Palm Desert Recycles with Recycle Binney

Pick A Bin and Throw It In!
PALM DESERT
73510 Fred Waring Drive
Palm Desert, CA 92260
Phone: (760) 346-0611
Fax: (760) 340-0574
www.cityofpalmdesert.org

BURRTEC
“We’ll Take Care Of It”
41-575 Eclectic Street
Palm Desert, CA 92260
Phone: (760) 340-2113
Fax: (760) 340-0417
www.burrtedesert.com

Burrtec’s Customer Service Office Hours
Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday – 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

For convenience purposes only,
a Spanish version is provided on the reverse side.
Para su conveniencia una version en español
se incluye en el reverso.

This brochure was printed on FSC certified paper.
Dear Palm Desert Residents and Businesses,

Our beautiful environment is one of the key things that makes Palm Desert and the surrounding Coachella Valley so attractive to residents and visitors alike. To help protect that environment, the City complies with California law by having an active and effective recycling program to divert waste and other materials from landfills.

The State’s approval of the Global Warming Solutions Act in 2006 requires cities to address other environmental impacts including greenhouse gas emissions. This law also implemented mandatory commercial recycling which, when combined with Palm Desert’s many other free and low cost waste and recycling programs, will help our community accomplish the goals outlined in the City’s Sustainability Plan.

Recognizing the importance of maintaining Palm Desert’s quality of life and to guarantee that waste is regularly removed from all homes – whether residents remember to pay their trash bill or not – our City Council has approved tax roll billing for residential trash collection.

Palm Desert customers are no longer billed quarterly by Burrtec for waste services. Instead, property owners see a separate fee on their annual property tax bill. Practiced by scores of California cities, tax roll billing helps ensure that Palm Desert remains an ideal place to live, work, and play. Another program that should help improve our environment is Palm Desert’s plastic bag ordinance. Approved in 2014, the ordinance prohibits the distribution of single-use plastic bags at grocery stores, pharmacies, liquor stores, gas stations, and convenience stores. All stores, other than non-grocery retail stores, are required to provide recyclable paper bags for 10 cents per bag. This charge, collected and retained by store operators and not the City, offsets the cost of providing paper bags and encourages the use of reusable bags. Unlike single use plastic bags, reusable bags conserve resources and landfill space and reduce air and water pollution, as well as the litter that can harm wildlife and mar our beautiful desert.

In order to achieve our goal of diverting 75 percent of waste generated in Palm Desert from landfills, we need the entire community to do its part. I encourage all residents and businesses to join the City of Palm Desert in its efforts to grow and flourish sustainably by utilizing the programs outlined in this brochure. For more information, please contact our staff at (760) 346-0611.

Sincerely,

Lauri Aylaian
City Manager
Residential Waste and Recycling Services

STANDARD RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM

Burrrtec Waste & Recycling Services automated refuse and recycling program only allows for disposal of materials placed inside the proper containers. Refuse, recyclables, or yard waste outside of your containers will not be picked up (with the exception of cardboard boxes which must be flattened, tied together, and placed next to the recycling bin). Palm Desert residents have the option to choose from three different bin sizes (96-gallon, 64-gallon, or 32-gallon).

Bin Handling Instructions

- All bins must be out before 6:00 a.m. with the lid closed. Place bin at the curb with the front facing the street.
- Bins must be at least 5 feet from any stationary object such as a mailbox, fence post, or tree.
- Parked cars must be at least 15 feet from bins.
- Multiple bins must be at least 2 feet from each other.
- Do not overload the bins. Maximum weight is 150 lbs. per bin.

Note: Effective July 2015, Burrrtec discontinued billing residents quarterly for trash service; instead property owners were assessed a separate fee on their November 2015 Property Tax Bill for trash service from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. Going forward, the fee for trash service will continue to be assessed annually at the same time each year on property owners’ tax bills. For more information, please call (760) 340-2113.
Burgundy Bin ➤ Regular Trash

The burgundy bin is for regular household trash, food waste, pet waste (secured in plastic bags), and any items that cannot be recycled.

Unacceptable Items for the Burgundy Bin
- Construction debris, dirt, etc.
- Hazardous materials such as motor oil, cleaning products, pool chemicals, car batteries, etc.
- Medical products such as syringes
- Hot ashes or hot coals must be cooled to room temperature
- Bulky items such as furniture, appliances, etc.
- Electronic items such as televisions, cell phones, and computers
- Universal Waste such as household batteries and fluorescent bulbs

Grey Bin ➤ Commingled Recycling

We all have a responsibility to recycle. Recycling glass and aluminum containers has become a habit, but we can do so much more – and it’s easy! You don’t even have to separate your recyclables. Mixing all recyclable items in one bin is called commingling. Paper, cardboard, glass, aluminum, plastics, and tin materials can all be disposed of in the same recycling bin.

If you don’t have a grey recycle bin or require additional grey bins for recycling – free-of-charge – please call Burrtec at (760) 340-2113.

