



Public Works Utilities and Operations
1717 5th Street
Davis, CA 95616

PWWeb@CityofDavis.org
530-757-5686
GreenerDavis.org
@GreenerDavis



Davis Postal Customer



Look inside for information on environmental programs and regulations

Greener Davis Guidebook

If you have questions, we have answers!

- "Can I recycle this?"*
- "Can I pour that down the drain?"*
- "How can I find out what's in my tap water?"*
- "What do I do about a skunk in my yard?"*

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Sign up for the Greener Davis Email Newsletter!

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Reduces environmental risk related to pesticides
Risk associated with pesticide use is decreased by using less harmful and more ecologically friendly options instead.



Promotes sound structures and healthy plants
Assessing pest management by looking at the entire system rather than just the pest can provide benefits to both buildings and gardens.



Protects non-target species
Pesticides can harm non-target species such as pollinators if not used correctly.



Reduces potential for water contamination
Pesticides can reach wetlands and waterways when they are washed off by rain and irrigation and flow into the street and down a stormdrain.



Costs less
Treating for pests on an as-needed rather than regular basis can have cost savings.

What is Integrated Pest Management (IPM)?

IPM is an ecosystem-based strategy that focuses on long-term prevention of pests or their damage through a combination of techniques such as biological control, habitat manipulation, modification of cultural practices and use of disease and pest resistant plant varieties. Pesticides are used only after monitoring indicates they are needed according to established guidelines and treatments are made with the goal of removing only the target organism. Pest control materials are selected and applied in a manner that minimizes risks to human health, beneficial and non-target species and the environment.



Elements of IPM

The most effective, long-term way to manage pests is by using a combination of methods that work better together than separately.

Biological control is the use of natural enemies—predators, parasites, pathogens and competitors—to control pests and their damage.

Cultural controls are practices that reduce pest establishment, reproduction, dispersal and survival.

Mechanical and physical controls kill a pest directly, block pests out or make the environment unsuitable for it.

Chemical control is the use of pesticides. In IPM, pesticides are used only when needed and in combination with other approaches for more effective, long-term control.

5 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW About Solid Waste



It's the law
State and local law require everyone to sort their trash, recyclables and organic wastes into the correct container.



Some things can't be trashed
Some products contain toxic materials and cannot be placed in the trash or recycling bin. See elsewhere in this guide for details.



Your "trash" probably isn't trash
Check your trash bin. More than half of what is thrown away is recyclable or compostable. Check the recycling guide on the back side of this mailer to make sure waste is sorted correctly.



If it grows, it goes!
As a general rule, if something is made from anything that grows (a plant or an animal), then it can go in the organics bin. The exception is cat and dog poop, which must go in the trash.



Reduce waste by purchasing less
The best way to reduce waste is to purchase less so that less waste is generated.

Your Actions Make a Difference!

When paper, cardboard, food waste, yard materials and other organic wastes decompose in landfills they generate methane gas (a climate super pollutant 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide) and air pollutants that contribute to health conditions like asthma. **This organic waste makes up more than half of the material buried in California landfills and creates 20% of the state's methane emissions as it slowly decomposes.**

You can help slow climate change by sorting your waste into the correct bin!

What Happens After Collection?

Recycling: Recyclables from Davis are NOT landfilled and Recology does not ship low-grade plastics overseas. Recyclables collected by Recology Davis are hand-sorted here in Davis and are shipped out to be made into new products.

Organic waste: Recology takes all the organic waste they collect to composting facilities at the Yolo Landfill where it is turned into clean energy and nutrient-rich compost!

Trash: Recology brings trash to the Yolo Landfill. The trash is not sorted, so we all need to do our part to keep recyclables and organics out of the landfill.

