

August 4, 2011

Dear Resident,

Thank you for participating in the *Food for the Earth* pilot program. We are ending the pilot on **Wednesday, August 31, 2011**, and will return to weekly loose-in-the-street yard trimmings collection. Your garbage, recycling, and yard trimmings collection day will remain the same.

We will be retrieving your yard trimmings cart, unless you notify us according to the instructions below. If you had a yard trimmings cart prior to the pilot program, there is no need to call; your cart will remain and the monthly fee will resume.

NOTE: Food scraps and kitchen organics will no longer be collected in your yard trimmings cart beginning September 1. Only place yard trimmings in this cart once the pilot ends.

If you want to keep the yard trimmings cart:

Please email keepcart@sanjoseca.gov with your name and address or account number, or call the Customer Contact Center at (408) 535-3500 **no later than Friday, August 19** to subscribe to yard trimmings cart service. The monthly fee is \$4.35 per cart.

If you do NOT want to keep the yard trimmings cart:

GreenWaste Recovery will retrieve your yard trimmings cart between Thursday, August 25 and Wednesday, August 31. On your collection day, set out your cart at the curb with bagged food scraps and yard trimmings in it. After collection, please leave your empty cart at the curb for the remainder of the week until it is removed. To avoid the monthly subscription fee, your cart must be returned by August 31.

What to DO with Food Scraps:

Food scraps and other organic material can all be composted into a rich natural fertilizer for your soil instead of taking up space in landfills. We encourage you to compost at home. Enclosed is a schedule for San José's free gardening and compost workshops.

If you decide to not compost, you must place all food scraps and organics in the garbage cart. Do not place them with the yard trimmings or in the recycling cart.

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Reuse your kitchen pail:

Keep and reuse your kitchen pail. You can continue to collect food scraps and organics for home composting or use it as a storage container.

Complete the survey:

Please complete and return the enclosed postage-paid survey by **Friday, September 16** for a chance to win your choice of a home composting bin or free large item pick-up. We sincerely value your input. This information will help us determine customer satisfaction during this pilot program.

Once again, thank you for participating in the *Food for the Earth* 18 month pilot program. The data collected from this pilot program will help us plan future program services. If you have any comments or questions, please call the Customer Contact Center at (408) 535-3500 or email pilotinput@sanjoseca.gov.

Sincerely,

Donna Perala
Recycle Plus Program Manager

Enclosures: Survey
Compost Workshop Schedule