

# Cut Your Business' Garbage

## Rescue Food from the Trash Can

Food waste has been getting a lot of buzz lately – and it's no surprise. Some shocking facts about food waste caught our attention...



1/3 of the food produced in the world is wasted



American families waste about 1/4 of the food they buy



Food waste makes up 1/2 of a restaurant's waste stream

Any way you look at it, there's a lot of food out there that could be eaten, but instead is going to waste.

The good news is, communities are starting to pay attention and work to bring these numbers down. Good Samaritan laws protect donors, food banks and meal programs from liability for donated food, so food doesn't have to go to waste over fear of legal issues.

Programs are sprouting up to get food that would otherwise be wasted onto people's plates. Boulder Food Rescue and sister organization Seattle Food Rescue are taking on food waste with bicycle power – bike volunteers pick up donations and deliver them locally to people in need. The app Food Cowboy helps growers, truckers, and wholesalers find buyers for refused deliveries or route them to charities.

In our area, Food Lifeline makes it easy for caterers, grocery stores, restaurants, and other businesses to donate food. They accept perishable grocery products, shelf stable items, and prepared food, and help distribute it to local food banks. To donate excess food, check out Food Lifeline, [foodlifeline.org](http://foodlifeline.org). If you'd rather compost food scraps (better than throwing it out), contact the City of Kirkland at (425) 587-3812.

## Dealing with Styrofoam™

Styrofoam™ (also called plastic foam) is a tricky material – it does a great job at protecting things, but is tough to get rid of! It takes up a lot of space in our garbage, but can be recycled if you put in a little extra effort.

### StyroFest: Monthly Plastic Foam Recycling Event

The City of Kirkland hosts a monthly Styrofoam™ recycling event for Kirklanders. Businesses can participate in StyroFest, though some businesses find they have more material than they'd like to save for a monthly event.

### Plastic Foam Drop Off and Pickup Services

Instead, your business can take plastic foam to a permanent drop off location, like The Big Guys Delivery in Woodinville, or set up plastic foam recycling pickup directly for your business with StyroRecycle. At right, see contact information for local plastic foam recyclers.

**Kirkland's StyroFest**  
July 9 | Aug 6 | Sept 10  
Recycle Styrofoam™ at the Public Works Maintenance Center, 915 8th St. Go to [kirklandwa.gov](http://kirklandwa.gov) and search StyroFest for details.

**Local Plastic Foam Pickup**  
The Big Guys Delivery and Installation  
(425) 820-8500  
[thebigguys.com](http://thebigguys.com)  
StyroRecycle  
(253) 838-9555  
[styrorecycle.com](http://styrorecycle.com)

## REUSE RECYCLE CONSERVE



City of Kirkland  
Public Works Department  
123 5th Avenue  
Kirkland, WA 98033

Prevent water pollution and keep your site clean: store chemical containers under cover and in a tub or on a spill pallet designed to catch drips. Contact Ryeann-Marie Tuomisto, [Rtuomisto@kirklandwa.gov](mailto:Rtuomisto@kirklandwa.gov), for more information.



[kirklandwa.gov/recycle](http://kirklandwa.gov/recycle) • [recycle@kirklandwa.gov](mailto:recycle@kirklandwa.gov) • (425) 587-3812

Funding provided in part by the Washington State Department of Ecology

## Five Cent Paper Bag Fee Temporarily Suspended for Some Businesses

The Kirkland City Council has temporarily suspended the five cent paper bag fee for some businesses to give them additional time to adjust to the City's plastic bag reduction policy which went into effect on March 1, 2016. The temporary suspension of the paper bag fee requirement will expire on May 1, 2017 and only applies to certain small businesses. Larger retailers like grocery, convenience, and drug stores, gas stations, and warehouse clubs will still have to charge five cents for each large paper bag.

At right is a list of the retailers who must continue to charge the paper bag fee. For more information on the temporary suspension of the paper bag fee and to view a full list of retailers for which the paper bag fee is suspended, please visit [kirklandwa.gov/bringyourbag](http://kirklandwa.gov/bringyourbag).