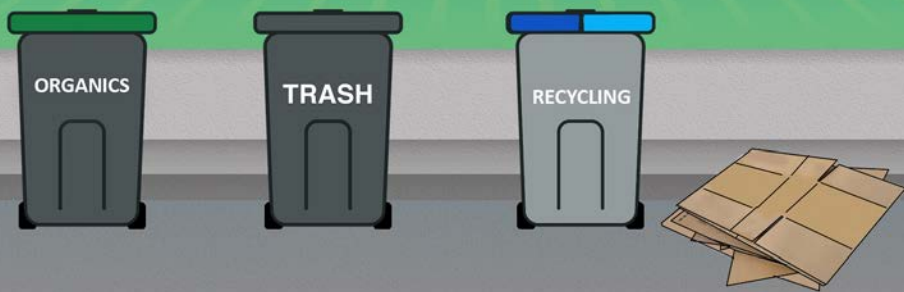


Curbside Collection Service

- Single-family residential customers have three carts that are emptied every week.
 - **Trash** carts are gray. Solid waste rates are based on the size of the trash cart, either a 95, 65 and 35-gallon size.
 - **Organics carts** are typically 95-gallon carts, but 65 or 35-gallon carts may be available upon request. Organics carts may have either a green or brown lid.
 - **Recycling carts** are only available as a 65-gallon, split-recycling cart. Additional recycling carts are available at no extra charge. Recycling carts have a dark blue or black lid for paper and a light or royal blue lid for bottles and cans.
- Additional trash and organics carts are available for a fee.
- Place the carts in the street, with the wheels against the curb.
- Place carts three feet apart and at least three feet from parked vehicles. Please keep vehicles and other objects away from the front of the carts so Recology Davis trucks can reach them.
- The lids of the carts must be able to close completely.
- Visit **DavisRecycling.org** to find your service day.
- This section does not apply to most businesses and multi-family customers whose waste is typically collected in trash enclosures.

Make collection day go smoothly

- **Set carts out by 6 a.m. on collection day.** Carts may be brought to the curb as early as 5 p.m. on the day before pickup. Recology starts servicing carts as early as 6 a.m.
- **Keep carts out until 6 p.m. on collection day.** Please leave your carts out at the curb until 6 p.m. because Recology may service carts until that time.
- **Bring carts in by 7 a.m. the next day.** Carts must be removed from the curb no later than 7 a.m. the day after your collection day.
- **Stack cardboard flat on the ground.** Please don't stuff large pieces of cardboard into the recycling cart. Empty and flatten the boxes then stack them on the ground next to the carts for pick-up. Please don't wedge the cardboard between carts - it makes it harder for Recology drivers to service your carts.



Drop-off Recycling Options

Recology Davis Recycling Center

Recology's 24-hour recycling center at 2727 2nd St. accepts used motor oil & filters, cardboard, steel & aluminum cans, rigid plastic, glass, paper and scrap metal for free recycling.

Recology operates a CRV Redemption Center Mon. to Fri., from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sat. from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. During these hours, they also accept mattresses and box springs for free recycling and used sharps for safe disposal.

Yolo County Central Landfill

Free recycling available everyday: Mattresses, box springs, paint, textiles, automotive batteries, used motor oil and filters, cardboard, paper, plastics, scrap metals and food and beverage container glass.

Free for Yolo County residents: Free recycling daily for household batteries, electronics and fluorescent bulbs and tubes.

Accepted daily for recycling (fees may apply): Tires, appliances, wood, yard trimmings, dirt, concrete, asphalt, gravel and construction and demolition debris.

Donations of reusable items are accepted for the thrift store daily: Check with the scale house attendant for acceptability or call 530-666-8856 for details.



Waste Diversion Requirements for Businesses

In order to slow climate change and meet statewide waste diversion goals, State and local law requires all businesses, multi-family properties and organizations to:

- Have adequate recycling and organic waste containers for all employees, contractors and tenants.
- Place recycling and organic waste bins next to all trash bins provided for customer use.
- Provide restrooms with an organics bin to collect paper towels.
- Ensure that all waste bins are either color coded (trash bins are gray or black, recycling bins are blue and organics bins are green) or are clearly labeled with what can and cannot go inside the bin.
- Require that any contract or work agreement with a gardening or landscaping service specify that yard trimmings be kept out of the trash/landfill.
- Annually provide information to all employees, contractors and tenants on how to properly sort recyclables and organic waste into the correct bins.
- Prohibit employees from placing organic waste and recyclables in the wrong bins.
- Periodically inspect waste bins for contamination.
- Provide information to new tenants about their requirements to sort waste properly within 14 days of occupation of the premises.

