

GreenWays

THE QUARTERLY RESIDENTIAL NEWSLETTER FROM GREENWASTE OF PALO ALTO **SPRING 2019**

SILICON VALLEY BIKE EXCHANGE

Cycling can be good for your health, your wallet, and the environment, but sometimes your bicycle also needs a little TLC: The Silicon Valley Bike Exchange can help with that.

Located at 3961 E Bayshore Rd, the Bike Exchange moved from Mountain View to Palo Alto in early January. The non-profit works toward their goal of inspiring others to learn the art of bicycle repair and reuse. Through hosting workshops and walk-in volunteer days, they help individuals maintain their own bicycles, while also accepting used bike donations. The donated bicycles are repaired and donated to a myriad of charitable organizations and non-profits serving disadvantaged children, the homeless, immigrants, veterans, day workers, and families in economic, legal, and substance abuse recovery.



Since their establishment in 2006, the Bike Exchange has repaired and donated more than 6,000 bicycles, keeping them from landfills and providing recipients with a low-cost, environmentally friendly means of transportation.

Interested in learning more about The Silicon Valley Bicycle Exchange?

Check out their website at www.bikex.org or stop by a volunteer event hosted every 2nd and 4th Saturday, January through October.

Volunteer events are held from 10am to 3pm, rain or shine.

GREENWASTE HIGHLIGHTS

- **CITYWIDE YARD SALE** - June 1st: Donating, buying, or selling reusable items is a great way to reduce waste and keep usable things out of the landfill.

To sign up to sell, register online starting April 1st at www.PaloAltoOnline.com/yardsale or call (650) 496-5910.

A full page ad with sale locations and merchandise will be available in the May 31, 2019 edition of the Palo Alto Weekly. Maps and sale listings also available online by May 24, 2019 at www.paloaltoonline.com/yardsale.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **REPAIR CAFE:**
Sunday, April 28th, 11am-3pm
Museum of American Heritage
351 Homer Avenue, Palo Alto
- **COMPOST BASICS WORKSHOP:**
Saturday, June 15th, 10am-12pm
Cubberley Community Center, Room H-1, 4000 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto
- **DOCUMENT SHREDDING:**
Saturday, July 13th, 8am-12pm
Sunnyvale SMaRT Station, 301 Carl Road, Sunnyvale

SLOW DOWN TO GET AROUND

Waste collectors have the 5th most dangerous job in the United States, based on Bureau of Labor Statistics reports.



To address some of the safety concerns, a new “Slow Down to Get Around” law was passed in California on September 23, 2018, making it the 23rd state to enact such legislation. AB 2115, which goes into effect January 1st, 2020 will require motorists to move to an adjacent lane when overtaking a stopped waste service vehicle and pass at a safe distance. Existing laws regulate slowing down in construction zones, waiting for school buses, and yielding to emergency vehicles, but this addition closes a loophole which left stationary waste service vehicles unprotected.

Palo Alto waste collectors are trained on several safety procedures and precautions, but we also need your support to keep them safe!

Here's what you can do to help:

- » When driving, stay alert on the road and slow down when approaching a collection truck in operation
- » Watch out for waste collectors who may be working outside and around their truck
- » If visibility is low or it seems unsafe to pass, please wait for the next stop the truck makes and check for oncoming traffic, bicyclists, and pedestrians before safely passing
- » When following behind, leave enough space to make sure drivers can see your car in their mirrors
- » Keep all carts snug to the curb and out of bike lanes – carts that block bike lanes may present a hazard to bicyclists and waste collectors who may need to leave their trucks to maneuver them into the appropriate service position

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: RETHINK DISPOSABLE REVAMPS TAQUERIA EL GRULLENSE

Switching to reusables: let's taco 'bout it.

Taqueria El Grullense, located at 3636 El Camino Real, recently worked with ReThink Disposable to swap several of their disposable items with reusable ones. By replacing disposable chip bowls, cups, utensils, and salsa containers with reusables, Taqueria El Grullense is expected to eliminate close to 200 pounds of waste per year, reducing their waste disposal costs and improving their customer's overall dining experience.



GAMBLE GARDEN EARTH DAY EVENTS

Join us for the third annual GreenWaste compost giveaway and more!

grub
to
gardens



Register!

visit
gamblegarden.org

WHEN:

- Saturday, April 13, 10am – 12pm

WHERE:

- Gamble Garden, 1431 Waverley St.

WHAT:

- Compost basics workshop
- Compost giveaway
- Succulent planting workshop
- GreenWaste information table