

# GreenWays

THE QUARTERLY RESIDENTIAL NEWSLETTER FROM GREENWASTE OF PALO ALTO SUMMER 2022

## **SORTING GUIDANCE:** STYROFOAM IS NOT RECYCLABLE

Expanded Polystyrene, also known by its brand name Styrofoam<sup>TM</sup>, is a form of plastic #6. Unfortunately, there are no viable, consistent, or cost-effective markets currently available for this material type. As such, Styrofoam<sup>TM</sup> is **NOT** recyclable.



Today, most Styrofoam<sup>™</sup> comes in the form of packaging material, such as foam blocks and foam peanuts. Due to its lightweight nature and propensity to break down into smaller pieces, foam remains one of the most prevalent forms of litter and often ends up in our creeks and waterways.

Avoid purchasing Styrofoam<sup>TM</sup> products when possible and place any you have in your black landfill cart. If it is too large to fit into your black landfill cart, break it into smaller pieces. Make sure to **bag the smaller pieces** so they are contained and they don't become a litter problem.

just remember:

Styrofoam

belongs in your black landfill cart

### GREENWASTE HIGHLIGHTS

 REGULAR COLLECTION SERVICE ON INDEPENDENCE DAY:

GreenWaste of Palo Alto drivers will be hard at work on the 4th of July. Remember to set your carts at the curb the night before or by 6am on your collection day.



 GREENWASTE IS ON SOCIAL MEDIA: Follow @GreenWastePA on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook for collection updates, waste sorting tips, and a closer look at the outreach we do in Palo Alto!

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- REPAIR CAFE: Sunday, July 10, 11am - 3pm Museum of American Heritage 351 Homer Avenue, Palo Alto
- COMPOST BASICS WORKSHOP: Saturday, July 16, 10am - 12pm Lucie Stern Community
  Center, Community Room 1305 Middlefield Rd, Palo Alto
- HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) DROPOFF: Every Saturday, 9am - 11am First Friday of each month, 3pm - 5pm 2501 Embarcadero Way, Palo Alto

#### JIMMY ARROYO: 29 YEARS SERVING PALO ALTO

Jimmy Arroyo started his career as a Palo Alto collection driver in 1993 and has been working in the city for 29 years.

Jimmy has primarily worked as a residential garbage driver and has made a lasting impact within the Palo Alto community. When asked about his time as a driver, he reflected upon his most challenging and treasured memories. He recalled the challenges of his earlier years driving his truck without a radio and relying on his customers to relay any major new stories while on the job, including the tragedy of 9/11. His most cherished memory was wading through the 1998 flood and coming together with his fellow drivers to ensure that all of Palo Alto's waste and debris was collected after the disaster. "We had a job to do, and nothing was going to get in our way." Jimmy said.

After a long and successful career, Jimmy will be retiring at the end of this year. Jimmy values the many relationships he has cultivated throughout the years and is grateful for the community's generosity. Jimmy says, "I never had a problem with anyone and everyone kept me safe. I can't ask for more than that." Although he feels bittersweet about leaving, he is looking forward to retiring and moving to Texas to be closer to his extended family. Jimmy will truly be missed, but we can't wait to see what the future has in store for him!

"It has truly been an honor serving the public." - Jimmy Arroyo



### PAUSD & PENINSULA FOOD RUNNERS

In response to the new edible food recovery requirements outlined in California's Senate Bill 1383, the Palo Alto Unified School District (PAUSD) started the year off with an exciting new partnership.

PAUSD Food Services set up a partnership with Peninsula Food Runners, an organization that will pick up leftovers from school lunches and provide them to families in need.

The school district's edible leftover food gets collected and centralized at JLS Middle School and then picked up by Peninsula Food Runners to be distributed to shelters, pantries, food banks, homeless programs, and low-income families.

Peninsula Food Runners provides more than 2.5 million pounds of free food annually throughout the Bay Area. The pickup and drop off service is entirely free for the donors and recipients with the help of over 600 volunteers.

This partnership will benefit the community greatly and help Palo Alto continue to work towards



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Zero Waste. For more information check out: www.peninsulafoodrunners.org

### 2020 GREENWASTE SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

At the end of 2021, GreenWaste Recovery and sister company Zanker Road Resource Management released their 2020 Sustainability Report detailing their joint sustainability goals and progress.

The report identifies the many technological advancements, new programs and partnerships, and employee initiatives implemented since the last sustainability report was published in 2012.

Since then, GreenWaste and Zanker have expanded environmental commitments, dealt with the dramatic shifts in the world – including the COVID19 pandemic, and set new goals for the betterment of their employees and service communities.









Check out the full 2020 Sustainability Report at: www.greenwaste.com