More information is available at DavisRecycling.org

Learn to Compost at Home!

The City offers a free, online composting class for anyone who wants to learn about composting. Davis residents in single-family homes who take the class may be eligible to purchase a discounted backyard composting bin. Visit DavisRecycling.org and click on "Organics" then "Composting" for details.



Waste Collection Service: Recology Davis

Recology Davis provides waste collection service in Davis. Contact them directly for missed pick-ups and other service questions.

Businesses can contact Recology to make changes to their collection service (residents with single-family service should contact the City at 530-757-5651) or schedule a free waste audit.

Recology Davis

530-756-4646

RecologyDavis@Recology.com



These items should not be thrown away in the trash


Batteries

Residents can recycle single-use household batteries at these sites in Davis:



- Davis Ace Hardware, 3rd & G St.
- CVS, 1550 E. Covell and 1471 W. Covell Blvd.
- Davis Food Co-Op, 620 G St.
- Davis Senior Center, 646 A St.
- Nugget Markets, 409 Mace and 1414 E. Covell Blvd.
- Recology Davis Recycling Center, 2727 2nd St. (during CRV buyback hours only)
- Rite Aid, 655 Russell Blvd.

Place alkaline and lithium batteries into separate plastic bags for safety.

 Reduce waste by switching to rechargeable AA, AAA, C & D batteries.

Sharps Waste

Sharps (used hypodermic needles, lancets and other devices used to penetrate the skin) cannot go in the trash. Residents can place sharps waste in a puncture-proof container, tape the lid shut, write "Sharps Waste" on the outside of the container and bring the filled container to a location listed below for free and safe disposal:

- Recology Davis Recycling Center, 2727 2nd St. M – F 9:30 a.m. & 2 p.m. & Sat. 8 a.m. & 4 p.m.
- Yolo County Landfill, 44090 County Rd. 28H Thurs., Fri. & Sat. 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off

Every Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., residents can bring toxic items to the Yolo Landfill for free. Accepted items include automotive fluids, batteries, paint, fluorescent bulbs & tubes, household cleaners, used syringes, propane and helium canisters, used cooking oils, fats and grease and more.

Seniors and persons with disabilities can schedule a free pick-up by calling 530-666-8856.



Unused Medications

Unused medications should never be put in the trash or flushed down a drain.




Prepare your medications for drop-off:

1. Remove or blackout your information on prescription labels.
2. Place pills in a clear zippered plastic bag and recycle the container. Keep liquids & creams in their original containers & seal them tightly.
3. Drop off medications at these locations during pharmacy hours:
 - Kaiser Permanente Davis MOB OP Pharmacy, 1955 Cowell Blvd.
 - CVS Pharmacy, 1550 E Covell Blvd.
 - Rite Aid, 2135 Cowell Blvd.

Electronics

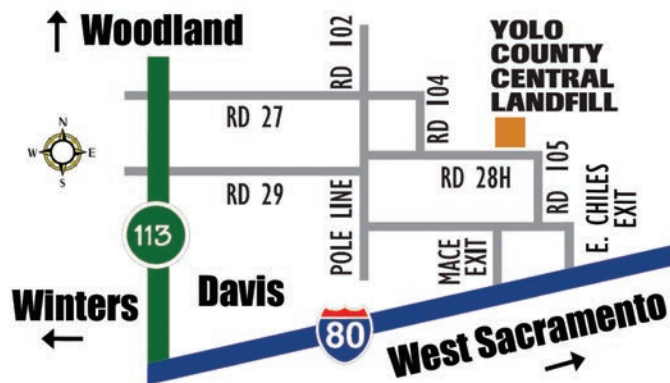
Residents can recycle TVs, computers, printers and other electronics for free every day at the Yolo County Landfill. See the location and hours below.



 If electronics still work, consider donating them to thrift stores or selling them instead of recycling.

