

Business Savvy Sustainability

A Publication of **MarBorg Industries**

GOLETA EDITION – Summer 2024

Batteries and Electronic Waste (E-Waste) Recycling for Businesses

Do not put batteries or electronics in your trash or recycling containers!

Anything that charges up or takes a battery should be disposed of as electronic waste, or e-waste. Items like small printers, kitchen appliances, monitors, phones, headsets, and other computer accessories are considered e-waste!

When handled incorrectly, batteries and e-waste can cause fires or leach hazardous pollutants into the environment. **Batteries and e-waste should NEVER go into trash or recycling containers.**

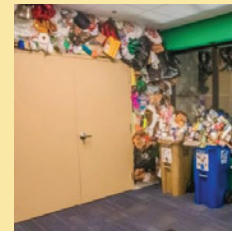
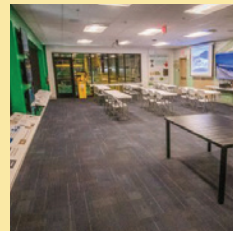
Businesses can drop off used batteries, and broken or unused e-waste at one of the many e-waste collection locations in Santa Barbara County. Please note that some types of e-waste are collected for free, while others are charged a fee. Your local e-waste drop-off locations are listed below:

- **MarBorg's Downtown Santa Barbara Recycling Center (132 Nopalitos Way)**
- **MarBorg's Goleta Recycling Center (20 David Love Pl)**
- **South Coast Recycling and Transfer Station (4430 Calle Real)**

To dispose of large printers, call the manufacturer or vendor you purchased the printer from. Many companies offer free recycling of large commercial equipment with the purchase of a new item. Printer cartridges are not e-waste and should be taken to your local hazardous waste facility.

If your electronic equipment still works, try reselling or donating it first!

For more resources and information on e-waste recycling, please call the **County's Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division** at (805) 882-3603 or **MarBorg Industries** at (805) 963-1852.



Tours: Learn About Your Waste

Visit the County's ReSource Center, a state-of-the-art waste management facility that increases our community's recycling rate to above 85%, generates resources, such as green energy and compost, and dramatically lowers local greenhouse gas emissions. Group tours for adults are available and provide a behind-the-scenes experience of how waste is managed locally. Please visit www.LessIsMore.org/resourcecenter to learn more!

Questions? Call 805-963-1852 or visit www.MarBorg.com

Safely Dispose of Business Hazardous Waste

Common hazardous waste items generated by businesses include aerosols, adhesives, lab chemicals, automotive fluids, batteries, fluorescent lights, gardening chemicals, painting products, stains, and solvents. Businesses that generate less than 100 kilograms (27 gallons or 220 pounds) of hazardous waste per month, including a maximum of 1 kilogram (1 quart or 2.2 pounds) of acutely hazardous waste, are classified as Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators (CESQGs). CESQGs in Santa Barbara County may dispose of hazardous waste at the Community Hazardous Waste Collection Center (CHWCC) located on Mesa Rd on the UCSB Campus.

Business Appointments

Businesses and all non-households (including churches, schools, public agencies, property management firms, and non-profit groups) must make an appointment to use the Center. Appointments are scheduled for Fridays only. To make a Friday appointment, please visit www.LessIsMore.org/biz-haz-waste Monday through Thursday to request an appointment time. Businesses and other non-households are prohibited from using the Center on the weekend household collection days.

Business Disposal Fees

Businesses will be charged a user fee of \$27.50 for processing/administration costs plus a disposal fee based on the types and quantities of waste (see price list). Non-profit organizations and schools receive a 25% discount, and the user fee is waived. Quotes are available by calling the County of Santa Barbara Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division at (805) 882-3602.



Quantity Limitations

A maximum of 27 gallons or 220 pounds of hazardous waste will be accepted at the Center per business every calendar month.

For more resources and information, including a brochure, please visit www.LessIsMore.org/biz-haz-waste-info.



