

Reuse Recycle Conserve



Bring Your Bag! Plastic Bag Reduction Policy Coming March 2016

On February 17, the Kirkland City Council voted to adopt a plastic bag reduction policy ordinance which will restrict retailers from offering disposable plastic bags to consumers after March 1, 2016. Nearby cities that have adopted plastic bag reduction policies include Seattle, Issaquah, Shoreline, Mercer Island, and Edmonds.

The new policy provides an incentive to consumers to bring their own reusable bags to the store by requiring retailers to charge at least five cents for each large paper shopping bag. Retailers may continue to provide plastic bags for such items as bulk and frozen foods, meat and fish, take-out foods, and newspaper, dry cleaning, and pet waste. During 2015, staff will give away thousands of high quality reusable bags to residents. *Learn more: www.KirklandWA.gov/BringYourBag*



Make Your Spring Green

Recycling Collection Event

Clean out your garage and safely recycle items that might otherwise end up in the trash. Help minimize the lifetime impact on our landfill by keeping recyclable items out of it!

When: Saturday, May 9 *Where:* Lake Washington
9 A.M. to 3 P.M. High School
12033 NE 80th St



Look for a recycling event flyer in the mail for a list of accepted items. The event is free, but fees apply to some items.

Puget Sound Starts Here Month

Celebrate our local waterways and Puget Sound in May during Puget Sound Starts Here Month! Volunteer



projects, workshops, events and other activities will be happening around the Sound throughout the month.

Puget Sound starts with **us** — in our yards, in our parks, in our streets — wherever we are. Any chemicals, litter or pet waste we leave on the ground can eventually wash into Puget Sound.

Find events and learn how you can help Puget Sound: www.PugetSoundStartsHere.org

Safe Spring Cleaning

Does your list of spring cleaning projects include cleaning out the garage or basement? If so, you will probably find leftover or unused containers of hazardous products – things like oil-based paints and thinners, solvents, pesticides, vehicle fluids and cleaning supplies.

Hazardous products can harm the environment, people, and pets if they are not properly stored and disposed. Follow these guidelines to keep your family safe:

- Store products in their original containers. Do not remove labels.
- Store hazardous products in a container to capture spills or leaks.
- Clean spills and leaks according to label instructions.
- Never combine products.
- Dispose of household chemicals at a local hazardous waste collection facility. Don't pour them out on the ground or down a storm drain or throw them in the garbage.

Find a Hazardous Waste Collection Facility:

Household Hazards Line
(206) 296-4692

www.HazWasteHelp.org

Report Pollution on the Street, in Storm Drains, Ditches & Streams

Pollution Hotline
(425) 587-3900

How to Choose a Landscaper

Are you hiring a landscape company this spring? To pick a company that will keep your yard healthy for you, your family and the environment, ask them how they will...



Build healthy soils in your yard.

By improving your soil, you can beautify your garden, cut your water bills and improve water quality in our streams.

- Do they use a soil test to assess soil nutrients?
- Do they till compost and other amendments into soil?
- Do they "grasscycle" or mulch mow?
- Do they use "natural organic" or "slow release" fertilizers?

Select plants that will thrive in your yard.

By choosing plants well adapted to your yard's situation, you save time and money, reduce maintenance, help prevent pests, and leave more clean water for salmon and other wildlife.

- Do they consider site conditions when choosing plants?
- Do they use drought-tolerant and pest-resistant plants?
- Do they select plants that grow well in the Northwest?

Control weeds, pests and diseases naturally.

Natural pest, weed and disease control will create a more vibrant yard while protecting people, pets, salmon and wildlife.

- Do they offer an "organic" program?
- Can they explain their Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to you?
- Do they monitor regularly for pests and weeds, but spray only when necessary?
- If a pest or weed problem develops, do they use the least toxic solution?

Practice smart watering for healthy plants.

Smart watering can reduce water bills and makes plants healthier, reducing the need for fertilizer and pesticides.

- Do they water deeply, to moisten the whole root zone, but infrequently?
- Do they develop irrigation plans to meet each plant's needs without overwatering?
- Do they regularly maintain and adjust irrigation systems?

Get a complete list of suggested questions and learn more about natural yard care: www.NaturalYardCare.info/library.php

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 titlevicoordinator@kirklandwa.gov.

Special Recycling Programs

New Format for StyroFest

Kirkland holds monthly plastic foam collection events to recycle Styrofoam™. These weekend events have been very popular, and together we've diverted hundreds of cubic yards of Styrofoam™ from the landfill. Due to a need to staff the events, they are switching from weekend events to Saturday only, 8AM – 4PM, at the Kirkland Maintenance Center, 915 8th Street.

Upcoming StyroFests:
March 28th
April 25th
June 27th

Drug Take Back

Citizens can anonymously dispose of unwanted prescription drugs at a secured receptacle in the Kirkland Police Department lobby, located at the Kirkland Justice Center, 11750 NE 118th Street, Mon - Fri, 7AM - 5PM.



Secure disposal of prescription drugs protects public health and the environment by reducing medicines available for misuse and keeping waste medicines out of water.

LightRecycle Washington

"I know it's not supposed to go in the trash, but where is it supposed to go?"

CFLs, HIDs, fluorescent tubes and other mercury-containing lights can be recycled at authorized collections sites through the new LightRecycle Washington program. Residents and businesses can recycle 10 bulbs a day.



While collection facilities already existed, this program greatly increases the number of locations in Washington. Proper disposal of these types of bulbs is important because when they break, they release mercury, a toxic metal that accumulates in our bodies and the environment.

LightRecycle drop-off points in Kirkland:

CFL bulbs only:

Kirkland City Hall
Bartell Drugs stores

CFL and HID bulbs and fluorescent tubes:

Bridle Trails Ace Hardware

Find more sites: www.LightRecycleWA.org