Note: The more you recycle and the smaller your trash container, the less you will pay.
Acceptable Items for the Recycle Bin
- White and colored paper
- Phone books
- Magazines
- Junk mail
- Books
- Envelopes
- Aluminum, steel, and tin cans
- Plastic medicine bottles (empty)
- Glass bottles and jars
- Aerosol containers (empty)
- Newspapers
- Shredded paper (bagged)
- File folders
- Juice boxes
- Cardboard boxes, e.g. cereal, crackers, detergent, etc.
- Cardboard (flattened)
- Plastic bottles and containers numbered 1-7 (see recycle symbol at bottom of container)
- Clean aluminum foil
- Plastic grocery bags (all bags into one)
- Styrofoam packing blocks (such as the foam blocks that protect new televisions or computers)
- Cartons (milk, juice, and broth)

Unacceptable Items for the Recycle Bin
- Food and liquid waste
- Toilet and facial tissue
- Paper towels
- Styrofoam food and beverage containers
- Non-numbered plastics
- Bubble wrap
- Green waste
- Mirrors
- Oil
- Wax-coated cardboard
- Batteries
- Tyvek envelopes
- Food-stained paper items, e.g. used paper plates and pizza boxes
- Medical waste (including needles/syringes)
- Household chemicals
- Padded envelopes
- Dishware
- Window glass
- Clothes
- Electronic equipment
- Light bulbs

Plastic Grocery Bags
These bags are made from recycled materials and are handy in our everyday use, e.g. as trash can liners or for pet waste. The City’s “Bag in Bag” Program allows residents to recycle plastic grocery bags with little effort. Just place all of the bags into one, then tie the top and drop it into the grey recycle bin. It’s that easy! Plastic grocery bags may also be recycled free-of-charge at your local supermarket or pharmacy.

NOTE
Don’t forget to bring reusable bags when you go shopping.
Green Bin ➤ Green Waste

The green bin is for all yard trimmings such as grass, tree branches, sawdust, green plants, weeds, and all organic materials generated from yard work. All items must fit into the bin with the lid closed. If necessary, cut up trimmings to increase the amount of yard waste that fits in the green bin. DO NOT place yard waste in plastic bags. Plastic bags are not compostable and will contaminate the yard waste.

Acceptable Items for the Green Bin

- Twigs and small branches
  (4 inches or less in diameter and 3 feet or less in length)
- Vegetation from the yard
- Grass
- Leaves
- Green plants
- Weeds
- Small wood scraps
- Garden trimmings
- Tree limbs
- Wood chips
- Sawdust

Unacceptable Items for the Green Bin

- Plastic bags
- Soil/rocks
- Pet waste
- Food waste
- Tree stumps
- Painted wood
- Containers of any type
APARTMENT/MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING PROGRAM
Most apartment and multi-family housing complexes use commercial trash and recycling bins. All trash and recycling materials must be placed in the bins with the lids closed.

Dark Grey Bin ➤ Regular Trash
The dark grey bin is for regular household trash, food waste, pet waste *(secured in plastic bags)*, and any items that cannot be recycled.

Unacceptable Items for the Trash Bin
- Construction debris, dirt, etc.
- Hazardous materials such as motor oil, cleaning products, pool chemicals, car batteries, etc.
- Medical products such as syringes
- Hot ashes or hot coals must be cooled to room temperature
- Bulky items such as furniture, appliances, etc.
- Electronic items such as televisions, cell phones, and computers
- Universal Waste such as household batteries and fluorescent bulbs
White Bin ➤ Commingled Recycling

We all have a responsibility to recycle. Recycling glass and aluminum containers has become a habit, but we can do so much more - and it's easy! You don’t even have to separate your recyclables. Mixing all recyclable items in one bin is called commingling. Paper, cardboard, glass, aluminum, plastics, and tin materials can all be disposed of in the same recycling bin.

NOTE

In January 2012, Assembly Bill 341 mandated multi-family complexes to establish recycling programs. If you don’t have a white recycle bin, contact your property manager who can set up a recycling program within your complex. Property managers can obtain assistance in setting up a recycling program by calling the City of Palm Desert at (760) 346-0611.

Note: Recycling disposal costs are less expensive than trash disposal costs; therefore, by diverting your waste you can save money on your disposal charges.

Acceptable Items for the Recycle Bin

- White and colored paper
- Newspapers
- Phone books
- Cardboard boxes, e.g. cereal, crackers, detergent, etc.
- Magazines
- Junk mail
- Books
- File folders
- Envelopes
- Cardboard (flattened)
- Shredded paper (bagged)
- Aluminum, steel, and tin cans
- Juice boxes
- Plastic bottles and containers numbered 1-7 (see recycle symbol at bottom of container)
- Plastic medicine bottles (empty)
- Glass bottles and jars
- Clean aluminum foil
- Aerosol containers (empty)
- Plastic grocery bags (all bags into one)
- Styrofoam packing blocks (such as the foam blocks that protect new televisions or computers)
- Cartons (milk, juice, and broth)
Unacceptable Items for the Recycle Bin

- Food and liquid waste
- Food-stained paper items, e.g. used paper plates and pizza boxes
- Toilet and facial tissue
- Used paper towels
- Styrofoam food and beverage containers
- Medical waste (including needles/syringes)
- Tyvek envelopes
- Non-numbered plastics
- Household chemicals
- Bubble wrap
- Padded envelopes
- Green waste
- Dishware
- Mirrors
- Window glass
- Oil
- Clothes
- Wax-coated cardboard
- Electronic equipment
- Batteries
- Light bulbs

Plastic Grocery Bags

These bags are made from recycled materials and are handy in our everyday use, e.g. as trash can liners or for pet waste. The City’s “Bag in Bag” Program allows residents to recycle plastic grocery bags with little effort. Just place all of the bags into one, then tie the top and drop it into the white recycle bin. It’s that easy! Plastic grocery bags may also be recycled free-of-charge at your local supermarket or pharmacy.