Businesses that must continue to charge for paper bags:

76 Gas Stations and Stores  
7-11 Stores  
Arbat Food Market  
Arco AM/PM  
Assured Pharmacy  
Bartell Drug Stores  
Bedrock Northwest  
Bridle Trails Red Apple Market  
The Cave  
Costco  
Finn Hill Gas Station  
Fred Meyer  
Jacksons  
Janell's Gluten-free Market  
Market on Central  
Metropolitan Market  
Mucho Mas Grocery

My Goods Market  
Nam and Hannah's  
PCC Natural Markets  
Quality Food Center Stores  
Rite Aid Stores  
Rose Hill Car Wash  
Saagar Groceries  
Safeway Stores  
Sahand Persian Grocery  
Shell Gas Stations and Stores  
Super 24  
Super Food Store  
Totem Lake Food Store  
Trader Joe's  
Village Mart  
Walgreen's  
Zip Mart



# Reuse Recycle Conserve



2016 BUSINESS EDITION

## Green Your Business

### Kirkland Bicycle Makes Recycling Work

For small businesses, there are lots of things to juggle to be successful. Kirkland Bicycle knows that – but has also made doing their part for the environment a priority. We sat down with Joe Beyler of Kirkland Bicycle to talk a bit about what they do, and how other small businesses can work toward improving their environmental impacts.

Joe has been championing recycling at Kirkland Bicycle for the past couple of years, since he realized how much material could be recycled instead of thrown away. He set up different bins for all sorts of unique recyclable materials – steel, aluminum, Styrofoam™, and plastic film – and encourages his coworkers to sort their waste. The metals are recycled locally, and the plastic foam and plastic film are brought to the City's StyroFest events.

It can be tough to take the time to get things sorted, since efficiency is the key to their business, but Joe thinks it's worth it to do their part. Sometimes it's a challenge to get his coworkers on board, but Joe doesn't get discouraged. His

advice is to make it as easy as possible by having designated bins, marking them clearly, and sticking with it. *Continued on inside flap.*



Joe Beyler of Kirkland Bicycle



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Recycling stations at Kirkland Bicycle collect plastic foam, metals, plastic film, and more.

Did you know the storm drains on your business property connect to local creeks, lakes, and wetlands? When materials such as paint, soap, or vehicle fluids are washed into the storm drainage system, they end up polluting the nearest body of water. Because of this, it is so important to keep any pollutant from entering the storm drains. Allowing any materials other than stormwater runoff into the city storm drainage system is also a violation of Kirkland's Surface Water Management Municipal Code (KMC 15.52).

## 5 Ways to protect Puget Sound

### 3 Mark Storm Drains

Did you know that the clean-up of spills on private property is the responsibility of the property owner?

Help prevent spills by educating your customers and staff. The City of Kirkland offers free storm drain markers with the message "Only Rain Down the Drain" to help get the word out about the connection between storm drains and water quality.

Want storm drain markers for your property? Contact Ryeann-Marie Tuomisto at (425) 587-3861 or [Rtuomisto@kirklandwa.gov](mailto:Rtuomisto@kirklandwa.gov) for more information.

### 5 Revisit Hosting Car Wash Fundraisers

If you host a fundraiser car wash on your property, it is your responsibility to ensure that dirty, soapy wash water does not go down a storm drain.

The City of Kirkland offers free Car Wash Kits to help you keep wash water out of storm drains. A Car Wash Kit includes a basin that fits into the storm drain and a pump with a hose that transports the wash water to a drain connected to the sanitary sewer or to a grassy/gravel area to be soaked into the ground. You need to make sure that a Car Wash Kit is installed and being used properly. Have the fundraising group call (425) 587-3800 to reserve a kit.

Also, consider suggesting other ways that fundraising groups can raise money. Here are a few ideas:

- Sell car wash tickets through Puget Sound Car Wash Association (PSCWA) or Brown Bear Car Wash.
- Hold a walk-a-thon or fun run.
- Sell candy or cookie dough.
- Hold a magazine drive.

