



25 Steps to a Lighter Carbon Footprint

Diamond Bar is celebrating 25 years of cityhood! In keeping with the anniversary theme, here are 25 simple yet effective ways to reduce your impact on the environment and keep more money in your pocketbook, thanks to several utility companies and government agencies offering free services and worthwhile rebates.

1. Assess the energy efficiency of your home using Energy Star's free online "Home Energy Yardstick" tool that provides insight into how much of your home's energy use is related to heating and cooling versus other everyday uses like appliances, lighting, and hot water. (Energy Star)
2. Trade your old, gas-powered lawn mower for a high-performance, environmentally-friendly electric model at a discounted price. (AQMD)
3. Install or optimize a qualifying air conditioning system – up to \$1,100 in rebates. Get an additional \$200 by participating in a maintenance program. (SCE)
4. Exchange qualifying inefficient halogen and incandescent lamps for new Energy Star labeled fluorescent lamps. (SCE – SCE Lamp Exchange)
5. Purchase or lease a new, eligible zero-emission and plug-in hybrid light-duty vehicle – rebates of up to \$2,500. (Center for Sustainable Energy – Clean Vehicle Rebate Project)
6. If you have an irrigation controller, consider adding a soil moisture sensor system – rebates are \$80 or \$25 per irrigation station for larger residential sites. (WVWD)
7. Request a free home water use survey to have your faucets, showers, toilets, and irrigation system checked for potential leaks. (Walnut Valley Water District)
8. Install new or replace inefficient attic and/or wall insulation – rebate of \$0.15/sq. ft. (So Cal Gas)
9. Earn up to \$200 in bill credits in exchange for voluntary, temporary A/C shutdowns during emergencies or "energy events" of high electricity demand. (SCE – Summer Discount Plan)
10. Purchase rain barrels to collect rainwater from gutters and downspouts to water lawns and plants – rebates start at \$75 per barrel. (Walnut Valley Water District)
11. Purchase and install a qualifying high-efficiency clothes washer - \$110 rebate available. (Walnut Valley Water District)
12. Replace standard incandescent lighting around your home with eligible LED (light-emitting diode) lamps and CFL (compact fluorescent light) bulbs – purchase online at bulbs.com or efi.org at a discounted rate. Savings of up to \$15 on each, maximum of 16 per six-month period. (SCE)
13. Purchase and install a new, qualified ENERGY STAR® refrigerator – rebate of up to \$75; \$50 more for recycling an old model. (SCE)
14. Replace an older high volume toilet with a high-efficiency model with a capacity of 1.28 gallons per flush or less, and receive a \$50 rebate. (Walnut Valley Water District)
15. If you have a central AC or an evaporative cooler, purchase and install a qualifying whole house fan, and receive a \$35 rebate. (SCE)
16. Purchase and install weather-based irrigation controllers, also known as smart controllers, for a rebate of \$25 for lawns smaller than 1 acre, and \$80 for lawns that exceed 1 acre. (WVWD)
17. Visit FreeSprinklerNozzles.com website to obtain a voucher good for up to 25 free spray nozzles that provide equal water coverage while using a third less water than standard nozzles. (WVWD)
18. Purchase a minimum of 15 high-efficiency nozzles, and obtain a rebate of \$4 per device. (WVWD)
19. Lower your cooling costs by stopping the heat from entering your home by installing window film on the windows that receive the most direct sunlight. (SCE)
20. Replace your home pool's single-speed or two-speed pump with a qualified variable-speed pool pump and motor model – \$200 rebate. (SCE)
21. Replace a conventional tank-type water heater with an ENERGY STAR®-qualified tankless water heater – up to a \$200 rebate. (So Cal Gas)
22. Purchase and install an eligible solar system, including solar photovoltaics (PV) and solar hot water (solar thermal), as well as other renewable energy investments – rebates and tax credits vary. (GoSolarCalifornia)
23. Replace your showerhead with an Evolve™ ShowerStart™ Roadrunner showerhead that interrupts the flow of water to just a trickle when the water temperature reaches 95° F – \$15 rebate. (So Cal Gas)
24. Purchase a qualifying portable room air conditioning unit to cool just one room instead of the entire house – \$20 rebate. (SCE)
25. Would your home benefit from more than a few energy-efficiency upgrades? Skip piece meal improvements and instead take advantage of the Energy Upgrade California program to make multiple improvements at the same time. Incentives depend on the energy savings of your project – rebate up to \$4,500. (Energy Upgrade California)