NOTE
Don’t forget to bring reusable bags when you go shopping.
Annual Events

ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP AND TIRE AMNESTY DAY
Each year, on the third Saturday in April, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., the City and Burrtec host an Annual Neighborhood Clean-Up and Tire Amnesty Day. Palm Desert residents have the choice of placing their items curbside for pickup or disposing of them at one of the drop-off locations listed below.

Note: Curbside collection is not available for residents of multi-family complexes.

Curbside Collection
Residents may place up to four items at the curb by 6:00 a.m. on the scheduled clean-up day. All items must be in boxes, plastic trash bags, or bundled with string/twine (bundles must not exceed 4 feet by 2 feet in size). Large items (such as those listed under the Bulky Item Pick-up section) require residents to contact Burrtec at (760) 340-2113 at least 48 hours in advance of the scheduled clean-up day to arrange for pickup.

Drop-Off Locations
- Palm Desert Civic Center (73-710 Fred Waring Drive, across from the two-story office building)
- Freedom Park (77-400 Country Club Drive off Liberty Drive in the parking lot of Ronald Reagan Elementary School)

Tire Recycling
Residents can dispose of up to five passenger and/or light truck tires during the event at the Palm Desert Civic Center drop-off location ONLY (curbside pickup not available). Tires from businesses and non-profit organizations WILL NOT be accepted.

Note: Proof of residency, such as a driver’s license, State identification card, or a local utility bill will be required at each of the drop-off locations.
Skilled identity thieves use a variety of methods to gain access to your personal information, including sifting through your trash looking for documents such as tax records, bank statements, credit offers, legal documents, and other personal documentation.

To help Palm Desert residents dispose of sensitive documents safely and securely, the City and Burrtec offer two free document shredding events per year. Acceptable items include paper-clipped, stapled and bound office and/or glossy paper, file folders, and envelopes. Binders and notebooks will not be accepted. Events are held in the parking lot of Palm Desert City Hall located at 73-510 Fred Waring Drive. Space is limited, so please bring only confidential materials. No appointment is necessary, and businesses may bring up to ten boxes per day.

**Free Document Shredding Events**
Drop-off between 7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. (or until trucks are full)
- First Friday and Saturday in May
- Third Friday and Saturday in November
  *dates and times subject to change

**FREE ELECTRONIC WASTE RECYCLING EVENT**
Drop-off between 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
- Third Saturday in September at Palm Desert City Hall, 73-510 Fred Waring Drive
  Acceptable items include anything with a plug or circuit board.

*location, date, and time subject to change

**Note:** Large appliances such as refrigerators, stoves, washing machines, and dryers will not be accepted at the event.

*location, date, and time subject to change
Recycling and Disposal Programs

BULKY ITEM PICK-UP

In order to dispose of large, bulky items that do not fit in the regular trash bin, residents can simply contact Burrtec at (760) 340-2113 to schedule a Bulky Item Pick-up. Place up to four items at the curb by 6:00 a.m. on your regular trash day. This service can be used weekly and is offered at no charge to residents.

Note: Residents of multi-family complexes must have their property manager call to schedule the Bulky Item Pick-up, and property managers are responsible to establish a secure location for the materials. Multi-family complex residents will be assessed a $50 fee per pick-up of up to four items.

Acceptable Bulky Items

- Large and small appliances
- Furniture
- Mattresses, box springs, and bed frames
- Bicycles and swing sets
- Barbecues
- Carpet rolled and bundled (bundles should not exceed 4 feet)
- Computer monitors and laptop computers
- Standard and LCD televisions up to 37 inches (for televisions larger than 37 inches, please advise the customer service representative for special handling)

Unacceptable Bulky Items

- Industrial waste
- Business waste
- Hazardous waste
- Engines and auto parts
- Tires
- Building materials
- Bagged household trash

If items are in good condition, residents should consider donating them to a local charity or thrift store for reuse. Many organizations will pick up items free of charge.
USED MOTOR OIL AND FILTER RECYCLING

There are three easy ways for residents to dispose of used motor oil and filters: 1) schedule a FREE curbside pick-up (service not available for residents of multi-family housing complexes); 2) drop them off at one of the City’s eight Certified Collection Centers; or 3) drop them off at one of the City’s scheduled collection events.

Note: When transporting used oil, the oil must be stored properly in a clean, sealed, and uncontaminated container. It is illegal to transport more than five gallons of used oil in your personal vehicle.

Curbside Pick-up

Residents may contact Burrtec at (760) 340-2113 at least 48 hours in advance of their regular service day to schedule a FREE pick-up of up to five gallons of used motor oil (service not available to residents of multi-family housing complexes). Simply drain your used motor oil into a transparent plastic one-gallon container. Oil filters must be completely drained and sealed in a zip type bag. Place the container and the filter next to your recycle bin by 6:00 a.m. on your regular service day.

Certified Collection Centers – drop-off any time throughout the year

- Burrtec’s Recycle Center (41-800 Corporate Way)
- SynFast Oil Change (74-180 Highway 111)
- Jiffy Lube (74-499 Fred Waring Drive)
- Jiffy Lube (42-275 Washington Street)
- Mountain View Tire & Service (44-420 Town Center Way)
- Mountain View Tire Center (34-700 Monterey Avenue)
- Auto Zone (73-605 Highway 111)
- Auto Zone (34-860 Monterey Ave)

Collection Events – drop-off between 8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

- First Saturday in March at Auto Zone, 34-860 Monterey Avenue
- First Saturday in November at Napa Auto Parts, 42-100 Beacon Hill

*locations, dates, and times subject to change

Note: Additional events occasionally hosted by the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG). Please call (760) 346-1127 for more information.
AT-HOME HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) COLLECTION PROGRAM

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) includes products used to clean your home or chemicals that are considered fuel. They require special handling at disposal facilities and CANNOT be placed in residential or commercial containers.