### 4 Prep Before Pressure Washing

Are you using a pressure washer as part of your spring cleaning?

Help keep pollutants out of our storm drains when you pressure wash your parking lot, driveway, or sidewalk. Here are 5 easy tips to follow:

1. Use absorbent rags to clean oil leaks and spills
2. Sweep to pick up litter, debris, and dirt
3. Protect the storm drain with filter fabric or absorbent socks – see picture (purchased at a local home improvement store)
4. Use cold water only
5. Do NOT use chemicals or soaps (including biodegradable soaps)

### 2 Keep a Spill Kit On Site

Accidents happen – be prepared for a spill. Your business can get a free spill kit so you have clean-up materials on-site. Each kit includes spill-absorbent pads and booms, a storm drain grate hook, personal safety equipment, and bags with labels for proper disposal.

To get a free spill kit for your business, contact Ryeann-Marie Tuomisto at (425) 587-3861 or [Rtuomisto@kirklandwa.gov](mailto:Rtuomisto@kirklandwa.gov).



Spill kit at a Kirkland business



Protecting a storm drain with absorbent socks

## 2014-15 Local Source Control Audits

While you may want to do everything you can to protect the environment and comply with the law, it's not always easy to understand the rules, keep up with changes, and keep staff trained.

To help overcome these barriers, the City of Kirkland visited over 145 businesses between 2014 and 2015 to provide hands-on technical assistance on waste and toxic reduction, proper storage and disposal of chemicals, and spill prevention. Through these visits, the City worked with businesses to prevent polluted runoff from damaging our local creeks, lakes and wetlands.

Businesses such as automotive, construction, food service, and gas stations were visited. Over 85 percent of these businesses made at least one change in response to the information provided at the initial visit. The most common changes were to place markers labeled "Only Rain Down the Drain" near storm drains, obtain spill clean-up materials, complete a brief spill plan, and train employees regarding spill response procedures.

Want help with waste storage and disposal at your business? Interested in becoming an environmentally friendly business? Please email Ryeann-Marie Tuomisto at [Rtuomisto@kirklandwa.gov](mailto:Rtuomisto@kirklandwa.gov).

### Kirkland Bicycle

*Continued from Front Page.*

A dedication to recycling and friendly approach have made recycling a consistent choice for Kirkland Bicycle employees.

Publicity and customer awareness can be a side benefit of going green. While Kirkland Bicycle hasn't promoted a lot of what they're doing, they imagine that customers would be happy to know about their environmental efforts. Health and wellness are part of the culture at a bike shop, so being environmentally responsible aligns with that.

There's still more that Kirkland Bicycle could do to go greener, and they hope to continue on the path there. They encourage other businesses to do what they can to protect the environment – and recycling more is one easy thing we all can do.

**"It can be scary thinking about big environmental issues and their impacts, but instead I just focus on what I can do."**

Joe Beyler of Kirkland Bicycle

Additional pollution prevention resources:

**REPORT DUMPING, SPILLS OR FLOODING PROBLEMS**  
Call the Spill Hotline at (425) 587-3900. You may remain anonymous.

**FIND BUSINESS HAZARDOUS WASTE RESOURCES**  
Local Hazardous Waste Management Program  
[hazwastehelp.org/BHW](http://hazwastehelp.org/BHW)

### ATTENTION: KEEP LID CLOSED



Dumpster reminder sticker

Alternate Formats: Persons with disabilities may request materials in alternative formats. Persons with hearing impairments may access the Washington State Telecommunications Relay Service at 711.

Title VI: Kirkland's policy is to fully comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act by

prohibiting discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin or sex in the provision of benefits and services resulting from its programs and activities. Any person who believes his/her Title VI protection has been violated, may file a complaint with the City.

To request an alternate format, file a complaint or for questions about Kirkland's Title VI Program, contact the Title VI Coordinator at (425) 587-3011 or [titleviordinator@kirklandwa.gov](mailto:titleviordinator@kirklandwa.gov).