



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Frequently Asked Questions: Mission Beach Recycling

Q. Why hasn't Mission Beach had curbside recycling before?

A. When automated curbside recycling collection was expanded to the whole city in 2000, the community leaders in Mission Beach, on behalf of the community as a whole, petitioned the City to be exempt from the then voluntary program, citing some unique aspects of Mission Beach.

Q. Why is recycling being expanded to Mission Beach at this time?

A. Current Mission Beach community leaders, and many community members have a more environmental perspective and have asked that Mission Beach be included in curbside recycling. Also, the City Recycling Ordinance took effect on January 1, 2008 and requires all residences receiving trash collection service from the City; privately-serviced residences and businesses; and special events to keep specified recyclables out of their trash bin. Willful violators may be subject to fees and fines. This ordinance has not been enforced in Mission Beach due to the absence of curbside recycling service. Once curbside recycling service is available, Mission Beach residents will be required to observe the Ordinance.

Q. With a blue container I will not need (my second black bin/my large black bin). How can I return/exchange my black bin to make more space for the blue bin?

A. You can return or exchange a black bin by calling 858-694-7000. Remember that once you return a black bin, the \$75 user fee and \$25 delivery fee will apply to any future black bin request.

Q. Why is the City bothering with Curbside Recycling in Mission Beach? The Scavengers are already getting all the material out of the black bin.

A. We are aware that scavenging is a concern and reality in Mission Beach, and that the scavengers primarily target the most valuable recyclable beverage containers with California Redemption Value (CRV). We will enhance our enforcement efforts in Mission Beach to deter scavenging as much as possible. The recycling program also diverts material that scavengers do not typically take, such as mixed paper, cardboard, and non-California Redemption Containers, which is over 90 percent of the recyclable materials.

Q. With so many condos and apartments in Mission Beach, many people will not have space to put another container for recycling.

A. Multi-family homes with space restrictions frequently opt to share containers. Residents need to coordinate with property owner/managers to ensure the post cards for ordering blue bins are submitted, and the necessary number of containers is requested. Since over half of residential waste is recyclable materials, many complexes may be able to turn in some black containers once recycling has been implemented.

Also, the six Park and Recreation drop-off locations will remain in Mission Beach for the foreseeable future for those residents who feel that they cannot accommodate a blue bin.

Q. Many places in Mission Beach do not have enough space to place bins out 3' apart or away from other obstacles, and often there are no curbs to place the containers against.

A. The City is aware of the space limitations and do currently have curbside recycling in other communities with similar issues. Where people are able to place bins 3' from other obstacles, it makes servicing the bins safer and more efficient. We also understand that many people will not have curbs to put their containers next to, just as there are no curbs for their black trash containers.

Q. How will all the seasonal renters know how to use the blue bin?

A. Your blue bins will come with a colorful graphic on the lid that will identify the material that should be put inside. Also, it is the responsibility of the property management to ensure that renters are notified of the requirement to recycle and how to use the black and blue containers.

For more information visit: www.recyclingworks.com, or call 858-964-7000.