Residents simply contact Burrtec at (760) 340-2113 to schedule a FREE pick-up (minimum required) and place materials in a secure location not accessible to the general public until collection day. Collections are limited to four per calendar year and cannot exceed 15 gallons or 125 lbs. per pick up. Smaller items must fill a 13”x15” box (mixed materials acceptable) to be eligible for pick-up.

Note: Residents of multi-family complexes must have their property manager call to schedule HHW collection, and property managers are responsible to establish a secure location for the materials.

Acceptable Household Hazardous Waste Items

- All acid-based chemicals
- Ethylene glycol/antifreeze
- Old gasoline, kerosene, paint strippers, and lamp oil
- Latex and oil-based paints (Option: Let paint harden and then dispose of in trash. Please remove lids.)
- Household cleaners
- Used oil and used oil filters
- Fertilizers
- Pesticides and herbicides
- Auto batteries
- Small quantities of mercury
- Pool chemicals (acid, chlorine, salt, etc.)
UNIVERSAL WASTE DISPOSAL

Universal Waste (U-Waste) includes products containing low levels of hazardous metals such as lead, mercury, cadmium, and chromium. U-Waste also includes items such as household batteries and fluorescent bulbs. These items can potentially contaminate soil and groundwater if deposited into landfills. Residents can dispose of U-Waste through the new At-Home HHW Collection Program. Residents simply contact Burrtec at (760) 340-2113 to schedule a FREE pick-up and place materials in a secure location not accessible to the general public until collection day. Collections are limited to four per calendar year and cannot exceed 15 gallons or 125 lbs. per pick-up. Residents may also drop off their household batteries and fluorescent bulbs to Burrtec’s Recycle Center located at 41-800 Corporate Way (behind the Hovley Post Office in Palm Desert), Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., excluding holidays. Proof of residency may be required.

- Minimum quantity for pick-up of household batteries is an amount equivalent to a full 29 oz. coffee can and minimum quantity for pick-up of fluorescent bulbs is at least ten.

**Note:** Residents of multi-family complexes must have their property manager call to schedule U-Waste collection, and property managers are responsible to establish a secure location for the materials.

Acceptable U-Waste Items

- Common household batteries
- Fluorescent tubes, bulbs, and lamps containing mercury
- Thermostats
- Electrical switches and relays
- Pilot light sensors
- Mercury gauges
- Mercury thermometers
- Non-empty aerosol cans (if cans are empty, they can be placed in the recycle bin)

ELECTRONIC WASTE DISPOSAL

Electronic Waste (E-Waste) includes old televisions, computer monitors, and other electronic devices that are no longer of use (e.g. items with a plug or circuit board). Residents can dispose of E-Waste simply by contacting Burrtec at (760) 340-2113 at least 48 hours in advance of their regular service day to schedule a Bulky Item Pick-up. Upon scheduling, residents may place up to four items out at the curb by 6:00 a.m. on their regular service day for pick-up. This service can be used weekly and is offered at no charge to residents. Residents may also drop off small E-Waste to Burrtec’s Recycle Center located at 41-800 Corporate Way (behind the Hovley Post Office in Palm Desert), Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., excluding holidays. Proof of residency may be required.
Note: Residents of multi-family complexes must have their property manager call to schedule the Bulky Item Pick-up, and property managers are responsible to establish a secure location for the materials. Multi-family complex residents will be assessed a $50 fee per pick-up of up to four items.

Residents should consider donating their working computers or other electronic devices to a local charity or thrift store for reuse. Many organizations will pick up items free of charge.

Acceptable E-Waste Items
- Monitors and computer systems
- Televisions
- VCR and DVD players
- Cell phones
- Vacuum cleaners
- Printers and copiers
- Radios, stereos, and tape players
- Microwaves and toasters/toaster ovens

GRASSCYCLING
Grasscycling is another easy way to recycle green waste. The clippings from mowed grass are left on the lawn to decompose rather than placed in the green waste bin. Outlined below are the recommended mowing heights for grasscycling. Please note that the grass cutting should not be more than a quarter inch for a successful program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Turf grass type</th>
<th>Mow when reaches this height</th>
<th>Mower setting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bermuda Grass (common)</td>
<td>1½ to 2½ inches</td>
<td>1 to 1½ inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bermuda Grass (hybrid)</td>
<td>½ to 1½ inches</td>
<td>½ to 1 inch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perennial Ryegrass</td>
<td>2½ to 3½ inches</td>
<td>1½ to 2½ inches</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING
Recycle your Christmas tree during the two weeks following the holiday. To recycle your tree, cut it in half (if over 6 feet tall), remove all tinsel, ornaments, metal stands, and water bowls, and place it curbside by 6:00 a.m. on your regular trash day.