Be advised that rebates are provided on a first-come, first-served basis, until program deadline is reached or funding is exhausted. For additional rebate information, including deadlines and qualifications, visit the respective website:

- www.aqmd.gov
- www.sce.com
- www.energyupgradeca.org
- www.wvwd.com
- www.socalgas.com
- www.energystar.gov
- www.gosolarcalifornia.ca.gov
- www.energycenter.org



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Postal Customer

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Business Assistance...

Recycling Program

Good news for business owners and managers looking to reduce waste and increase recycling in the workplace. Valley Vista Services offers free, customized, on-site recycling program assistance to Diamond Bar businesses, upon request. Whether you are starting from scratch or looking to revive or expand an existing program, you stand to benefit from calling Valley Vista Services' Recycling Coordinator at 626.961.6291 or the Diamond Bar City Manager's Office at 909.839.7013.

Free Recycling Bins

Recycling at the workplace is easier and more convenient when bins are located at strategic locations such as desk side and in common areas. For a limited time and while supplies last, the City is providing free bins to Diamond Bar businesses looking to improve recycling habits amongst employees and visitors. To be eligible for recycling bins, businesses must submit a recycling plan. Bins are available in three capacities - 7, 23 and 50-gallon. For more information, call 909.839.7040 or visit diamondbarca.gov/greenDB to download the application form.

Refuse & Recycling Collection Services

Curbside residential service and commercial roll-off bin service

Refuse collection and recycling services in Diamond Bar are provided by Waste Management and Valley Vista Services. Your service provider depends on whether you live in a house (Waste Management) or a unit (Valley Vista Service). Businesses are serviced by Valley Vista Services.

Single-family houses are issued three different colored bins – black for general waste, green for garden waste, and gray for co-mingled recyclables.

Multi-family buildings (condominiums, townhomes, and apartments) as well as businesses and schools have access to centralized "mixed waste" bins that accept both waste and recyclables. The single waste stream is taken to a materials recovery facility (MRF), where workers separate recyclable materials from refuse for increased recycling and landfill diversion. If preferred, separate refuse and recycling bins can be requested at a discounted rate.

- Waste Management • 800.266.7551**
13940 E. Live Oak Avenue
Baldwin Park, CA 91706
open: Mon-Fri 8 am to 5 pm
wmservice@wm.com
diamondbarwm.com
- Valley Vista Services • 626.855.5500**
17445 Railroad Street
Industry, CA 91748
open: Mon-Fri 8 am to 5 pm
valleyvista.net

- City of Diamond Bar • 909.839.7040**
Public Works Department
21810 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765
open: Mon-Thurs 7:30 am - 5:30 pm, Fri 7:30 am - 4:30 pm
diamondbarca.gov/greenDB
greenDB@diamondbarca.gov



City of Diamond Bar

EnviroLink

2014 Edition

"Your Link to Protecting the Environment"



The Trash Cart Family Returns!

Living greener is easier than you might imagine, and the benefits are far-ranging. Every effort – whether large or small – adds up to significant benefits to the environment ... and your wallet. This edition of EnviroLink comes packed

with practical tips on how to reduce waste as well as water and energy consumption by making simple changes to your daily habits. To help us help you, we've enlisted the aid of Diamond Bar's very own Trash Cart Family – Green Irene, Black Jack, and Gray Ray – who are experts in their own rights when it comes to putting the correct items in the right bins, and ensuring that perfectly good recyclables do not go to waste or end up at the landfill. Who says conservation can't be fun? Check out the cool game Gray Ray and his family like to play in their home.

Family Conservation Contest

Let's Play a Recycling Game!

Ages: Recommended for ages 3+

Number of Players: May be played solo, but the more the merrier

Object of the Game: Engage your entire family in simple yet effective environment-friendly habits that will translate into savings for your wallet. Use the money saved to reward your family for a job well-done.

