

City of Napa, California

—and Southern Unincorporated Napa County

Population: 80,000

Households serviced: 30,000

Households participating in organics: 30,000

Program type: Mandatory

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Program overview

Weekly residential and commercial curbside collection services. All equipment and service for garbage, recycling and compost is included in one monthly rate. The rate is determined by the size of the cart

- Collection and hauling is done by a contractor, Napa Recycling & Waste Services
- Customers are entitled to up to 2 or 4 carts at no charge. Additional carts are available for a small fee.
- Food waste collection pails are provided to residents at no cost, with larger containers provided to commercial facilities
- Collection crews check every cart will not service a cart with contamination
- Residents can drop off material directly to the compost facility



Materials accepted

- Green waste, yard waste
- All food items (including meat/bones, dairy, bread, fruit, vegetables)
- Food-soiled paper, paper cups / plates, paper towels & napkins, coffee grounds / filters, tea bags
- All materials for compost processing are comingled together



Contamination rate

- Approximately 1% contamination for household, 3-5% contamination for commercial customers—verified through individual load inspections
- Film plastic, such as plastic bags, hard plastic, and plastic-lined paper are the majority of the contamination

Composting

Napa Recycling & Waste Services has the contract for hauling, and operates the compost facility. NRWS's composting facility is located in American Canyon, approximately 10 miles from Napa.



NRWS compost facility is cutting edge in every way:

- A pre-processing line removes fine material before feeding a line with 2 sorters to remove most contamination before it makes it any further into the process
- A depackaging machine handles high-volumes of expired, spoiled, off-spec food, and source separated organic food waste
- Unlike most compost sites, there is no high-speed grinder used for volume reduction. Instead, an efficient, electric, high-torque, low-speed shredder is used to reduce the material before it's screened and sent to cure
- A state-of-the-art, covered aerated static pile system (CASP) actively composts for 22



The Compost

- The finished compost is OMRI listed, USCC STA Certified, and approved by the California Department of Food & Agriculture
- Napa Recycling & Waste Services sells the compost directly to the public.
- Community gardens in the service area are provided finished compost at no charge

Most successful component about program

- Educational programming and advertising campaigns throughout the year, via direct mailers to residents and businesses as well as email and social media promotions
- Regular public tours of the facility promote community and industry engagement
- Municipally supported backyard composting by residents
- High quality finished compost with a large base of agriculture, commercial and residential customers
- A state-of-the-art compost facility able to handle high volumes of incoming material, contamination, and multiple types of food waste