Yolo County Central Landfill

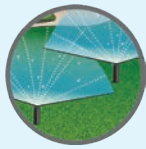
44090 County Rd. 28H, Woodland
Mon. to Sat. 6:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. & Sun. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
530-666-8729 or IWM@YoloCounty.org
www.YoloCounty.org/Landfill



Business Hazardous Waste Businesses may not bring their hazardous waste to the household hazardous waste drop-off at the landfill. Businesses that produce less than 220 lbs. or 27 gallons of hazardous materials each month may be eligible to use the business hazardous waste program at the Yolo County Central Landfill instead. Fees apply and are based on the type and amount of material brought in. Contact the Landfill for details.

5 WAYS YOU CAN Conserve Water

SaveDavisWater.org



Check your sprinklers

Check outdoor irrigation for leaks and clogged sprinkler heads or drip emitters. Make repairs (or report them to your property manager) to avoid water waste.



Time your irrigation

Water late at night or early in the morning to prevent evaporation. Follow the current water-use restrictions.



Fill it up

Run full loads when washing dishes or clothes. When appliances need to be replaced, look for the WaterSense label.



Add mulch

Add three to four inches of mulch around trees and plants to keep moisture in the soil and suppress weeds.



Convert your landscape

Remove all or part of your turf and replace it with low-water use plants. If you're renting, suggest changes to your property manager.

Monitor Your Water Use



Careful water-use management is the best tool to catch leaks early. Sign-up for AquaHawk, the City's online water-use portal, to view and track your water usage. Watch for continuous nighttime water use which may indicate a leak. Register at SaveDavisWater.org.

Tips to Create a Water-Wise Landscape

- Choose low-water use plants and trees.
- Group plants based on watering needs.
- Harvest rainwater with rain barrels or keep water onsite using rocky or vegetated swales.
- Utilize greywater through a laundry to landscape greywater system to supplement your irrigation needs.
- Mulch to reduce water evaporation from the soil.



CONSERVE WATER.

Rain or shine.



The weather in California is highly variable with prolonged dry periods and intervals of significant rain. We can all help to reduce water use rain or shine by following the tips on this flier (find additional tips online). The City has permanent water-use restrictions in place to conserve water year-round no matter the weather. Visit SaveDavisWater.org for details.

5 WAYS YOU CAN Protect Wildlife

CityofDavis.org/City-Hall/Urban-Wildlife



Less toxic rodent control

Rodent poisons can harm wildlife like hawks and owls. Instead, use traps and seal gaps to exclude rodents from buildings.



Less toxic insect control

Control ants and roaches with boric acid-based baits. Keep counter tops clean and store sugary and fatty foods in sealed containers or in the refrigerator.



Feed pets indoors

Pet food is for pets, not wildlife. Feed pets indoors to reduce wildlife encounters.



Keep pets indoors

Keep pet cats indoors to protect local birds from predation. Keep all small pets indoors at night to keep them safe from dangers such as coyotes and cars.



Close outdoor waste bin lids

Keep waste bin lids closed after depositing waste to prevent wildlife from rummaging.



Please Do Not Feed Wildlife

Feeding wildlife may not seem like a big deal, but it is the primary cause for conflict between humans and wildlife.

- Feeding makes wild animals lose their natural fear of people. The animals you feed today will likely become "pests" tomorrow when they lose their natural fear of humans and approach other people boldly to look for food.
- "People" food isn't good for animals and may affect their health.
- Feeding wild animals causes unnatural population growth. When people stop feeding the animals or if the feeder runs out, the animals may begin to starve.

Living With Wildlife

We share our City with a wide variety of wildlife. Having wildlife close to home can be a wonderful experience, but can also have its challenges. Reducing conflict with wildlife takes patience and persistence to ensure that you and your wild neighbors will be happy and healthy.

Wildlife habitats are impacted by our actions. You can help local wildlife by keeping their habitat clean and pollution-free. Be sure to pick up your pet's waste and litter so that it doesn't make its way into wildlife areas. See the prevent water pollution tips on the next page for more ways to protect their habitats.



5 WAYS YOU CAN Protect the Sewer System

CityofDavis.org/Pretreatment



No fats, oils or grease down the drain

Avoid clogged pipes by saving fats, oils and grease for recycling at the Yolo Landfill household hazardous waste drop-off.



