There are some items that are not only wasted when they are thrown away, but they can also be toxic in the trash. Motor oil is a good example. Used motor oil is dirty and can be cleaned in a process called re-refining. So throwing it away is wasteful. But motor oil can also be dangerous if it is spilled or poured onto the ground, where it can end up polluting water and hurting fish, animals, and people. In collection trucks, it can put workers and other motorists in danger because it is combustible.

When your family has items like used motor oil and other chemicals you no longer need, we call them household hazardous waste (or HHW, for short). HHW includes many items commonly found in and around your home, such as paint, stain, paint thinner, motor oil, antifreeze, old gasoline or kerosene, pesticides and herbicides, fertilizer, household cleaning products, hobby glues, nail polish and remover, fluorescent light tubes and bulbs, and mercury-containing items. Please don’t ever dump these items onto the ground, pour them down the drain, or put them into any of your curbside containers! Although HHW is not accepted at the curb, Republic Services provides Los Alamitos residents with a convenient at-your-door service for proper disposal of unwanted chemicals, as well as fluorescent tubes and bulbs, batteries, medical sharps, and unneeded or expired medications. At-your-door service is by appointment only, and all collections take place on the first Wednesday of the month. You may set out an unlimited amount of HHW.

To request at-your-door service, here is what you need to do:

1. Gather the HHW in your house and garage. Keep materials in their original, labeled containers. Do not mix chemicals together. Count and make a list of the items that need to be picked up.
2. Call Republic Services at 800-299-4898 to request HHW pickup service no later than the Saturday before the first Wednesday collection date (see box). You will be provided with instructions on how to prepare and set out your HHW.
3. On the first Wednesday of the month, place the items on your porch before 8 a.m. A certified technician will come to your home to pick up your HHW.

If you are moving and need to dispose of HHW right away, you can drop it off at an Orange County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center (HHWCC) at no charge. The HHWCCs are open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday (closed on major holidays and rainy days). For details, call 714-834-6752 or visit the website: oclandfills.com/hazardous.
Feeding hungry people — not landfills

Good food doesn’t belong in the trash, but sadly it often ends up there. At restaurants where a menu special didn’t sell well, bakeries with too many of yesterday’s bagels, or grocery stores rotating out older stock, edible food has often ended up in waste containers and then headed to landfills. Thanks to Republic Services’ partnership with Food Finders, we hope that more of this food goes to help feed hungry people. In fact, this partnership has already provided over 41,000 meals, keeping surplus food out of the landfill.

Food Finders is a nonprofit food rescue organization that strives to eliminate hunger and food waste while improving nutrition throughout Los Angeles and Orange counties. Since 1989, Food Finders has received more than 123 million pounds of donated, wholesome food, providing enough food for more than 100 million meals. This food is delivered same-day to nonprofit shelters, missions, senior and youth centers, recovery homes, and other agencies. Some businesses donate regularly and others just occasionally.

By donating edible food, your business may benefit from:
- Improved compliance with AB 1826, the mandatory commercial organics recycling law
- Tax deductions for charitable giving
- Stronger ties with your community

If your business is interested in donating food through this partnership, contact Republic Services at 562-347-4100.

Republic Services and Food Finders are partners in the Waste Not OC Coalition, whose mission is to feed the need in Orange County. The Coalition includes multiple agency partners and promotes food recovery and distribution, as well as training potential donors to handle food safely.

To learn more or to get involved, visit WasteNotOC.org or call 855-700-WNOC (855-700-9662).

Feeding the 5000 spreads awareness about food waste and recovery

On May 4, the global nonprofit Feedback hosted “Feeding the 5000” in downtown Los Angeles. This event was designed to raise awareness about the environmental and social impacts of food waste. Environmental organizations, food bank agencies, and Republic Services employees worked with local chefs to cook up delicious meals served with a side of helpful environmental information. Thousands of people were provided a free meal made from food that otherwise would have gone to waste at farms, retailers, wholesalers, and restaurants. Republic Services volunteers also created meal bags with surplus food provided by local food banks.

Wasting less food will help us achieve the Zero Waste LA goals. Thank you to Republic Services Los Angeles employees for being food waste warriors and working with community partners on feeding people before feeding landfills.

At Feeding the 5000, Republic Services volunteers created meal bags with surplus food from local food banks.

Republic’s All-in-One Recycling™ plan will make your job easier

Whether you are running a business or managing a multi-family property, recycling is part of your job. Republic Services can help make that part of your job easier by performing a free waste assessment and creating an All-in-One Recycling™ plan for you. With this plan, you can make sure that you have the right containers and the right levels of service. Republic can also provide indoor containers, posters, and additional tools. If you have questions about your business or multi-family recycling program or wish to make changes or improvements, call Republic Services at 800-299-4898.

