



recycle**more**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## New Convenient Sharps Drop-off Collection Sites

**San Pablo, CA** – RecycleMore (a Joint Powers Authority for West Contra Costa County) along with their member cities of San Pablo, Hercules, Pinole, Richmond, El Cerrito, and unincorporated Contra Costa County and in partnership with West County Resource Recovery (WCRR) a Republic Services company is proud to announce nine new safe and convenient locations for residents to drop-off their used sharps (needles, syringes, lancets and other devices used at home to inject medications). Four of these sites were already collecting unwanted pharmaceuticals for the past two years. Two new sites (Hercules City Hall and Park Pharmacy) have collection bins for expired and unwanted medicines.

Individuals living in the West Contra Costa community use sharps to treat medical conditions or to inject medicines for their pets. **Home-generated sharps should never be placed in the household or public trash cans or recycling bins, and never flush them down the toilet** - this puts trash and sewage workers, janitors, housekeepers, household members, and children at risk of being harmed. Pet owners who use needles to give medicine to their pets should follow the same sharps disposal guidelines used for humans.

There are about 9 million Americans who use needles or other sharps to manage their medical conditions at home. This amounts to more than 3 billion used needles and other sharps that must be disposed of outside health care settings each year. (Statistics provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

RecycleMore is responsible for contracting with a licensed medical waste transporting company to provide proper collection and disposal. WCRR which currently operates the Household Hazardous Waste Facility in Richmond as well as the Mobile HHW Collection Program for seniors and disabled person will provide the collection services.

### MEDIA ADVISORY

**WHO:** RecycleMore (JPA) and West County Resource Recovery (a Republic Services company) in partnership with the cities of San Pablo, Hercules, Pinole, Richmond, El Cerrito; unincorporated Contra Costa County; West County Wastewater District and Park Pharmacy.

**WHAT:** Nine new Free drop-off locations for sharps and additional pharmaceuticals locations for residents.

**WHERE:** In addition to the two current locations for sharps and pharmaceutical drop-off at West County HHW Collection Facility at 101 Pittsburg Avenue, Richmond and the El Cerrito Recycling and Environmental Resource Center at 7501 Schmidt lane, El Cerrito - there are now nine additional locations for sharps and two new sites for pharmaceuticals.

New Sharps collection kiosks are located in the following sites:

- 1) \*Hercules City Hall - 111 Civic Drive, Hercules, CA 94547
- 2) \*Pinole Police Station - 880 Tennent Avenue, Pinole, CA 94564

- 3) \*West County Wastewater District Office - 2910 Hilltop Drive, Richmond, CA 94806
- 4) \*San Pablo Police Station - 13880 San Pablo Avenue, San Pablo, CA 94806
- 5) \*Park Rexall Pharmacy - 3716 San Pablo Dam Road, El Sobrante, CA 94803
- 6) City of Richmond locations
  - Senior Center at 2525 MacDonald Avenue, 94804
  - Annex Senior Center at 5801 Huntington Avenue, 94804
  - \*Richmond Police Station at 1701 Regatta Blvd, 94804
  - Shields-Reid Community Center – 1410 Kelsey, 94801

NOTE: "\*" Represents locations where a pharmaceutical collection bin is also located.

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