



**RAINBOW**  
DISPOSAL CO., INC.

Employee Owned



# The Recycling Review

WINTER 2010

*Think Blue...it's the Right Thing to do!*

Sponsored by the Environmental Education Team of Huntington Beach and Fountain Valley

## Build a Better World: Practice the "4R's" Reduce, Reuse, Recycle = Responsibility

**H**AVE YOU EVER BEEN STUMPED on what can be recycled and what cannot? Have you ever had a question about a particular item or product? *Can I recycle it? Should I recycle it? Is it recyclable? What should I do?*

Be **Blue Cart Smart**, and understand that the **Responsible** thing to do is place the item or used product in the Blue Recycle cart. Why? Virtually everything we throw away each day is recyclable! This may sound profound, but think about it. Almost all consumer products come in some form of packaging. That packaging usually consists of cardboard, paper, plastic, aluminum, or glass. What do all of these items have in common? Right, they are all recyclable.

**If you can rip or tear it... recycle it!** If it is made of plastic, recycle it! **ALL plastic is recyclable.**

We all must accept the **Responsibility** to keep re-usable and recyclable products out of our landfills. California has set stringent goals for recycling and keeping materials out of the landfills. The formula is simple. Next time you dispose of your recyclables, be Blue Cart Smart and recycle. **Essentially, your blue recycle cart should be 75% full, while the brown cart should be 25% full.**

Many of us think that we must prepare our waste for our Blue

Cart. This is not so. There is no need to separate inserts from the Sunday newspaper. There is no need to go through a massive washing of your glass jars and bottles. Simply dispose of any remnants, place the lids back on and put them in the blue recycle cart. Really, the only work that should be done by you is flattening large cardboard boxes so that they will fit into the

Blue Cart properly. Finally, if you are not sure if an item or product is recyclable, **be Blue Cart Smart and simply place it in the blue recycle cart.** This way, Rainbow Disposal will have the opportunity to make the decision for you.

Time to take out the trash? Please, let's all be **Responsible** and also **Blue Cart Smart.**

Remember: *Can I rip or tear it? Is it made of glass? Is it plastic?* **If the answer is YES, then place the items in the blue recycle cart.**

As community members of Huntington Beach and Fountain Valley, it is

our duty to be **Blue Cart Smart.**

If there is a particular question regarding any item or product please do not hesitate to ask. You can e-mail Customer Service at Rainbow Disposal through the "contact us" inbox found on the website: [www.rainbowdisposal.com](http://www.rainbowdisposal.com). You will receive a prompt response.



Here are some less familiar items that belong in the Blue Recycle Cart:

Paper Towel Cores	Toilet Paper Cores	Tin Can Lids
Pet Food Cans	Plastic Pots/Bowls/Cups	Pie Tins
Old Metal Cookie Sheets	Plastic and Metal Hangers	Egg Cartons
Aluminum Baking Pans	Produce Clamshells	Pizza Boxes
Metal Pots and Pans	Balls of Tin Foil	Bubble Wrap



## What About Materials that Cannot be Recycled or Put into the Brown Cart?

### HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Leftover household products that contain corrosive, toxic, ignitable or reactive ingredients are considered to be “household hazardous waste” or “HHW.” The communities of Huntington Beach and Fountain Valley are fortunate to have an **Orange County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center** located at Rainbow Disposal Co., Inc. 17121 Nichols Street – Gate 6, Huntington Beach, 92647. **Collection Center Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.** Closed on major holidays and when raining.

#### What should you bring to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center?

- ▶ **Household Hazardous Waste** – includes Cleaning Products, Lawn and Garden Products, Automotive Products, Workshop/Painting Supplies, Indoor Pesticides, Batteries, Compact Fluorescent Tubes, Mercury Thermostats, Thermometers, and Sharps (Hypodermic Needles, Pen Needles, Intravenous Needles, and Lancets). They also accept CO<sub>2</sub> Cartridges, Diesel Fuel, Fire Extinguishers under 40 lbs., and Helium, Kerosene, and Propane Tanks (5 gallon or smaller).
- ▶ **Electronic Waste** – such as Alarm Clocks, Camcorders, CD Players, Cell Phones, Computers, Copiers, Digital Cameras, DVD Players, Hand-held Electronic Devices, iPods, Microwave Ovens, PDAs, Pagers, Printers, Fax Machines, Radios,

Stereos, Telephones, Answering Machines, Telephones, Televisions, VCRs, Video Game Consoles, and Walkie-Talkies.

▶ **Sharps** – Home-generated sharps are hypodermic needles, pen needles, intravenous needles, lancets, and other devices that are used in the home to penetrate the skin for medical treatment and for the delivery of medications. In California it is illegal to dispose of sharps waste in the trash or recycling containers. Home-generated sharps are accepted at the HHW Collection Center. For the safety of the collection center workers, sharps must be transported in an approved container. In Orange County an approved container is a heavy-duty, puncture resistant plastic bottle with a tight fitting lid. Examples of appropriate containers are empty plastic bottles such as detergent, liquid fabric softener or bleach bottles. You should also ask your health care provider or pharmacist if they take back used needles, lancets and syringes.

For more information contact **714-834-6752** or visit Orange County Waste & Recycling on the web at [www.oilandfills.com](http://www.oilandfills.com).

### PHARMACEUTICAL DRUG DISPOSAL PROGRAM

The City of Huntington Beach has installed a **Pharmaceutical Drug Disposal box** in the Lobby of the Huntington Beach Police Department, located at 2000 Main Street. The Pharmaceutical Disposal Program has been implemented so citizens can properly dispose of old prescription medications, instead of placing them in the trash or flushing down the toilet. Improperly disposing of unused medications can harm others and the environment.

The HB Police Department lobby is open from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm, seven days a week. Residents may drop off all types of medications except for liquids and sharps.

For further information about this program, contact **714-374-1700**.

Residents unable to access the Huntington Beach Police Department Program should follow Federal Guidelines for proper disposal of prescription drugs.



1. **Do not flush prescription drugs down the toilet or drain** unless the label or accompanying patient information specifically instructs you to do so.
2. Watch for special community pharmaceutical collection events.
3. If an event is not available, take prescription drugs out of the original container, and mix the drugs with an undesirable substance, such as cat litter or used coffee grounds.
4. Put the mixture into a disposable container with a lid, such as an empty margarine tub, or sealable bag. Place the sealed container with the mixture into the brown trash cart.
5. Conceal or remove any personal information, including Rx number, on the empty pharmacy containers by covering it with black permanent marker or duct tape, or by scratching it off. Place the empty pharmacy container in the blue recycling cart.