Suggested Components:

1. recent utility bills;
2. a pushpin or magnetic bulletin board; and
3. sticky notes, labels, or peel-off stickers

How to Play: A family that recycles together...

Reducing waste and increasing recycling at home is truly a family effort. If you are having trouble getting everyone on board, consider throwing in an incentive. Since environmental-friendly ways are kind not only on the planet but also on your wallet, have some fun with the money you save. Here's how to play:

1. Check your household's most recent water and electricity bills to get an idea of how many gallons and kilowatt hours you typically consume.
2. Walk around your home and make a note of areas where water and energy can be saved and conservation habits that can be improved, and post visual reminders (see ideas below)
3. Gather as a family and let everyone in on the conservation contest and discuss rules and rewards (see ideas below).
4. Post your bills and conservation goals in a prominent location in your home. Your contests start and end dates should coincide with the billing cycles of your utilities.
5. Feel good about your household leaving a lighter carbon footprint, and enjoy the rewards of saving money on your utility bills.

Visual Reminders:

It may be a good idea to reinforce good recycling habits by using visual reminders, such as labels in areas of your home where conservation should be practiced. Examples include "turn off the tap while you brush" near bathroom sinks; "Don't run until full" near dishwashers and washing machines; "switch me off before you leave" near light switches; and "unplug me" near wall outlets where electronic devices and appliances are charged.

A Couple of Conservation Suggestions:

Take shorter showers (goal should be 5 minutes or less). Timers can be helpful.

Unplug appliances not in use. Many electronics and appliances such as cell phones, computers, and microwaves draw electricity even when not in use. Start with seldom-used appliances, such as televisions in guestrooms and power tools in the garage. For frequently used items such as cell phones, computers, and tablets, consider grouping them on one power strip or surge protector.

Rewards:

Have all "players" pitch in ideas to reach a consensus on the reward, which may include purchasing something the entire family can enjoy or holding a one-winner-takes-all drawing.

DID YOU KNOW?

Contamination in Recycling Bins

Contamination occurs when items not suitable for recycling are placed in Gray Ray, which results in good recyclables becoming waste. This has a negative impact on our environment – and potentially our wallets as well – because it increases the amount of waste we send to our over-burdened landfills, and results in higher waste processing costs.

Audits conducted by Waste Management staff reveal that the most common contaminants in recycling bins are the following items: children's plastic toys, clothing and other types of textiles, dirt and rocks, garden water hoses, footwear, syringes and other medical waste, and even pet waste.

Please refer to the inside pages for a list of items that belong (and those that don't belong) in Gray Ray.

Service Suspension for Contaminated Bins

Gray Ray is for recyclable items only. As of January 2014, Waste Management has been periodically inspecting recycling bins, and tagging those containing items unsuitable for recycling. If your bin is "tagged," simply remove the non-recyclables; your bin will be serviced on your next refuse collection day.

Special Needs Services

Waste Management customers age 60 and older or with a disability may be eligible for a discount on the standard monthly rate. Also, individuals with a disability that physically impedes them from wheeling their carts to the curb, and without assistance from an adult live-in relative, are entitled to free assistance. Refuse collection crews will retrieve the carts, empty them, and return them to their original storage area.

Free Online Efficiency Tools

The Gas Company socalgas.com and Southern California Edison sce.com both offer useful online tools to help make your home more efficient.

The Gas Company's "Ways to Save" tool provides a customized free energy analysis as well as tips on how to save and track your energy use, while Edison provides a step-by-step guide with energy saving tips for every area of your home.

Berkeley's Cool Climate Network site coolclimate.berkeley.edu offers a free, user-friendly calculator to help you find out what your carbon footprint is and how to make it smaller.

