

Recycling & Waste News

Recycling and Waste Disposal Information for the Central Valley

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The dirty dozen: 12 categories of waste that cannot be disposed of in your roll off or dumpster.

Below is a *dirty dozen* list of materials that can never be disposed of in your roll off or dumpster. These items include:

1. Aerosol cans—Unless emptied completely, aerosol cans are highly combustible and can cause fires in collection trucks and at disposal facilities. If even one ounce of spray is still contained in the aerosol can, it must not be disposed of in your roll off/dumpster.
2. Appliances—From small counter top appliances like blenders and coffee makers to large appliances like washers, dryers and refrigerators, appliances should not be disposed of in roll off containers or dumpsters.
3. Asbestos—This type of waste must be disposed of at a licensed household hazardous waste (HHW) facility.
4. Batteries—All batteries (alkaline, automobile batteries, rechargeable batteries and lithium ion) are considered hazardous waste and combustible, so they must never be discarded in roll offs or dumpsters. They can cause fires in collection vehicles and disposal facilities.
5. CFL bulbs—Fluorescent bulbs of all types are hazardous waste and must be disposed of at an appropriate facility. Often, big box retailers accept used CFL bulbs for free disposal.
6. Electronics—Computers, monitors, outdated television screens/sets and printers must be disposed of at an e-waste disposal facility and cannot be placed in roll offs or dumpsters.
7. Fuel—Chemicals, gas, lubricants, and motor oil are hazardous waste and cannot be disposed of in roll offs or dumpsters.
8. Medical waste, prescription drugs and sharps—All must be disposed of at designated locations for disposal of medical waste.
9. Paint, adhesives, solvents, paint thinners, and resins—All are considered hazardous waste and must be disposed of at an HHW facility.
10. Propane and compressed air tanks—These items are toxic and combustible. As such, they must not be placed in roll offs or dumpsters.
11. Railroad ties—Railroad ties are treated wood and cannot be disposed of as regular trash in roll offs or dumpsters.
12. Tires—There are licensed locations for tire disposal. Tires cannot be placed in roll offs or dumpsters.

For HHW disposal, call the Fresno County Household Hazardous Waste Facility at (559) 600-4259 for guidance and HHW disposal locations for businesses.

You can also visit Fresno County's HHW page online:

<https://www.co.fresno.ca.us/departments/public-works-planning/divisions-of-public-works-and-planning/resources-and-parks-division/recycling-and-solid-waste-disposal/household-haz>

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