Under state law AB 341, recycling is mandatory for businesses that generate 4 or more cubic yards of waste per week and multi-family properties with five or more units.
Coal and ashes should never be placed directly into your waste container. Improperly discarded material can pose a fire risk and jeopardize the safety and health of the truck driver, recycle facility workers, and the public. Coal and ashes can remain hot enough to start a fire for many hours, perhaps days, after you think the fire is out. As a safety precaution, treat all coal and ashes as hot.

**Disposal of Ashes and Coal:**
- Allow coals to burn out completely and let ashes cool at least 48 hours.
- Dispose of cold ashes by wrapping them in heavy-duty aluminum foil and placing them in your waste container. (Keep container outdoors.)
- If you must dispose of ashes before they are completely cooled, soak them in water and then place them in heavy-duty foil.
- Be sure no other combustible materials are nearby.
- Do not place ash and coal debris in your recycle and/or yardwaste containers.

**Safe Disposal of Hot Ashes and Coal**

**Disposal of Ashes and Coal:**
• Allow coals to burn out completely and let ashes cool at least 48 hours.
• Dispose of cold ashes by wrapping them in heavy-duty aluminum foil and placing them in your waste container. (Keep container outdoors.)
• If you must dispose of ashes before they are completely cooled, soak them in water and then place them in heavy-duty foil.
• Be sure no other combustible materials are nearby.
• Do not place ash and coal debris in your recycle and/or yardwaste containers.

**What can be recycled?**

**Recyclable**
These items can be recycled in one container with All-in-One Recycling™

- **Paper**
  - Paper (staples okay)
  - Newsprint
  - Envelopes
  - Junk mail
  - Phone books
  - Brochures
  - Magazines & catalogs
  - Paper bags
  - Shredded Paper
  - (in a paper bag)

- **Cardboard**
  - Ream wrappers
  - File folders
  - Poster board
  - Paper or frozen food boxes
  - Cardboard boxes
  - Milk & juice cartons

- **Plastic**
  - Bottles & jugs
  - Plastic bags, shrink & stretch wrap (bagged)
  - CD & DVD covers
  - Plastic plant pots (empty)
  - Round dairy tubs (empty)

- **Metal**
  - Aluminum beverage cans
  - Food cans
  - Scrap metal
  - Aerosol cans (empty)
  - Aluminum foil & trays (clean)

- **Glass**
  - Bottles & jars (empty)

**Special handling**
These items should never be mixed with regular recycling and require special handling.
Learn more at republicservices.com

- Incandescent light bulbs
- Fluorescent tubes
- Computers & electronics
- Needles or syringes
- Hazardous waste
- Paint
- Toxic material containers
- Batteries

**Non-Recyclable**

- Food waste
- Mirrors or ceramics
- Styrofoam
- Tissue, paper towels or napkins

For more information on recyclables, visit republicservices.com

**Bulky items? Just make a call!**

Republic Services will pick up bulky items, such as furniture and appliances, as well as electronics, at the curb. However, you must call 800-299-4898 at least 24 hours before your regular collection day to request a special bulky-item pickup. Why do you need to make the call? It’s simple — Republic sends out a different truck and crew to pick up bulky items and electronics. If you don’t make the call, Customer Service doesn’t know to send out the truck. You can also request a bulky-item pickup using the My Resource™ app or online at republiconline.com.

Single-family residential customers may request free pickup for two bulky or electronic items per year. Additional pickups are available for a fee. If you live in a multi-family complex, check with your property manager to find out how to dispose of bulky items.

If you are doing a large clean-out or remodeling your home, call Republic at 800-299-4898 to learn more about renting a larger waste container. These can be delivered to your driveway and picked up when you have filled them.

**Quotes Requoted**

Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature’s peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you, and the storms their energy, while cares will drop off like autumn leaves. As age comes on, one source of enjoyment after another is closed, but Nature’s sources never fail.

John Muir, 1838-1914
Scottish-American naturalist
Empty. Clean. Dry.
Be sure your recyclables are empty before you toss them in the blue container.

Recycle universal waste safely and responsibly

By law, universal wastes are not allowed in California landfills because they contain harmful materials, such as mercury and lead. Proper handling and recycling of universal waste are also included in the California Green Building Standards Code (CALGreen) Construction Waste Management Requirements. Universal wastes include fluorescent, LED, high-intensity discharge (HID), and neon lamps and bulbs, as well as batteries, ballasts, electronics, and mercury-containing devices, such as thermostats.

Residents may recycle and properly dispose universal wastes at an Orange County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center (HHWCC) at no charge. The HHWCCs are open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday (closed on major holidays and rainy days). For details, call 714-834-6752 or visit the website: oclandfills.com/hazardous.

Republic Services offers commercial customers convenient options for universal waste recycling, including mail-back kits for small quantities and pack-up and pickup services for large generators.

To learn more about the best alternative for your business, call your Republic Sales Representative or visit republicservices.com.