

# Composting/Mulch Program

**Y**ard waste and food scraps can make up as much as 30 percent or more of a typical family's trash. Recycling organic material by composting at home saves landfill space and produces a valuable soil amendment that will enhance your garden and landscape. Using compost can increase soil productivity, reduce your water bill, and help control weed growth.

Since 1992, the County of Santa Barbara Public Works Department has administered a residential composting program to promote source reduction by encouraging residents to compost their yard waste, garden trimmings, and food residuals at home. More than 4,600 households are currently registered with the program, which offers residents technical assistance, bin design plans, and composting informational material, such as the County's Backyard Composting and Yard Waste Reduction Guide. This information is made available to the public upon request, through regularly con-

ducted home composting workshops, and other public venues such as Earth Day, the local Farmer's Markets, and school presentations.

Residents in Santa Barbara County may obtain mulch for use at their homes, gardens, and businesses by accessing a free mulch pile that is maintained at the South Coast Recycling and Transfer Station (SCRTS), located at 4430 Calle Real in the unincorporated area of Santa Barbara. This free mulch pile is accessible to households during normal business hours. Alternatively, qualified trucks (no pickup trucks or trailers) may also be loaded with mulch for a fee. For more information, please call (805) 681-4345. Finally, the County will also deliver mulch for a fee in a dump truck, a roll-off truck, or a semi-truck, after a Purchase Agreement/Liability Waiver form has been signed. To schedule a delivery of mulch, please call (805) 681-4981.



## Composting bins can be purchased at the following locations:

### SANTA BARBARA AREA

**Santa Barbara Home Improvement Center**  
415 East Gutierrez Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 963-7825  
www.sbhicace.com

### GOLETA AREA

**Home Depot**  
6975 Marketplace Drive  
Goleta, CA 93117  
(805) 961-4746  
www.homedepot.com

**Island Seed and Feed**  
29 South Fairview Avenue  
Goleta, CA 93117  
(805) 967-5262

**Orchard Supply Hardware**  
125 North Fairview Avenue  
Goleta, CA 93117  
(805) 681-1500  
www.osh.com

### SANTA MARIA AREA

**Orchard Supply Hardware**  
1950 South Broadway  
Santa Maria, CA 93454  
(805) 928-7454  
www.osh.com

### LOMPOC AREA

**City of Lompoc Public Works Department**  
Solid Waste Division  
1300 West Laurel Avenue  
Lompoc, CA 93438  
(805) 875-8027

Composting bins and other items such as composting tumblers, composting accessories, worm bins, mowers, rain barrels, outdoor furniture, and garden products may also be purchased from the following website: [www.composters.com](http://www.composters.com). Mulch can be purchased from the South Coast Recycling and Transfer Station.

The County of Santa Barbara Public Works Department, Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division, sells the Earth Machine composting bin year-round at the following two locations:

### South Coast Recycling and Transfer Station

4430 Calle Real  
Santa Barbara, CA 93110  
(Open Monday through Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)

### North County Public Works Building

620 Foster Road  
Santa Maria, CA 93455  
(Open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)

The County is selling these composting bins at 50 percent off the manufacturer's price. To learn more about the Earth Machine and how one can be purchased, visit [http://www.lessismore.org/Programs/composting\\_bins.html](http://www.lessismore.org/Programs/composting_bins.html)

**For more information, call the County Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division at 882-3618.**



### DEMONSTRATION SITES

**Santa Barbara City College Lifescape Garden**  
721 Cliff Drive  
Santa Barbara, CA 93109

**Santa Maria Valley Sustainable Garden**  
624 West Foster Road  
Santa Maria, CA 93454