Cart Smart: Easy Waste-Sorting Guide



Gray Ray

Think Paper • Plastic • Metals • Glass

Paper

Boxes (cereal, cookies, crackers, dry & frozen food)
Books (hard and soft cover)
Catalogues and phone books
Cardboard and shoe boxes
Carton egg trays
Junk mail and envelopes
Magazines and newspapers
Photographs and file folders
Single-use salt and pepper containers
Shredded paper (bagged)
Styrofoam (large packing material only)

Plastic

Bags (bundled and secured in one plastic bag)
Bottles (numbers 1-7: cleaners, conditioners, cooking oil, drinks, detergents, milk, shampoos)
Containers (clear, white, or colored – butter, yogurt, sauces)
Miscellaneous (plastic buckets and jugs)

Metals

Aerosol spray cans (empty, non-hazardous – shaving cream, hairspray)
Aluminum foil, pans, and trays
Tin/steel cans (soup, sauces, tuna, drinks)
Wire hangers

Glass

Bottles and jars (clear and colored)

Keep these items out!

A few wrong items in Gray Ray will contaminate a lot of good recyclables and have them end up in the landfill. When in doubt, keep it out... or call Waste Management at 800.266.7551.

No clothing and other textiles, and footwear

No paper napkins and towels

No plastic bottles labeled “hazardous waste” or with the words “corrosive, toxic, reactive or flammable”

No Grease-soiled or food-crust products (pizza box lids, take-out containers, meat trays)

No glass products (broken glass and processed glass – panes, cookware, bakeware, and glassware, mirrors, light bulbs, vases, ceramics)



Green Irene

Only loose garden and yard waste that could be made into mulch*

Grass clippings**

Leaves and weeds

Flowers and prunings

Small branches

Keep these items out!

No dirt, soil, stones, and rocks
No fibrous plants (banana and bamboo stalks) or palm fronds

No large branches

No pet and food waste

No plastic bags

No treated timber

No succulents

* Every November, the City teams up with Waste Management to hold an Eco Expo that includes a mulch giveaway of up to 80 gallons for Diamond Bar households. For more event information, visit diamondbarca.gov/greenDB or call 909.839.7013.

**Leave grass clippings on your lawn or scatter them around your garden area. Recycling grass, known as grasscycling, is a simple way to create soil-enriching mulch. Mulching mowers cut grass clippings into fine pieces that decompose quicker; however any lawn mower can be used by removing its bag. Learn more at smartgardening.com.

Smart Gardening Workshop

The County of Los Angeles invites you to learn backyard composting techniques by attending one of its free Smart Gardening Workshops held year-round in various cities throughout the county. The workshops are offered at both beginning and advanced levels and are approximately an hour and a half in length. Reservations are not needed. For more information, visit smartgardening.com.

Beginning workshops provide hands-on instruction on composting, worm composting, grasscycling, and water-wise and fire-wise gardening, while advanced sessions focus on organic gardening, landscaping with native friendly and drought tolerant plants, and environmental ways to control pests.

Backyard and worm composting bins are also available for purchase at a discounted price. The workshops are free and open to the public; reservations are not required. For more information, visit smartgardening.com.



Black Jack

Your last resort for general household waste ... it does not belong in the gray or green bin, AND it is not considered hazardous, electronic, medical or universal waste.

Animal and food waste

Ceramics

Clothing, textiles, and footwear

Disposable diapers

Greasy paper plates and pizza lids

Wax coated paper and cartons

Paper towels, napkins, tissue paper

Pet food bags

Packing peanuts and other small Styrofoam material

Dirt and rocks (small quantities)

Toys

Processed Glass products

Refuse Cart Overage

Waste Management customers are allowed two free overage pickups per year of material that does not fit in the refuse cart, and is the equivalent of three large bags or boxes. Pickup will take place on a regularly scheduled collection day, and must be scheduled at least 48 hours in advance by calling Waste Management at 800.266.7551. Please note that excess waste put out without first scheduling is subject to an additional charge.

Before you throw it out ... can it be donated, gifted, or sold?

If you have items that are in good condition, but you no longer need or want – make throwing them out your last option.

Donate to Goodwill. Diamond Bar Goodwill is located at 21070 Golden Springs Drive. The donation center is open Monday through Sunday from 7:30 am to 6 pm, and accepts a wide variety of items in good or new condition. If you have a large quantity or bulky items to donate, drop them off at the rear entrance.

Hold a Garage Sale. A permit is not required; however households are asked to hold no more than two per year.