Note: Residents of multi-family complexes may drop off Christmas trees at Burrtec’s Recycle Center located at 41-800 Corporate Way (behind the Hovley Post Office in Palm Desert).
SHARPS DISPOSAL

Sharps are items such as hypodermic needles, syringes, lancets, and pen needles. All sharps must be disposed of in special containers and handled as hazardous waste. Improperly discarded needles create community hazards and can cause serious injury. Residents with health issues such as diabetes who must receive injections can now dispose of used hypodermic needles, syringes, lancets, and pen needles safely and conveniently by utilizing one of the following programs:

Sharps Disposal by Mail – Palm Desert residents can visit one of ten participating pharmacies to receive a free Sharps Disposal by Mail container. The container serves as a receptacle for used sharps and once full can be sealed and deposited in the mail for safe disposal. Each container is pre-addressed with postage paid, and residents can receive up to three containers per year at no charge by visiting one of the following pharmacies:

PARTICIPATING PHARMACIES
- CVS Pharmacy (42-155 Washington Street)
- Fireside Pharmacy (73-847 Highway 111)
- Rite Aid Pharmacy (74-958 Country Club Drive)
- Rite Aid Pharmacy (72-875 Highway 111)
- Sav-On Pharmacy (74-590 Highway 111)
- Target Pharmacy (72-549 Highway 111)
- Town Center Compounding Pharmacy (72-624 El Paseo)
- Walgreens Drug Store (44-840 Monterey Avenue)
- Palm Desert Drugs (73-261 Highway 111)
- La Quinta Pharmacy (43-875 Washington Street)

*locations subject to change

Curbside Pickup – Palm Desert residents can dispose of sharps simply by contacting Burrtec at (760) 340-2113 to request a curbside pickup. Sharps must be packaged safely and securely in either a sharps container or a hard thick plastic container, such as a used orange juice, detergent, or vegetable oil bottle. Residents may pick-up sharps disposal containers (while supplies last) free-of-charge from Burrtec’s Recycle Center located at 41-800 Corporate Way (behind the Hovley Post Office in Palm Desert). Upon scheduled curbside sharps pick-up, Burrtec will leave a free empty collection container upon request. Residents may coordinate up to four free pick-ups per year.

PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION DISPOSAL PROGRAM

Residents can dispose of unwanted and expired prescription and household medications conveniently and safely at the Palm Desert Sheriff’s Station, located at 73-705 Gerald Ford Drive, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., excluding holidays. The disposal program does not accept illicit drugs or medical waste, including syringes, biological samples, vials, tubes, or transdermal patches. Prescription medications can also be disposed of at Walgreens Pharmacy located at 44840 Monterey Avenue in Palm Desert. For more information, please call Walgreens at (760) 674-0716.

*dates and times subject to change
Commercial and Industrial Waste and Recycling Services

**BUSINESS WASTE AND RECYCLING PROGRAMS**

**Bin Handling Instructions**
- Lids on bins should be closed.
- Do not overload the bins. Maximum weight is 500 lbs. per bin.

**Dark Grey Bin** ➤ **Regular Trash**
The dark grey bin is for regular trash, food waste, pet waste (secured in plastic bags), and any items that cannot be recycled.

**Unacceptable Items for the Trash Bin**
- Construction debris, dirt, etc.
- Hazardous materials such as motor oil, cleaning products, pool chemicals, car batteries, etc.
- Medical products such as syringes
- Hot ashes or hot coals must be cooled to room temperature
- Bulky items such as furniture, appliances, etc.
- Electronic items such as televisions, cell phones, and computers
- Universal Waste such as household batteries and fluorescent bulbs

**White Bin** ➤ **Commingled Recycling**
We all have a responsibility to recycle. Recycling glass and aluminum containers has become a habit, but we can do so much more – and it’s easy! You don’t even have to separate your recyclables. Mixing all recyclable items in one bin is called commingling.
Paper, cardboard, glass, aluminum, plastics, and tin materials can all be disposed of in the same recycling bin.
Acceptable Items for the Recycle Bin

- White and colored paper
- Newspapers
- Phone books
- Cardboard boxes, e.g. cereal, crackers, detergent, etc.
- Magazines
- Junk mail
- Books
- Envelopes
- Shredded paper (bagged)
- Cardboard (flattened)
- Juice boxes
- Aluminum, steel, and tin cans
- Plastic bottles & containers numbered 1-7 (see recycle symbol at bottom of container)
- Plastic medicine bottles (empty)
- Glass bottles and jars
- Clean aluminum foil
- Aerosol containers (empty)
- Plastic grocery bags (all bags into one)
- Styrofoam packing blocks (such as the foam blocks that protect new televisions or computers)
- Cartons (milk, juice and broth)

Unacceptable Items for the Recycle Bin

- Food and liquid waste
- Food-stained paper items, e.g. used paper plates and pizza boxes
- Toilet and facial tissue
- Used paper towels
- Styrofoam food and beverage containers
- Medical waste (including needles/syringes)
- Tyvek envelopes
- Non-numbered plastics
- Household chemicals
- Padded envelopes
- Green waste
- Dishware
- Mirrors
- Window glass
- Bubble wrap
- Oil
- Clothes
- Wax-coated cardboard
- Electronic equipment
- Batteries
- Light bulbs

Plastic Grocery Bags

These bags are made from recycled materials and are handy in our everyday use, e.g. as trash can liners or for pet waste. The City’s “Bag in Bag” Program allows businesses to recycle plastic grocery bags with little effort. Just place all of the bags into one, then tie the top and drop it into the white recycle bin. It’s that easy! Plastic grocery bags may also be recycled free-of-charge at your local supermarket or pharmacy.

