

# Your Environment

## Pasadena - Refuse and Recycling Newsletter - Commercial

### Green Goals: For a New Year

Kick off the new year by reinforcing your site's SB 1383 requirements with practical methods to minimize food waste after the holidays and throughout the year.



**Employee Meals:** Offer employees the opportunity to take home leftover holiday meals. This can help reduce food waste while providing a perk to your staff.



**Donations to Food Banks:** Donate surplus food to local food banks or shelters. Many organizations accept non-perishable and perishable items- this also helps feed those in need.



**Sustainable Packaging:** Make your holiday meals more sustainable by using eco-friendly packaging options. You can opt for recyclable or compostable containers to store your leftovers.



**Educate Staff:** Train kitchen and serving staff on food waste reduction techniques, responsible food handling, and proper food preparation and storage.



**Inventory Management:** Improve freshness and reduce waste by implementing first-in, first-out (FIFO) rotation and monitoring perishables closely.



### Holiday Tree Recycling

Valley Vista Services will collect and recycle holiday trees free of charge upon request from **December 26, 2025, through the second week of January**. Please follow the guidelines below to prepare your tree for recycling.



Remove all tree stands, lights, ornaments, tinsel and garland.



No flocked trees.



Trees must be cut into lengths no longer than 6 feet.



Place trees near your trash enclosure for pickup.

To schedule a pickup, please call **(800) 442-6465**. After this free seasonal service has ended, holiday trees and other foliage must be cut down to fit into the standard green waste container, with the lid fully closed. If you have additional questions, please contact us at [valleyvistaservices.com/contact-us](https://valleyvistaservices.com/contact-us).

### Disposing of Hazardous Waste

Household Hazardous Waste includes products with toxic, reactive, or corrosive components. These items include, but are not limited to, batteries, household cleaners, paints, oils, and lightbulbs. Improper disposal of these chemicals can cause trash truck fires and create harmful environmental pollutants that pose risks to human health. For guidance on correctly disposing of hazardous waste, contact 1(800)-CleanLA or visit [Earth911.com](https://Earth911.com).

## Food Recovery Programs

CalRecycle estimates about 2.5 billion meals of edible food are landfilled each year, and SB 1383 requires food-related businesses to participate in food recovery programs.

Edible food is safe to eat but not sold due to appearance, freshness, age, size, or surplus, including prepackaged and prepared items.

**To connect with a food rescue partner, explore the following resources:**

- California Association of Food Banks
- FoodRecovery.org
- Food Rescue Hero
- MealConnect
- Replate



For additional resources and information, visit [calrecycle.ca.gov](http://calrecycle.ca.gov).

## Scheduling Bulky Item Pickups

To help keep the community clean, Valley Vista Services offers Pasadena commercial properties two (2) **FREE** bulky item pickups per year, up to four (4) items per pickup included. Additional items are available for pickup at a fee of \$31 per item.

**Three ways to schedule a bulky pickup:**

1. Submit a request online at [valleyvistaservices.com/bulky-item/](http://valleyvistaservices.com/bulky-item/).

2. Email an itemized list to [vvsbulky@myvvs.com](mailto:vvsbulky@myvvs.com).

3. Contact customer service at (626) 325-6508.

Scan to Schedule



To ensure timely service, please submit your request at least 24 hours in advance.

## Building a Low-Waste Workplace

Businesses play a key role in cutting waste. The EPA reports that food waste (24.1%), plastic (18.5%), and paper (11.8%) are the top contributors to landfills.

Here's how to make an impact:



**Go Digital:** Reduce paper with digital systems and limited printing.



**Choose Reusables:** Encourage reusable cups, bottles, and utensils.



**Compost:** Start a composting program for organic waste.

When waste **can't** be avoided:



**Recycle:** Provide convenient recycling bins.



**Reuse Materials:** Repurpose boxes, packaging, and durable plastics.



**Buy Smart:** Choose products that are durable, repairable, and recyclable.

### Holiday Schedule

Collection Service **will not** run on these holidays:

- ★ New Year's Day
- ★ Memorial Day
- ★ Independence Day
- ★ Labor Day
- ★ Thanksgiving Day
- ★ Christmas Day

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 from 8 am-1 pm.**



**Valley Vista Services**

*Waste Disposal and Recycling Division*

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(800) 442-6454

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