

CONSERVATION CORNER

Less is more!

Have you ever wondered what happens to all of the things we don't need anymore? Trash goes into the landfill, recyclables get processed and mostly reused, but what about the contaminated materials, the things that don't break down or hazardous and electronic waste? They all end up in different places, but precious resources are used in collecting, transporting, sorting, cleaning, storing, reusing and disposing of them.

TRASH: Our trash is collected and then put on a train or truck and sent to a landfill approximately fifty miles away.

RECYCLABLES: The City of La Verne residents fill approximately 35 trucks full of recyclables every Monday that are brought to a sorting facility. Energy is then used to sort the recyclables, clean them and store them until they are bailed together and sent to companies who manufacture new products out of our old materials.

CONTAMINATED RECYCLABLES: Materials with food, grease and other contaminating products that cannot be rinsed off become trash and end up in landfills.

ELECTRONIC WASTE: When it is brought to an official electronic waste collection, the materials are put through a high tech separation device to extract valuable metals, which are sent to a smelter. The plastics are removed and then the metals and plastics are remade into different products.

HAZARDOUS WASTE: When hazardous waste is brought to an official hazardous waste collection event, the materials are separated and processed differently. Some liquids are neutralized, some are reclaimed, sent to smelters and remade into other products, some are placed in hazardous waste landfills, while others are blended or re-refined and used as fuel.

Free Hazardous/Electronic Waste Disposal Event

Please collect your hazardous waste (pesticides, old batteries, used automotive fluids, used cleaning products, etc.) and electronic waste products (computers, old televisions, and broken cell phones) for a FREE collection event in Pomona June 11, 2016 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the LA County Fair, Hotel & Exposition Complex Gate 9, White Avenue Pomona, CA 91769. All L.A. County residents are welcome to participate. If you can't make it to these events, there is a roundup nearly every weekend in L.A. County. The entire schedule and more details are posted at www.888cleanla.com.

