

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Fall into Waste Reduction**

Fall and winter are the perfect times of year to reassess your waste reduction practices and to explore new ways to keep reducing waste around your home and at work. While recycling cans, bottles, paper, plastic, and metal are standard practice, check out some of the tips below to help expand your waste reduction activities.

**Cooking Oil Recycling:** Did you know the Tehama County/Red Bluff Landfill accepts cooking oil for recycling into biodiesel? Drop it off for free at the landfill or set it next to your recycling cart if you have Green Waste of Tehama service.

**Food Rescue:** 25% more trash is thrown away between the Thanksgiving and New Year's holidays than any other time of year. A good amount of that is food waste, so this year start planning early to avoid wasted food. Check out <https://savethefood.com> for helpful tips on meal planning, food storage, and rescuing food so it does not go to waste. Their meal "Guest-imator" is a great tool when planning gatherings so that you will ensure there is enough food to go around, while also making sure there is not an overabundance that could go to waste.

**Clean, Dry and Empty:** When the celebrating is over after your holiday gatherings, be sure to recycle your cans and bottles. Make sure they are Clean, Dry and Empty so they do not contaminate the paper and cardboard in your recycling cart. You can also cash them in at a CRV redemption center; look for one near you by visiting our website:

<http://www.co.tehama.ca.us/recycling/crv-recycling>

**Avoid Contamination:** Along with keeping your recyclables Clean, Dry and Empty; you should also avoid putting items in your recycling cart that do not belong. Styrofoam, greasy pizza boxes, and dirty lasagna pans should all go in the trash. Using leftover dishwater is a great way to clean your dirty peanut butter and jam jars so they can be recycled, and not waste any water.

**Household Battery Recycling:** Each year, the months of October, November, and December are when one third of all batteries are purchased in the U.S. Make sure to recycle your "dead" batteries! Visit our website for how and where to recycle them:

<http://www.co.tehama.ca.us/toxics/batteries>.

Keep in mind that when items are recycled, they do not end up in our landfill to be buried forever. Less waste in your trash can mean less revenue for the Tehama County/Red Bluff Landfill; however, recycling and the waste reduction activities mentioned above provide benefits such as extending the life of our landfill and conserving natural resources. Diverting material

from the landfill enables Tehama County to operate our landfill longer, keeping this valuable resource available for future generations.

For more information, please contact the Tehama County Solid Waste Management Agency at (530) 528-1103 or email [tehamacountyrecycles@co.tehama.ca.us](mailto:tehamacountyrecycles@co.tehama.ca.us).