Post Online. A number of websites exist that encourage and facilitate the gifting or exchange of materials. Membership is free, some offer free pickup service, and some even provide receipts for tax deduction purposes. These sites include Freecycle Network freecycle.org, L.A. County Materials Exchange lapdvw.org/epd/lacomax, and L.A. Shares lshares.org.

Free Extra Bins Upon Request

If you find yourself regularly maxing out Gray Ray and Green Irene, simply request extra carts by calling Waste Management at 800.266.7551. Second carts for recyclable material and green waste are provided at no additional cost as part of the current contract.

Free Cart Replacements

If any of your carts are cracked or broken, call Waste Management at 800.266.7551 to have them switched out on your next scheduled collection day. There is no cost to exchange dilapidated carts; though a charge does apply for the replacement of lost or stolen carts.

Collection Procedures

On collection day, put out your carts two feet apart on the street in front of your property with the lids closed and the wheels against the curb. To ensure pickup, have your bin ready for emptying by 5:45 am on your scheduled collection day or the night before as trucks start their route promptly at 6 am. Promptly return your carts to your property (out of public view from the street) by 10 pm the day of collection.

Missed Pickup

If your carts were at the curb before 6 am and were not emptied, call Waste Management at 800.266.7551. If you call before noon, your cart will be serviced that same day. Missed pickups reported after noon may be made up the next business day.

Holiday Service Reminders

Holidays Observed

Waste Management and Valley Vista Services both observe the following holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

If your regular collection day falls on or after one of these days, your carts will be emptied a day later than normal. For instance, if the holiday is on a Monday, such as Labor Day, residents who normally have Tuesday collection would have collection on Wednesday.

Holiday Tree Collection

For three consecutive weeks starting on December 26, both Waste Management and Valley Vista Services will collect live holiday trees at no additional charge. Prepare your tree for pickup by removing the stand and all decorations and placing it curbside or by your common bin before 6 am on your regularly scheduled collection day. Trees longer than seven feet must be cut in half.

End-of-the-Year-Pickup

For two weeks beginning December 26, Waste Management customers may place additional refuse out for collection at no additional charge.

Please note that material is limited to household waste that belongs (but does not fit) in Black Jack.

Other waste such as bulky items, hazardous or electronic waste is not eligible for pickup as part of this special service.



Disposal Solutions for Special Waste

There are good reasons why certain household items – once they have outlived their usefulness – cannot simply be disposed of in your regular refuse cart. Some items such as electronics, appliances, batteries, leftover cleaners, and automotive fluids have toxic components, while others such as Sharps can constitute a serious health hazard.

Safely getting rid of such items is as easy as arranging to have it picked up from your home or finding a place or event to drop it off.

GET IT PICKED UP

At Your Door Special Collection

Waste Management customers are encouraged to take advantage of the free At Your Door Special Collection program when disposing of special waste in the categories of electronics, universal materials, Sharps, and automotive and garden products. For more information about the items eligible for pickup or to schedule a collection, call 800.449.7587 (Mon-Fri. 5 am-5 pm), email AtYourDoor@WM.com, or complete an online request form at wmatyourdoor.com.

HHW Doorstep Pickup

Valley Vista Services' residential customers may request free doorstep collection of a wide variety of refuse that falls under the hazardous waste category, including Sharps, paint and paint products, household cleaners, automotive fluids, household batteries, and electronics. For more information or to schedule a pick-up, call 800.442.6454.

DROP IT OFF

Ken's Ace Hardware Household

303 S. Diamond Bar Boulevard • 909.861.5861

Spent household batteries & fluorescent bulbs and tubes (up to 48 inches in length) may be dropped off at Ken's Ace Hardware during its business hours of Monday through Saturday 8 am to 7 pm, and Sunday 9 am to 5 pm.

Diamond Bar-Walnut Sheriff's Station

21695 E. Valley Boulevard, Walnut • 909.595.2264

Secure “drop-boxes” that accept Sharps (lancets, hypodermic needles, and syringes) as well as expired or unwanted prescriptions are located outside of the Sheriff's station. As a reminder, Sharps should be properly secured within an approved container or a puncture, leak, and break-resistant bottle that is clearly labeled with the word “Sharps.” For your protection, remove your personal information from prescription bottles by blacking it out with a permanent marker.

