

business recycling

SOLUTIONS



Recycling – Good for Your Business, Good for the Environment

A Publication of the Sunnyvale Commercial Recycling Program

Local Focus

Certified Green Business

Sunnyvale Lumber

870 W. Evelyn Ave
(408) 736-5411

Sunnyvale Lumber has been located at 870 W. Evelyn Avenue since 1945, when owner Rick Roberts' grandparents first purchased the property. BRS staff chatted with Roberts to find out what set him on the path to becoming a Certified Green Business.

BRS: What attracted you to the Green Business program?

Roberts: I hate waste. Green Business gives credit for reusing and recycling, such as using reusable dishes in our break room. That was easy. Recertification required two-sided printing which was new, so this was a great opportunity to finally buy printers that print both sides. It was an expense, but our paper costs have decreased. Sunnyvale Lumber sells a lot of sealants and caulking and some contain VOCs (volatile organic compounds) that are bad for the air and your health. I was concerned about toxins, so we used the Green Business program resources to identify the greener products, stopped selling VOC products and even exchanged our toxic janitorial products to safer cleaning products that work well.

BRS: The lumber yard has big boxes labeled sawdust. What do you do with them?

Roberts: We recycle sawdust with our scrap lumber. Of course, lots of people like to use it in their compost bins and anyone is welcome to bring their own containers and pick some up.



Rick Roberts stands by his locally-sourced lumber products.

BRS: Is Green Business certification something other companies can easily do?

Roberts: Definitely. Recertification was tougher, but eye-opening and we learned about more energy-efficient and non-toxic products on the market. We made some sensible, easy changes with cost-savings benefits. It was an intelligent business decision. I hope Green Business becomes the new norm.

For a complete list of all Sunnyvale Green Businesses, visit greenbusinessca.org. If you are interested in becoming a Green Business, visit ReduceWaste.org or call (408) 282-3180.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Business Hazardous Waste Drop-off Events

January 17, February 14, March 14
Qualifying businesses may participate by appointment only. Call (408) 299-7300 or visit hwh.org for appointment.

WEST 2014 Call for Solutions Open

The WEST Call for Solutions is an invitation for the innovative minds of Silicon Valley to create tangible and effective solutions to sustainability challenges. Submit your scalable and game-changing technology, policies and programs to the competition by January 15, 2014.

Call for Solutions semi-finalists will be announced at Microsoft in Silicon Valley on March 6, 2014. Semi-finalists will be showcased and finalists will be announced at the Summit on May 22, 2014 at Stanford University. For more info, contact Aparna Gayatri at solutions@sustainable.v.org.

2014 Silicon Valley Water Conservation Awards



Have an innovative water conserving project at your business? Consider submitting it for an award. Applications and nominations are open until February 21, 2014. Winners will be announced at an awards ceremony on March 20, 2014. The award categories are Government Agency/Water Utility, Business, Organization, Greenscape Management, Education, Water Champion. Additional information and application or nomination forms can be found at WaterAwards.org.

Business Recycling Solutions is electronic!

Subscribe online at Recycling.inSunnyvale.com.

Foam Foodware Ban Kicks off April 22

Food Vendors:

Restaurants and other food providers in Sunnyvale will not be able to serve prepared food or beverages to a customer using polystyrene foam food containers on or after April 22, 2014. Please plan ahead to use up your existing inventory of foam foodware and begin purchasing alternatives in order to be prepared. For information on alternative foodware products go to NoFoam.inSunnyvale.com.



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

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Six Easy Tips to Prevent Illegal Dumping
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Foam Foodware Ban in 2014

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City of Sunnyvale Recycling Program
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Sunnyvale, CA 94088-3707



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Permit No 112

Your Inquiries

Q We came to back to work after the holidays to discover broken chairs, trash and a mattress next to our dumpster. What can we do to prevent illegal dumping?

A Here are six easy tips to help prevent this problem:

1. Store all garbage and recycling containers out of sight.
2. Keep container lids and trash enclosure doors closed.
3. Keep garbage bins clean and tidy. Call City Utilities at (408) 730-7400 if bins need cleaning or to be painted (provided once per year at no charge).
4. Maintain property. Install landscaping. Or, if landscaping is overgrown, trim. Remove litter and graffiti immediately.
5. Consider locking enclosures or bins. Call City Utilities at (408) 730-7400 to order locks.
6. Notify the Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety (DPS) of illegal dumping by calling (408) 730-7180 or texting svtip@svtipnow.org. If in progress, consider taking photos and writing down a description of vehicles, license plates, and persons involved.

Business Recycling Solutions

Subscribe to Business Recycling Solutions online at Recycling.inSunnyvale.com.

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.

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