Source Separated Organics for Businesses



Did you know that organic materials, including food scraps and wet paper, placed in trash containers along the unincorporated South Coast and Santa Ynez Valley are sorted out from the trash stream at the County of Santa Barbara's ReSource Center? The organics are diverted from the landfill and processed at the Anaerobic Digestion Facility, where they're turned into compost and clean energy.



Nonetheless, businesses that generate large quantities of food waste are highly encouraged to participate in Goleta's source-separated organics collection program. By diverting food waste and other organic material using a separate yellow container, this material can bypass the sorting process and generate a much higher quality of compost. To learn more about this program, please contact MarBorg Industries at (805) 963-1852.



Green Business Spotlight: rrm design group



CREATING ENVIRONMENTS PEOPLE ENJOY

RRM Design Group is a multidisciplinary design firm celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. Founded in San Luis Obispo, RRM Design Group now has several offices across California, including in Santa Barbara which is a newly certified Green Business. RRM works on a variety of projects including residential, commercial, civic, and recreational developments and offers services in architecture, planning, engineering, and landscape architecture. They specialize in creating spaces that enhance the community and the environment by blending environmental stewardship with innovative design and a focus on client collaboration.

Since environmental stewardship is a core value at RRM Design Group, it's no surprise that the Santa Barbara staff was completely onboard to pursue the Green Business Certification. The plan is for Santa Barbara to serve as the certification model for the rest of their offices soon. While clients generally support RRM's eco efforts, there can be a learning curve to explain why certain sustainable options come with higher price tags. However, most of RRM's clients already request for sustainability to be integrated into a project's scope or for projects to pursue sustainability certifications.

Part of RRM's robust business strategy includes a Sustainability Action Plan which targets the firm's operations, design sector, staff education and training, community outreach and advocacy, and has a system for evaluating the overall progress and success of these programs. Their Operations team set goals around increasing RRM's sustainability efforts and chose the Green Business Certification process as the path to achieve those goals. This process allowed RRM to implement several new green initiatives.

One such initiative is using a sustainable custodial company to clean their office. This reduces the amount of disposable and hazardous cleaning supplies used, and the custodial staff ensures the firm's source-separated recyclables are properly disposed of. Another initiative revolves around transportation. The firm offers a quarterly raffle to employees who use alternate modes of transportation, and they hold a company-wide month-long bike competition, that results in RRM donating \$500 to a sustainable charity of the winner's choosing.

The design industry typically uses a lot of paper in their daily operations, but RRM Design Group now limits what they print and relies on digital resources instead. In addition, the firm donates remaining carbon emission offsets, and they are proud to have taken the time to extensively research and understand different eco-friendly organizations to donate to. RRM wants to ensure that the organizations they choose will use the money responsibly and make an actual difference.

Outside of the office, RRM has a team dedicated to creating pathways to reduce energy and water consumption for each of their projects. Additionally, they prioritize sourcing responsible materials that have a lower carbon footprint and allow for responsible end of life recycling or disposal should the project later be demolished. RRM Design Group is acutely aware that their work directly impacts the surrounding communities and environment, and they work to help these communities grow sustainably, so that they continue to thrive. RRM is proud to have an office in Santa Barbara, and they want to be a responsible business owner within the community. They are thrilled to reduce their environmental footprint and encourage others to take the plunge and get certified – it's easier than you think!

For more information about the Green Business Program of Santa Barbara County, please visit <https://greenbusinessca.org/SantaBarbaraCounty>.



For more information visit
www.rrmdesign.com



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Reducing Waste Makes Good Business Sense.

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GO GREEN.



Join us! MarBorg Industries and more than 150 local businesses have become Certified Green Businesses.

The Green Business Program of Santa Barbara County helps local businesses make our communities healthier and more livable while also conserving resources and saving money!

To learn more about becoming a Green Business, go to www.greenbusinessca.org/SantaBarbaraCounty

Please support our local Green Businesses!

Find our local green businesses here: search.greenbusinessca.org