



March 6, 2024

Alan Flora  
City Manager  
City of Clearlake  
14050 Olympic Drive  
Clearlake, CA 95422

RE: 2023 Annual Solid Waste & Recycling Report

Dear Mr. Flora,

We are pleased to submit the attached report for 2023 that summarizes CWS activities during the previous year.

Throughout 2023 we have worked hard to bolster out outreach to our customers through in-person public Education. We hired one new Outreach Coordinator in 2023 to work towards this goal and will be adding two new coordinators to the team in 2024.

As always, we are proud to serve the citizens and businesses of Clearlake. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 707-234-6400.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Bruce McCracken".

Bruce McCracken  
Clearlake Waste Solutions

Attachments:

CWS Spring and Fall 2023 Newsletters  
Clearlake Waste Solutions Waste Widget Analytics  
Residential Customer List – CONFIDENTIAL  
Commercial Customer List – CONFIDENTIAL



# Clearlake Waste Solutions (CWS) 2023 Annual Report

## HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Since Clearlake City Ordinance #198-2017 for Universal Garbage Service went into full implementation and enforcement. Participation has continued to increase. CWS now serves 5362 residential customers (an increase of 60 customers from 2022) and 241 commercial customers.
- ✓ Year over year we continue to see an increase in traffic to the online interactive recycling widget that CWS uses to educate residents and businesses about recycling, contamination and waste reduction (see attached reports from 2023).
- ✓ 276 items were collected in 2023 through the bulky item collection program. This is a 15% decrease from total items collected in 2022. CWS provides outreach about this program in our new customer packets as well as on our quarterly invoices, bi-annual newsletters, and website.
- ✓ CWS continues to work with CalRecycle staff year-round, responding to their requests for information about the City's solid waste and recycling activities.
- ✓ As required by the City's Mandatory Commercial Recycling (MCR) Plan for compliance with AB341, CWS monitored the qualifying businesses and apartment complexes that do not subscribe to recycling collection service, contacted them to inform them about the AB341 requirement to recycle, discussed recycling opportunities, and reported this information to CalRecycle.
- ✓ In the spring and fall of 2023, color newsletters were included with the billing statements mailed to all residential and commercial customers
- ✓ CWS Partners with Lake County Creative Consulting to put on Clearlake Free Dump Day, which began in December of 2022, and continued on through 2023.



- ✓ CWS Presented about Solid Waste, Recycling, and Green Waste to the 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Class at Burns Valley School in June of 2023.
- ✓ CWS Presented about Solid Waste, Recycling, and Green Waste to the Clearlake Rotary Club in October of 2023.
- ✓ CWS is working with Redwood Waste Solutions to bring the Mobile Recycling Pilot project to Clearlake.
- ✓ At service sign-up, new customers continue to receive comprehensive written and verbal information about CWS services - including full-color recycling and green waste guides - to provide education on proper recycling and how to avoid contamination and overfill charges.
- ✓ For the 7<sup>th</sup> year, CWS provided Citizens Caring 4 Clearlake (CC4C) with free hauling services on a regular basis.
- ✓ Drivers and operational staff routinely check customers recycling carts for contamination. When contamination is discovered, CWS calls the customer and mails them a recycling information packet.

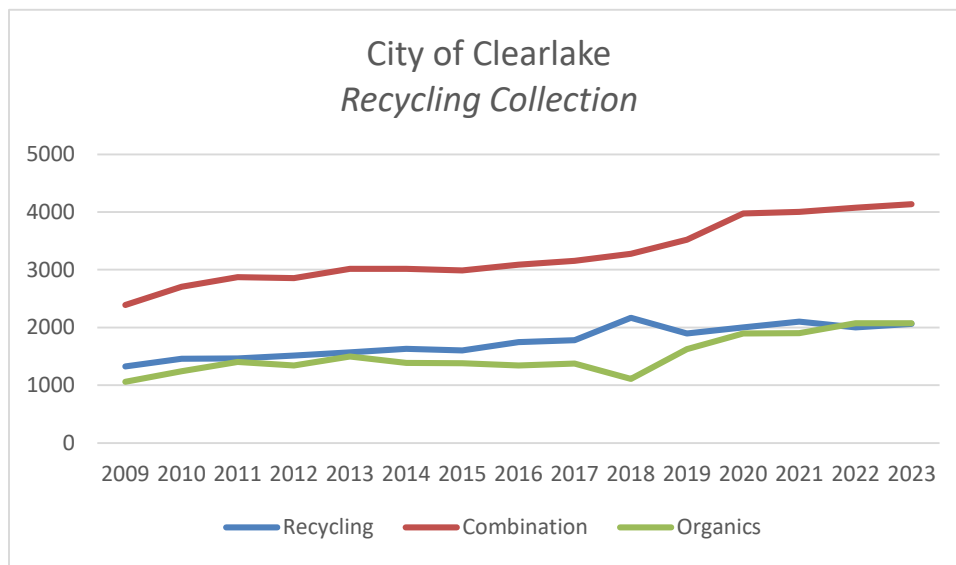
As required per the Franchise Agreement, the current customer list with addresses is enclosed. **Please note the customer lists are confidential from third parties.**



## DATA: RECYCLING, DISPOSAL & DIVERSION

Curbside recycling and overall disposal figures for the City of Clearlake over the last twelve (12) years reveal that curbside recycling has increased during this period as follows:

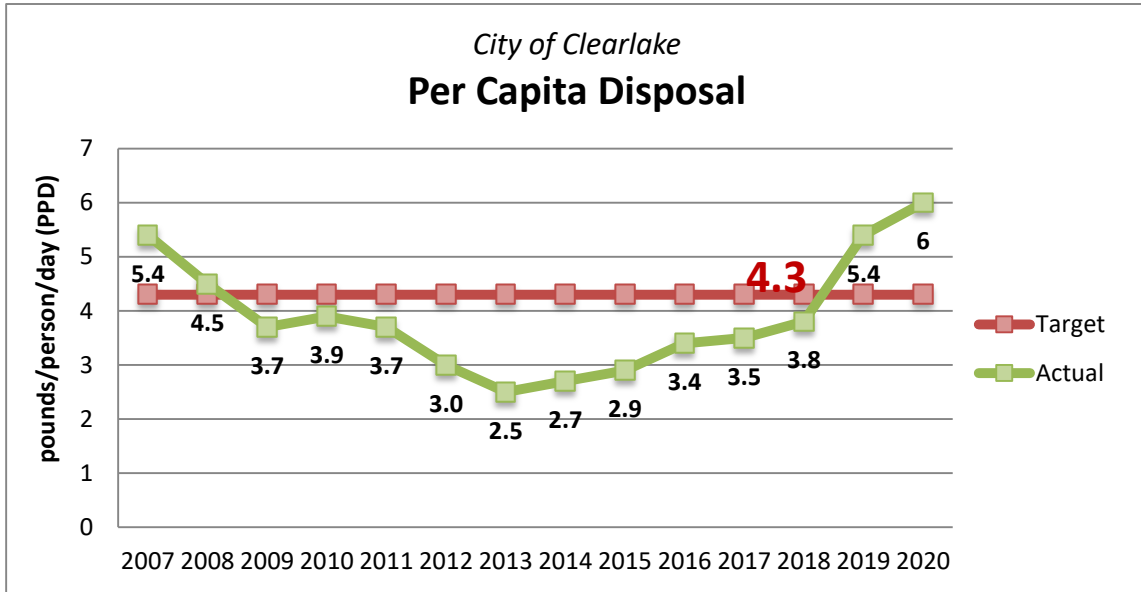
**Chart 1**  
**Curbside Recycling & Green Waste, 2009-2023**



Over the last twelve years, City residents and businesses have increased the amount of material recycled at the curb from 3,277 tons/year to 4,138 tons/year.

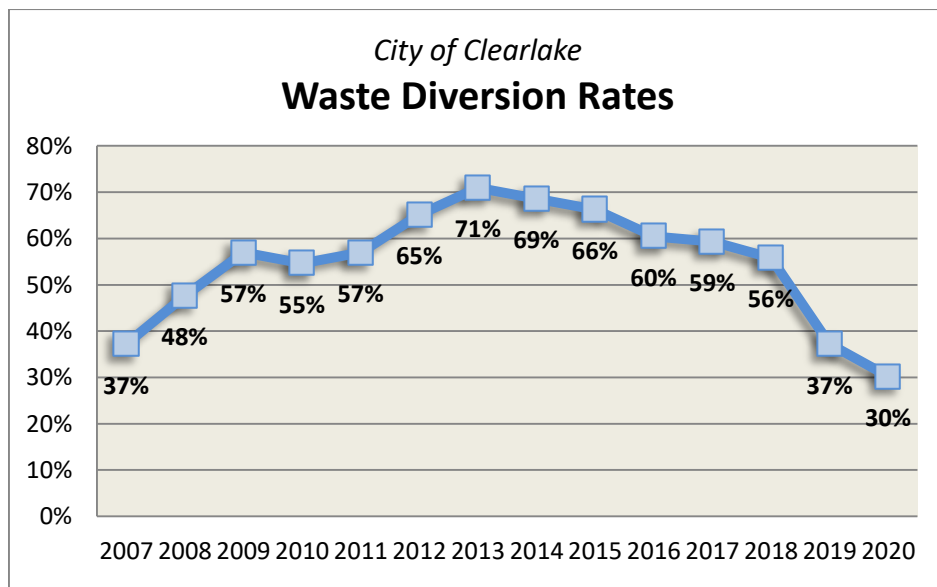
**Chart 2**  
**Per Capita Disposal Rate, 2007-2020**

The most important number to CalRecycle is the Per Capital Disposal Rate, measured in pounds per person per day (ppd). The City of Clearlake has a target per capita disposal rate of 4.3 ppd.



**Chart 3. Diversion Rate, 2007-2020**

As the per capita disposal rate *decreases*, the landfill diversion rate *increases* as shown in the chart below.





## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

In partnership with the County of Lake Public Services Department we continue to offer Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collections that are also benefitting Clearlake residents:

- ✓ Total number of cars for the 2023 Clearlake collections was 787
- ✓ Outreach provided in spring newsletter to customers as well as County advertising on the radio and their website
- ✓ Residents no longer have to wait for HHW events for Paint Recycling since disposal has been available free of charge during regular operating hours at the Clearlake Recycle Center and at our facility, Lake County Waste Solutions Transfer Station, in Lakeport.
- ✓ Since 2014, the County has been sponsoring free disposal of sharps. Sharps are accepted during regular operating hours at the Clearlake Recycle Center and Lake County Waste Solutions Transfer Station in Lakeport.

Through the County of Lake's successful tire amnesty program as well as their appliance program both materials continue to be accepted for the majority of the year free of charge to residents at the Lake County Waste Solutions Transfer Station in Lakeport.

We gave away a total of 3,200 gallons of latex paint for free reuse by county residents.