

business recycling solutions



Recycling – Good for Your Business, Good for the Environment

A Publication of the Sunnyvale Commercial Recycling Program

Certified Green Business Labcyte, Where Are They Now?

Labcyte

1190 Borregas Ave
Labcyte.com

First certified in 2006, Labcyte is one of Sunnyvale's first Green Businesses. Green Business principles like resource conservation imbue the Labcyte culture. Over the years, measures like paper recycling became old hat. During recertification in 2014, a free Green Business waste audit uncovered lots of packaging waste like shipping peanuts, foam and wood in their trash. Having this information caused them to shift their focus and move upstream to examine the supply chain. They discovered that

one vendor had upsized a product and along with it, the packaging, so Labcyte challenged them to maintain the previous, smaller packaging size. The vendor rose to the challenge and met the new specifications for minimal packaging. Reducing the excess packaging saved money that would otherwise have been spent on disposal. Businesses interested in Labcyte's green measures are welcome to contact Keith Love at team@labcyte.com.

For a complete list of all Sunnyvale Green Businesses, or if interested in becoming one, visit greenbusinessca.org or call (408) 282-3180 for more information.

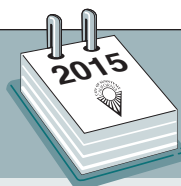


Labcyte's Keith Love stands by refurbished equipment.

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UPCOMING EVENTS



Business Hazardous Waste Drop-off Events

Qualifying businesses may participate by appointment only. As of July, the Sunnyvale monthly drop-off events are no longer available. There is a permanent drop-off location in San Jose and biweekly events in other locations. To schedule call (800) 207-8222 and ask for the Santa Clara County service representative. For questions call (408) 730-7900 or go to hhw.org.

Mark Your Calendar! California Climate Change Symposium 2015

Join the discussion about how the region can work together to improve California's resilience to a changing climate—while at the same time fostering dramatic greenhouse gas emissions reductions. August 24-25, Sacramento Convention Center. Visit climatescience.org for more information.

On-Site Water Reuse Technology Symposium

Learn about the range of systems for treating and reusing water in commercial and multi-family buildings to save 40-80% of a building or site's potable water use. Hear case studies, talk to experts and learn how to take advantage of this important way to manage the risk of water scarcity. September 16, in Palo Alto. Register at sustainablesv.org.

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Please send all comments and questions to: (408) 730-7484, TDD (408) 730-7501 or mlindemuth@sunnyvale.ca.gov

Product and company listings should not be construed as an endorsement by the City of Sunnyvale.

New Green Products: Refuel Your Fun!

Every year in North America, 40 million disposable one-pound propane cylinders are used, with over four million in California alone. Because of limited, expensive recycling options, the empty cylinders are often disposed of improperly in landfills, dumpsters, campsites, on the roadside or in recycling containers. Often the “empty” disposable cylinders contain a small amount of gas, posing a danger to workers handling them due to the risk of explosions. In March, an explosion occurred at the Sunnyvale Materials Recovery and Transfer Station (SMaRT Station®) while metal containers were being



baled. The explosion caused sparks to jump to nearby bales of paper causing a fire. Forty bales of paper were destroyed from the fire resulting in \$1800 in lost revenue plus lost work time

Now there is a solution—refillable cylinders. Refillable cylinders can be refilled and reused hundreds of times for up to 12 years. When you buy disposable cylinders, 80% of the price is for the packaging, 20% is for the gas. A simple refill costs approximately \$2.25 because you only pay for the gas and filling service, not the container. Don't waste time and money on a hard to dispose of cylinder! George's Fuel & Auto

Repair at 996 East Evelyn Avenue in Sunnyvale stepped up to be one of the first retailers in the Bay Area to offer the new refillables. To locate other retail outlets go to RefuelYourFun.org.

Contact Information

City of Sunnyvale
Assistance with Commercial Recycling
Recycling.inSunnyvale.com
(408) 730-7484

Garbage
New commercial accounts, service changes, billing, bin cleaning
(408) 730-7400

Specialty Solid Waste & Recycling
To Set Up Cardboard Recycling Service
(408) 566-1804

Printed on 100% Recycled Content Paper, 50% Post Consumer Waste, with Soy-based Ink.

Answers to Your Recycling Questions:
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Permit No 112

Your Inquiries

My company has lots of leftover food after catered events. We hate to waste but are worried about liability. Can we donate it?

A Yes, the food may be donated. There are food rescue organizations available locally. One option is Peninsula Food Runners, which uses a web platform to match donors with recipient organizations. They say the food rescue is typically completed within an hour. Check it out at peninsulafoodrunners.org. Similarly, Waste No Food is an app where donors post when they have



surplus food. Go to wastenofood.org for more information.

And, you are not alone in liability worries. Over half (61%) of businesses in a recent survey reported that they are concerned about liability when they consider donating food. Many businesses are unaware that the National Good Samaritan Act protects donors from liability when they donate food to a nonprofit. A recent report reveals there has never been an attempted or successful lawsuit regarding attempts to get around the Good Samaritan Act.