COMMERICAL RECYCLING

In January 2012, Assembly Bill 341 mandated businesses to establish recycling programs. If your business is not currently recycling, please contact the City of Palm Desert at (760) 346-0611, to set-up a commercial recycling program. The City’s Recycling Technician will conduct a facility walk-through of your business to determine your waste and recycling needs. As part of Palm Desert’s efforts to...
increase diversion, the City currently provides businesses with internal recycling containers free of charge. Once your business’s needs have been assessed, service adjustments will be recommended accordingly. Based on the waste assessment and implementation of a recycle program, businesses may reduce their disposal costs. You’ll be surprised how little you use your trash bin once you start recycling.

**GREEN WASTE RECYCLING**

Businesses can recycle their green waste by calling Burrtec at (760) 340-2113 to order a roll-off container (20, 30, and 40-yard containers available). Pull charges for green waste are 5% less than trash pull charges. You will also reduce your costs, as recycling facilities charge less per ton than landfills and transfer stations.

Businesses can also haul their own green waste to one of the following recycling facilities:

- Edom Hill Transfer Station – 70-100 Edom Hill Rd., Cathedral City (760) 340-2113
- Coachella Valley Compost – 87-011 Landfill Rd., Coachella (760) 863-4364

**BI-ANNUAL FREE DOCUMENT SHREDDING**

Skilled identity thieves use a variety of methods to gain access to your personal information, including sifting through your trash looking for documents such as tax records, bank statements, credit offers, legal documents, and other personal documentation.

To help Palm Desert businesses dispose of sensitive documents safely and securely, the City and Burrtec offer two free document shredding events per year. Acceptable items include paper clipped, stapled, and bound office and/or glossy paper, file folders, and envelopes. Binders and notebooks will not be accepted. Events are held in the parking lot of Palm Desert City Hall located at 73-510 Fred Waring Drive. Space is limited, so please bring only confidential materials. No appointment is necessary, and businesses may bring up to ten boxes per day.

**Free Document Shredding Events**

Drop-off between 7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. *(or until trucks are full)*

- First Friday and Saturday in May
- Third Friday and Saturday in November

*dates and times subject to change*

**FREE ELECTRONIC WASTE RECYCLING EVENT**

Drop-off between 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

- Third Saturday in September at Palm Desert City Hall, 73-510 Fred Waring Drive

Acceptable items include anything with a plug or circuit board.

**Note:** Large appliances such as refrigerators, stoves, washing machines, and dryers will not be accepted at the event.

* location, date, and time subject to change
BUSINESS HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAM

Palm Desert businesses that generate small quantities of hazardous waste (up to 27 gallons or 220 lbs. or 2.2 lbs of extremely hazardous waste per month) are considered Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators (CESQG). Qualifying businesses simply contact the CESQG hotline at (800) 952-5566 to schedule an appointment to drop off their hazardous waste (including U-Waste and E-Waste) to the City’s HHW facility located at 41-800 Corporate Way in Palm Desert. The City pays for the first $300 of disposal costs annually for qualifying businesses. Verification of business locations (e.g. a City business license) and appointments are required.

Note: Explosives, radioactive, and biomedical waste are not acceptable.

Acceptable Hazardous Waste Items

- All acid-based chemicals
- Ethylene glycol/antifreeze
- Old gasoline, kerosene, paint strippers, and lamp oil
- Latex and oil-based paints
  (Option: Let paint harden and then dispose of in trash. Please remove lids.)
- Household cleaners
- Used oil and used oil filters
- Fertilizers
- Pesticides and herbicides
- Auto batteries
- Small quantities of mercury
- Pool chemicals (acid, chlorine, salt, etc.)
- Electronic waste (items with a plug or circuit board)
- Universal waste (batteries, fluorescent bulbs, etc.)

For information on how to recycle items not listed in this brochure, please call (760) 346-0611.

FOOD WASTE RECYCLING PROGRAM FOR RESTAURANTS

The State of California has implemented a new Food Waste Recycle Program (AB1826) which became effective April 1, 2016. This program will be applied in phases commencing January 1 of each year through 2020, and each phase will become more restrictive and impact more businesses. To obtain information regarding this program and determine if your business will be impacted, please contact Burrtec at (760) 340-2113.
Construction and Demolition

Every construction project generates a wide variety of discards (e.g. concrete, asphalt, wood, dirt, etc.). Recycling, salvaging, and reusing construction materials can save you money by reducing disposal costs. Your recycling efforts will not only save you money and conserve natural resources but will also contribute to California’s requirements that all municipalities reduce recyclable materials going to landfills.

Contractors can recycle construction and demolition debris by calling Burrtec at (760) 340-2113 to order a roll-off container (20, 30, and 40-yard containers available) or by hauling the debris directly to a disposal facility using their own equipment (no outside haulers are permitted within the City of Palm Desert).

Below is a list of recyclable items that must be separated by material and placed in separate roll-off containers in order for them to be recycled:

- Appliances (stoves, refrigerators, sinks, bathtubs, toilets)
- Cardboard
- Drywall/Plaster (gypsum and sheetrock)
- Green waste/Wood waste (dimensional lumber, clean wood, fence boards, wood waste, tree trimmings, pallets)
- Metals – ferrous (steel, stainless steel piping, roofing flashing) and non-ferrous (aluminum, copper, brass)
- Paving materials (asphalt, bricks, cinder blocks, concrete, dirt)
- Roofing tiles

For a FREE construction and demolition waste assessment to identify what materials can be recycled and collected, how materials should be separated, what containers will be needed at the site, and the strategic location of containers for ease of recycling without contamination, contact the City of Palm Desert at (760) 346-0611 or Burrtec at (760) 340-2113.
Planning to hire a contractor to do some repairs for your home?