Keep food waste out of the sink

Scrape food scraps off dishes and place them in your organics cart.



Dispose of medicines properly

Unused medicines should never be poured down the sink or toilet.



Don't flush garbage

Only human wastes and toilet paper should be flushed down the toilet. "Flushable" or "disposable" products such as wipes, cleaning wands, diapers or feminine protection belong in the trash.



Dispose of hazardous wastes properly

Household chemicals should never be disposed of in the sink or toilet.

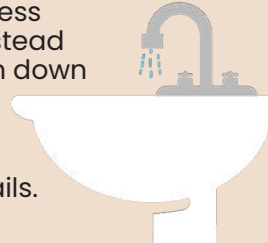
Avoid Messy Back-Ups and Contaminated Wastewater

The City's sewer system brings wastewater to the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant, where it is treated to remove contaminants before being discharged to the environment.

Sewer pipes are meant to handle liquids, not solids. Flushing trash, pouring grease down the drain and putting food in the garbage disposal can cause serious sewer back-ups in your home and on the street.

Wastewater treatment plants can remove most contaminants from water, but they can't remove everything. Help us prevent polluting water by properly disposing of hazardous wastes and excess medications instead of flushing them down the toilet.

See disposal information on this flier for details.



Water Softeners

Some water softeners release large quantities of salts into the sewer system which remain in the treated water, even after being processed at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. This contributes to problems with salt loading in local wetlands, rivers and the Delta.

If you use a water softener, consider bypassing it to determine if the current level of water hardness is acceptable or adjust the grains setting on the water softener accordingly. Visit CityofDavis.org/WaterQuality to view hardness results and water quality reports for the City's tap water.



5 WAYS YOU CAN Prevent Water Pollution

Stormwater.CityofDavis.org



Can all waste and close the lid

Make sure all your trash, recyclables and organic wastes end up in the proper waste containers. Close the lids to keep rainwater out and prevent litter.



Wash your car the green way

Either wash your cars at a car wash facility (where the dirty water goes to the sewer to be cleaned), use waterless car washing products or use minimal water and direct the runoff to your yard instead of the street.



Sweep instead of wash

Use a broom instead of water to clean outdoor surfaces. Sweep up dirt and debris to keep it out of the street and stormdrain.



Clean up after your pets

Pet waste contains bacteria that can make wildlife sick. Pick up your pet's waste with a plastic or compostable bag and place it in the trash.



Limit plastics

Reduce the use of plastics, especially single-use plastics. Look for reusable or recyclable alternatives when possible.

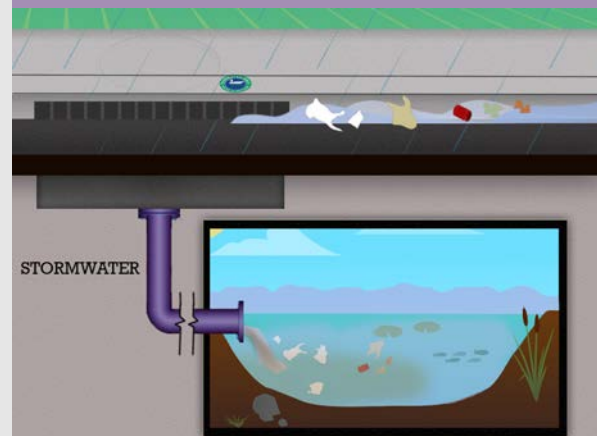
More Ways to Prevent Stormwater Pollution:

- Limit the use of pesticides and herbicides. Visit OurWaterOurWorld.org for less toxic options.
- Check your vehicle for leaks regularly. Have leaks repaired as soon as possible. Recycle old auto fluids.
- **Never pour anything down a stormdrain.**
- If a rainstorm is coming, be aware that it will wash away dirt, pesticides and debris from your yard into the street and down a stormdrain. If you wouldn't want something in your fish tank, it shouldn't go down the stormdrain.

What is Stormwater?

Stormwater is water that flows across surfaces when it rains. As the water runs off roofs, yards, driveways and other surfaces, it can pick up dirt, debris, pet waste, pesticides and other materials.

