

THE LAW

RESPONSIBILITY

It is everyone in the communities responsibility to help maintain a healthy and attractive environment to live in. A community working together can provide a healthy and pleasant place to live.

- ⇒ ALL COMMUNITIES IN ALAMEDA COUNTY HAVE MANDATORY GARBAGE SUBSCRIPTION FOR WEEKLY PICK-UP.
- ⇒ IN WARM WEATHER, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOU HAVE TWICE A WEEK PICK-UP TO PREVENT FLY PRODUCTION.
- ⇒ REPEATED GARBAGE PROBLEMS CAN RESULT IN BEING ISSUED A CITATION AND FINE.

RECYCLE

Most communities in Alameda County have recycling programs. A little sorting can greatly reduce the need for increased garbage service. Remember *do not accumulate recyclables- get them back into the system on a weekly basis!!*

PLEASE CALL:

VECTOR CONTROL OFFICER

PH. _____



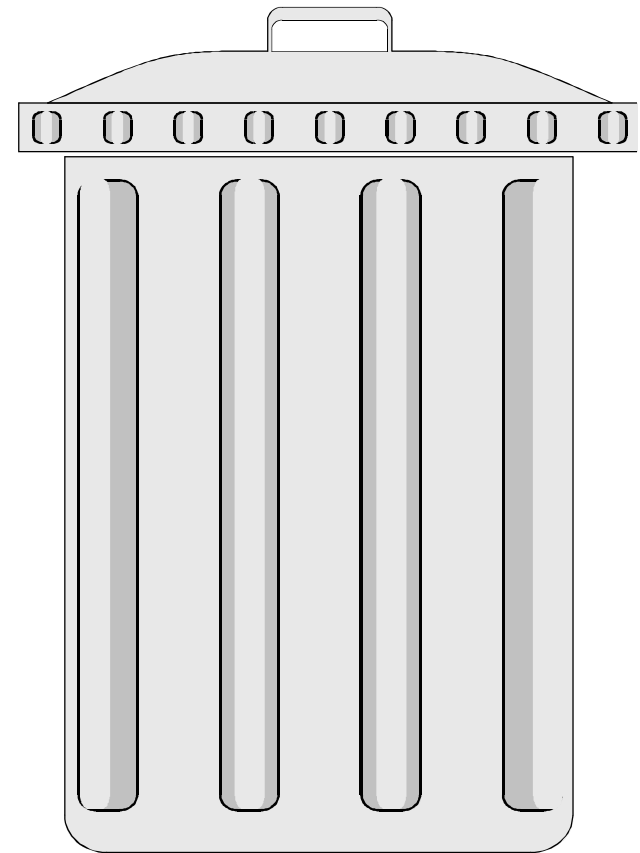
ALAMEDA COUNTY VECTOR CONTROL
SERVICESDISTRICT

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GARBAGE

WHY MUST WE
CONTROL GARBAGE
AND OTHER WASTES?



TO PROTECT OUR
PUBLIC HEALTH!!

DISEASE

EXPOSED GARBAGE

Exposed garbage can be a breeding source for disease. Bacteria can multiply very rapidly given the right conditions. In a 24 hour period a single germ breeding in garbage can multiply 281 Trillion times! That is an awful lot of germs. With all these potential pathogens we add **flies- rats- mice & cockroaches** as a distribution system for the germs: this equals trouble.

- ⇒ **Flies** land on garbage and germs cling to its' feet, then the fly lands on you or your food or your drinking glass and you pick up another germ.
- ⇒ **Rats** get into the garbage- then into your house and walk all over everything in your home- helping to spread disease. Mice do about the same thing as rats-they are just smaller and able to enter areas through smaller openings.
- ⇒ **Cockroaches** breed and feed in the garbage- then spread out from there, infesting the area.



Fig. 1 Place garbage in sealable plastic bags.



Fig.2 Place sealed garbage bags in garbage can with close fitting lid.



Fig. 3 Authorized garbage collection service.

PREVENTION

CONTAINERIZE

Containerize your garbage to prevent fly generation, and the breeding of rats, mice or other animals and insects. Wrap food scraps in newspaper or grocery bags and place them in a seal able plastic garbage bag to prevent flies from depositing their eggs on it. Without a food source the fly will not have a place to produce maggots. Piles of garbage are odorous and unsightly. Un-covered garbage cans are about as bad as putting garbage directly on the ground.

- ⇒ Wrap & place garbage and other organic wastes in sealed plastic garbage bags.
- ⇒ Place these bags in a garbage can that is cleaned on a regular basis, and has a tight fitting lid.
- ⇒ Put your garbage can out for pick up by the authorized garbage collection service for your neighborhood on the morning of your scheduled pick-up.
- ⇒ If you have more garbage than your can or cans can hold you may be able to purchase extra bags from your service provider for occasional excesses. Otherwise if you have regular excess garbage you must arrange for increased service.