- Save money on disposal costs by requiring the contractor to divert material to a recycling facility. Landfill charges can exceed the disposal costs at a recycling facility.
- Develop building designs that use standard materials, e.g. wall sections that use 4 foot by 8 foot sheets of material efficiently.
- Store left-over supplies and materials for your next project.
- Ask suppliers to remove packaging before shipping materials to your home. You can also ask them to wrap materials in reusable blankets or padding, or even take back the packaging after the materials have been delivered.
- Require subcontractors to include the cost of removing waste in their bids to give them an incentive to produce less waste.
- Buy building supplies that contain recycled materials to help expand markets for these items.

Construction and Demolition (C&D) materials occupy a large percentage of landfill space in Riverside County. Most construction waste consists of wood, drywall, metals, concrete, tile, roofing materials, and cardboard. These items can all be reused or recycled with the proper management. Other items such as carpet, sinks, toilets, and appliances can be reused.

Tips to Stop Waste Before it Starts

- Avoid leftovers; measure twice and cut once.
- Choose materials that are durable and do not have to be replaced frequently.
- Use energy efficient lighting fixtures, insulation, and appliances.
- Instead of traditional demolition, consider salvaging and careful deconstruction so that the materials can be reused.

Perhaps the best way to reuse materials is to buy recycled. There are many items available that come from recycled content, such as lumber, floor tile, carpet, and many plastic items. Purchasing items with recycled content instead of products made from new materials helps to increase recycling efforts and reuses valuable materials that might otherwise be placed in the landfill.
General Information

TRANSFER STATION
Edom Hill Recycling and Transfer Facility is located at 70-100 Edom Hill Road in Cathedral City and is responsible for processing solid waste generated by Palm Desert and the Coachella Valley. Solid waste that is disposed of at the transfer facility is transported to a permitted landfill located outside of the Coachella Valley. The Edom Hill Recycling and Transfer Facility provides the following waste and recycling services for your convenience (fees will apply):

- Disposal service for routine refuse
- Recycling service for electronic waste
- Recycling service for appliances
- Recycling service for tires
- Disposal service for construction material
- Recycling service for green waste

Unacceptable Waste (list subject to change)

- Asbestos
- Ash
- Auto parts
- Dead animals
- Liquid waste
- Sewage sludge
- Semi-solid waste
- Hazardous waste
- Medical waste
- Radioactive waste

Hours of Operation for all inbound waste:

- Monday – Saturday – 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Self-Haul Sunday Only – 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
  
(Closed on New Year’s Day, Easter, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas)

For more information, please contact Burrtec at (760) 340-2113.

COMPOSTING
Composting is a great way to beautify your garden and reclaim resources that would otherwise go into the landfill. Almost all organic materials can be composted, including grass, leaves, food scraps, and even paper! These materials can biodegrade in as little as four weeks and turn into dark, nutrient-rich soil that your plants will love.

The Riverside County Waste Management Department’s Backyard Composting Program holds regular informational workshops in the Coachella Valley. For more information, please contact the Riverside County Waste Management Department at (951) 486-3200 or visit online at www.rivcowm.org.

BEVERAGE CONTAINER RECYCLING
Beverage containers made from glass, plastic, and aluminum can be redeemed for cash at one of the following Palm Desert locations:

- Burrtec Waste & Recycling Services, 41-800 Corporate Way
- NexCycle (by Costco), 72-800 Dinah Shore Dr.
- RePlanet (by Albertsons on Deep Canyon & Highway 111), 74-590 Highway 111

For more information visit www.bottlesandcans.com.
REUSE
Items you no longer need are often useful to others. Area thrift shops, consignment centers, and assorted non-profit organizations welcome items they can sell or give to people. Try donating used clothing to charities, reusing grocery bags as trash bags, or passing along magazines for others to read. Donate Styrofoam packing “peanuts” to the nearest packaging retailer that will reuse them, along with your cardboard mailing boxes. Wire hangers can be taken to the closest dry cleaner to be reused.

WHAT CAN KIDS DO?
Since 1997, the S.C.R.A.P. Gallery has been addressing two of today’s most urgent issues—the environment and the education of youth throughout the Coachella Valley and beyond. Their mission is to actively engage youth as stewards of the environment through a concentrated, hands-on, educational effort stressing the “Four R’s” – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Responsibility. The S.C.R.A.P. Gallery provides a link between industry, education, the arts, and the environment through its Field Trip Program, which features environmental presentations and exhibits. In addition, the S.C.R.A.P. Gallery’s self-directed art workshops, which use recycled and reused material from their warehouse, divert these materials from the landfill. For more information visit www.scrapgallery.org.

DESERTARC’S DOCUMENT SHREDDING AND RECYCLING SERVICES
DesertArc is a non-profit organization located in Palm Desert whose sole mission is to enhance the quality of life for people with developmental disabilities. They offer a broad array of services to include low-cost document shredding and free recycling services for businesses.

Services Provided:
- Document shredding (drop-off only)
- Free containers and flexible weekly pickup to fit your individual recycling needs
- Free appliance pick-up, free electronic waste drop-off

For more information, please call (760) 346-1611.

Note: 100% of the proceeds from the recyclable items collected benefit programs serving adults with developmental disabilities.