In Davis, stormwater flows into stormdrain inlets and out to wetlands and waterways without being treated. Only rain should go down the stormdrain to prevent pollution of our waterways.





We have quality water

City of Davis residents and businesses enjoy high-quality water from the Sacramento River and City deep water wells.



Tap water is convenient

Water comes straight to your tap.



Our water is regulated for transparency

To ensure tap and bottled water is safe to drink, State and Federal law limits the amount of contaminants in the water. Tap water suppliers are required to inform the community of what specifically is in the water you drink. Bottled water suppliers are not.



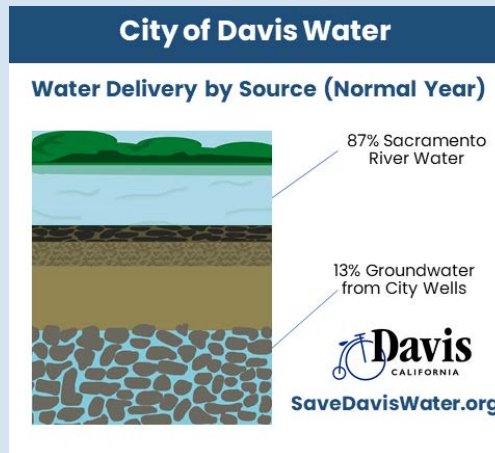
It's sustainable

Tap water in a reusable water bottle cuts down on plastic waste from single-use water bottles.



It's economical

Tap water costs pennies per gallon. Much cheaper than bottled water.



Questions About Water Hardness?

Davis tap water hardness ranges from 55 – 120 mg/L (3.2 – 4.7 grains per gallon), which is soft water to slightly hard water. The hardness in the water changes throughout the year due to an increase or decrease of the surface water supply. The City samples hardness monthly in five areas of the city and posts that information on our website. Adjusting your water softener to the correct range may reduce the amount of salt in the environment and save you money!



Where to Find Water Quality Information

The City collects more than 1,400 water samples throughout the year to ensure that our drinking water meets all the State and Federal water quality standards. View the results online, scan QR code above.



5 WAYS YOU CAN Protect and Care for Trees

Trees.CityofDavis.org



Water your trees

All trees need water, but the amount and frequency of watering depends on the trees age and weather patterns.



Protect tree roots

Tree roots can grow far beyond the reach of it's branches. Be mindful of any work performed near a tree and avoid disturbing its roots



Avoid synthetic mulch

Rock mulch, plastic sheeting and weed cloth can heat the soil and roots and inhibit oxygen in the soil.



Check before you cut

Avoid disturbing trees during the spring and summer when birds are nesting. Look for signs of birds nesting and don't perform any work on a tree until all nesting activity has ceased.



Right tree, right place

When choosing a tree to plant, check the final size of the mature tree to avoid conflicts with utilities and buildings.



Trees Love Mulch

Make your tree happy by applying organic mulch four to six inches deep around the tree, but keep the mulch off the trunk. Leaves, wood chips and other organic mulches are best as they break down over time and contribute organic matter to the soil. An initial barrier of newspaper or cardboard can be used underneath mulch to help reduce weed growth. Trees will often make their own mulch as they drop leaves, so go ahead and "leaf" them where they land for a natural mulch around your tree.

Is My Tree Protected?

Some trees on private property are protected. It is the responsibility of property owners to be aware of tree related regulations before engaging in any activity that may impact existing trees.

City street trees are trees planted in the 10-foot easement on private property fronting public streets.

Trees of Significance are trees planted within commercial and multi-family properties that measure five inches or more in diameter at breast height.

A permit is required prior to any pruning, removal and, in some cases, modification of the areas around trees on private property.

Trash, Recycling and Organics Collection

Please sort waste into the correct bin

RECYCLING

PLASTIC, GLASS & METALS



PAPER



CARDBOARD

Flatten and stack on the ground next to the recycling carts or place in the cardboard recycling bin, if present.



ORGANICS



YARD MATERIAL PILE COLLECTION



Some customers receive seasonal, on-street yard material pile collection. Please visit DavisRecycling.org for the current yard material pile collection schedule and rules.

LANDFILL



Visit DavisRecycling.org for more information