential/La-Puente](https://www.valleyvistaservices.com/residential/La-Puente) frequently.

Party Without Waste

During the holiday season, it is common to see households generating excess amounts of waste or garbage. Most of this comes from single-use items such as paper plates, plastic dinnerware, holiday decorations, wrapping paper and other packaging materials. While some of these materials are considered recyclable, most will actually end up in the landfill where they may take decades to decompose, if at all.

When hosting your next holiday function, consider using these eco-friendly alternatives:

- ▶ Biodegradable plates
- ▶ Silverware or bamboo utensils
- ▶ Stainless steel glasses
- ▶ Cloth napkins
- ▶ Naturally-made decorations
- ▶ Reusable gift bags
- ▶ Recycled wrapping paper
- ▶ DIY homemade gifts
- ▶ Recycled or E-Cards
- ▶ Battery-free toys and tech



For more helpful information on how to have a waste-free holiday season, please go to

Earth911.com/?s=Holiday.

Holiday "Tree-cycling"

After the holidays have come and gone, make sure to keep your holiday trees and foliage out of the landfill by taking advantage of our FREE Holiday Tree Recycling Program. **VVS will collect and recycle holiday trees placed curbside on your regularly scheduled collection day from December 26, 2020 through January 8, 2021.** Please be sure to follow these guidelines in preparation for recycling your trees:

- ✓ Remove all tree stands, lights, ornaments, tinsel and garland.
- ✓ No flocked trees.
- ✓ Trees must be cut into lengths no longer than 6 feet.



After this seasonal service has ended, holiday trees and other foliage must be cut down to fit into the standard 96-gallon green waste container (with the lid closed). **If you have any questions, please contact us directly at** ValleyVistaServices.com/Contact-Us.

"Let's Squash Food Waste"

Did you know that pumpkins have a life after Halloween? Don't let your jack-o-lantern go to waste this year. Turn it into something useful and compost it! **Here's how:**

1. Remove all candles, wax, aluminum foil or other items from the pumpkin. (Remember to remove any remaining seeds as well - they may later grow into unwanted new pumpkins!)
2. If you don't already have a compost pile, find a sunny spot in your garden to place the hollowed out pumpkin. You can also place directly inside a compost bin if you have one.
3. *Smash it up!* Breaking down the pumpkin into smaller pieces increases its surface area, which will help it to compost faster.
4. Loosely cover the pumpkin pile with carbon-rich compostable materials like leaves, sawdust and wood chips. The covering will protect the pumpkin from insects and pests while airing it out to ensure a balanced breakdown.
5. *Let Mother Nature do the work!* In a few weeks, your pumpkin will transform into nutrient-rich compost. Spread it around the plants in your garden for a special treat during the winter months.



To find more tips on preventing food waste and composting at home, visit CalRecycle.CA.gov/nav/Organics.

Holiday Schedule

Collection Service will not run on these upcoming holidays.

Thanksgiving Day - Thursday, November 26, 2020

Christmas Day - Friday, December 25, 2020

New Year's Day - Friday, January 1, 2021

If your regular collection day falls on or after one of these holidays, pick up will be delayed one day. Excluding holidays, our normal business hours are Monday through Friday 8 am - 5 pm and Saturday 8 am - 1 pm.



Valley Vista Services
Waste Disposal and Recycling Division

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