PAINT RECYCLING
The California PaintCare Program offers safe and easy options to dispose of unwanted paint. Residents and businesses may drop off small quantities (between to 5-20 gallons per day) to established retail locations. Arrangements for free pick-up of large quantities (300 gallons or more – restrictions apply) can be requested. For more information on these programs, please call (855) 724-6809 or visit www.paintcare.org.

RECYCLING PRESENTATIONS
If your group, association, or organization would like to learn more about recycling, please contact Burrtec at (760) 340-2113 to schedule a presentation.
Frequently Asked Questions

What should I do with my bins if I move?
Bins should be left for the next resident. Bins are provided for residents’ use but remain the property of Burrtec Waste & Recycling Services.

How should I handle any problems regarding my trash and recycling service, such as a missed pick-up, broken or stolen bins, etc.?
Questions and issues related to service and/or bins should be directed to Burrtec at (760) 340-2113.

How do I pay my trash bill?
Effective July 2015, Burrtec discontinued billing residents quarterly for trash service; instead property owners were assessed a separate fee on their November 2015 Property Tax Bill for trash service from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. Going forward, the fee for trash service will continue to be assessed annually at the same time each year on property owners’ tax bills. For more information, please call (760) 340-2113.

What should I do if my trash day falls on a holiday?
When a holiday falls on a weekday, collections for the remainder of the week will be delayed by one day. Burrtec observes the following holidays:
- New Year’s Day
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day

How can I eliminate unwanted “junk” mail?
Below is a list of ways to potentially decrease your unwanted “junk” mail:
- Contact the Mail Preference Service at (212) 768-7277, ext. 1888 or visit online at www.dmachoice.org.
- Return unopened “junk” mail to the sender by writing “return to sender” on the envelope.
- Contact mail order catalog companies and/or specific organizations/businesses that send you unwanted mail and request to be taken off of their mailing list.

How do I eliminate unwanted phone book deliveries?
To stop the delivery of unwanted phone books, go to www.yellowpagesoptout.com
Are there any special services provided for disabled persons?
Disabled residents who meet the Department of Motor Vehicles requirements for an N-1 permanent disabled placard are entitled to special walk-in backyard or side yard collection of trash, recyclables, and green waste at no charge. Contact Burrtec at (760) 340-2113 for more information.

What is the Electronic Waste Recycling Fee?
The Electronic Waste Recycling Fee is assessed on certain electronic devices such as computer monitors and televisions sold in California. The fee, which is collected at the time of retail sale and ranges between $8 and $25, is used by the State of California to offset the cost of properly managing these types of products at the end of their useful lives. It is important to note that the Electronic Waste Recycling Fee is not a deposit and will not be reimbursed to the consumer, but rather, the intent of the fee is to reduce, or eliminate, the costs associated with properly recycling this material when it becomes waste.

How can I dispose of items such as large quantities of cardboard, household batteries, cell phones, fluorescent bulbs, and small electronic waste?
Items such as those listed above can be taken to Burrtec’s Recycle Center located at 41-800 Corporate Way in Palm Desert (behind the Hovley Post Office). The Facility accepts these items Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., excluding holidays. Proof of Palm Desert residency will be required.

How can I dispose of large quantities of green waste?
Palm Desert residents can dispose of up to 500 lbs. of green waste per day by dropping it off to Burrtec’s Recycle Center located at 41-800 Corporate Way in Palm Desert (behind the Hovley Post Office). The Facility accepts green waste Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., excluding holidays. Proof of residency will be required.

Where can I take my commingled recyclables if I do not have a recycle bin?
Palm Desert residents who currently do not have recycling service (e.g. those that reside in apartment/multi-family complexes) can drop off their commingled (mixed) recyclables (e.g. aluminum cans, plastic bottles, paper, cardboard, etc.) to either Palm Desert City Hall located at 73-510 Fred Waring Drive or the Mesa View Fire Station located at 73-200 Mesa View Drive.
Did you know that needing to change your car’s oil every 3,000 miles is a myth? Many cars today can go longer than 3,000 miles without affecting engine wear. Automakers are now regularly recommending oil changes at 5,000, 7,000, or even 10,000 miles based on driving conditions. Check your vehicle’s user manual for guidelines on when to change your oil. Not only will this save you money and time, but you will also be helping the environment.

Why is it important to recycle used motor oil? Recycling used motor oil keeps it from rivers, streams, and lakes, which effect fish and birds. It also keeps oil out of our ground water supplies which can affect your drinking water. Recycling oil saves energy and a valuable resource.

How can I dispose of used tires? Used tires can be disposed of at the City’s Annual Tire Amnesty Day held on the third Saturday in April (see page 11 for more information). For information on additional tire amnesty events, please call the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) at (760) 346-1127 or Riverside County Waste Management at (951) 486-3200.

Why is it important to properly dispose of household hazardous waste? Chemicals found in hazardous waste can be released into the environment and contaminate our air, water, and possibly the food that we eat. Also, by throwing hazardous waste in the trash, you can cause additional hazards to your waste handler.

What happens to our recyclables once they are picked up at the curb? Burrtec takes the recyclables to the local transfer station where they are loaded onto semi-trucks. Then they are hauled to a Material Recovery Facility (MRF) where the recyclable material is sorted by machines and people. Once the recyclables are sorted, they are sold to processing facilities and eventually made into new products.

Where does our trash go? All of our trash gets hauled to Edom Hill Transfer Station where it gets loaded onto larger trucks and hauled to a landfill outside of the Coachella Valley.