Diamond Bar City Hall

1165 Wright Way, Ste A, City of Industry • 909.839.7000

Pick up free, postage-paid pouches/boxes to recycle your spent ink cartridges and cell phones.

Sherwin-Williams Paint Store

1165 Wright Way, Ste A, City of Industry • 909.598.5504

Left-over oil-based paint (up to 5 gallons) may be disposed of, free of charge, at Sherwin Williams during its business hours of Monday through Friday 6:30 am to 5 pm, and Saturday from 8 am to 5 pm.

Puente Hills Material Recovery Facility

2808 Workman Mills Road • 562.908.4875

Scrap metal, plastic products (old plastic lawn furniture, toys, plastic sheeting, etc.), and electronics (televisions, computers, etc.) may be dropped off, free of charge, during its business hours of Tuesday through Saturday 9 am to 4 pm.

HHW/E-Waste Collection Events

CleanLA.com • 1 (888) CLEAN LA

Los Angeles County's mobile, one-day collection events held year-round in various cities throughout the county are another way to properly dispose of household hazardous and electronic waste, free of charge. These drive-thru events take place from 9 am to 3 pm, rain or shine. There is a transportation limit of 15 gallons or 125 pounds of waste per trip and white goods (refrigerators, stoves and washing machines), tires, ammunition, explosives, and radioactive materials are not accepted. The collection event is typically held in Diamond Bar in the month of February.

If your item does not qualify for disposal using the above methods, try searching earth911.com, a comprehensive online directory listing recycling and disposal options for more than 240 products.

Bulky, Electronic & Hazardous Waste Collection

Free door-to-door and call-in collection services make it that much more convenient and easier to do the right thing when needing to dispose of household waste that does not fit in your black cart, or contains electronic components or materials that could harm human health or the environment if improperly handled.

BULKY ITEMS are oversized or overweight appliances (refrigerator, stove, washing machine) or furniture (cabinets, mattresses, bookshelves).

ELECTRONIC WASTE includes such items as computers and related equipment, printers, televisions, telephones, and stereos.

Pickup service of household bulky and/or electronic waste must be requested at least 48 hours in advance of your regularly-scheduled collection day. As a rule, each pickup must not “exceed three cubic yards in size, and only items that can be safely handled by two workers will be accepted.

Residents may request up to four pickups (bulky item/electronic waste) per year. Waste Management customers should call 800.449.7587, visit WMAYourDoor.com, or e-mail atyourdoor@wm.com, while Valley Vista customers should call 800.266.7551.

HAZARDOUS WASTE includes automotive products (antifreeze, fluids, motor oil), batteries (home and car), cathode ray tubes (TVs, computer monitors), fluorescent light bulbs and ballasts, household cleaners, pesticides, mercury (thermometers, thermostats), and paints (latex and oil – must be dried).

Pickup service of hazardous waste must be requested at least 48 hours in advance of your regularly-scheduled collection day. Residents may request pickups as often as needed.

Residents may request up to four pickups (bulky item/electronic waste) per year. Waste Management customers should call 800.449.7587, visit WMAYourDoor.com, or e-mail atyourdoor@wm.com, while Valley Vista customers should call 800.266.7551.

Resin Identification Code

The Resin Identification Code, developed by the Society of the Plastics Industry (SPI) in 1988, is a numbering system intended to identify the resin composition of plastic items. The system involves a chasing-arrows triangle symbol with a number “1-7” that is typically imprinted on the bottom of plastic bottles and containers. While used internationally, this coding system is voluntary and therefore should not be solely relied on for recycling guidance.

California HERO Program

Enviro-Wise Loan Opportunities!

As a result of a partnership between the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments and the Western Riverside Council of Governments, the California Home Energy Renovation Opportunity (HERO) Program is being expanded to make services available to cities in Los Angeles County later this year. The HERO Program allows property owners to finance a variety of energy-efficiency and water conservation upgrades with a low-interest, long-term loan that is repaid through property taxes. For more information, visit heroprogram.com, call 855.HERO.411, or email info@heroprogram.com.