Custodial staff collects waste from buildings and brings it outside.

Grounds staff consolidates waste and drives to processing facility.

Landfill is taken to the Dimeo Lane Landfill.

Remains in landfill forever.

More Information about Landfill

Allowable Items
- any thin plastic like bags & wrappers
- condiment packets
- broken dishware & glassware
- animal waste
- diapers and menstrual products
- items made of multiple materials
- gloves & masks
- soiled pizza boxes
- foil/plastic lined cartons
- plastic items labeled "biodegradable"
- styrofoam
- any item that doesn't belong in recycling or compost

Key Facts
- 1770 tons landfilled by UCSC in 2021-2022
- 46% amount of waste that UCSC diverted from the landfill in 2021-2022
- 90% amount of waste that needs to be diverted from landfill for UCSC to meet its zero waste goal

Impacts
- When organic items are landfilled, they decompose and produce greenhouse gases
- Landfills require a large amount of land, when not properly managed can pollute the water, soil, and air
- For the most part, items in landfills remain for generations, as it takes a long time to decompose

Alternatives
Focus on reusable items, repurposing what you already have, and reducing what you buy. Support thrift stores, buy reusable versions of single-use items, buy in bulk, and donate/sell before discarding.
Recycling
回收 reciclaje

Custodial staff collects waste from buildings and brings it outside

Grounds staff consolidates waste and drives to processing facility

Recycling is taken to ReGen Monterey, where it is sorted, screened and compacted

Items sold to commodity markets to be made into new products

More Information about Recycling

Allowable Items

- plastic items #1-5
- water and beverage bottles
- unsoiled pizza box
- cereal and frozen food boxes
- paper
- magazines
- mail
- metal cans
- softcover books
- cardboard
- aerosol cans
- aluminum foil
- metal & glass food containers & lids
- pet food cans
- paper egg cartons

Key Facts

- 651 tons recycled by UCSC in 2021-2022
- 314 tons of landscape, furniture, and food waste reused by UCSC in 2021-2022
- 0.17 pounds of recycling generated per person a day

What It May Become

Recycled items are processed into new products, here are some common examples!

- polar fleece, fiber, tote bags, furniture, carpet, containers
- bottles for non food items, recycling containers, floor tile, lumber, buckets, bins crates
- signal lights, battery cables, brooms, brushes, ice scrapers, bike racks, bins, pallets, trays
- aluminum can be infinitely recycled, often into new cans or other items like sheeting, rain gutters or window frames
- may be recycled into new glass bottles and jars, or other items like insulation and filter media
The process

1. **Windrow**, or "aerated," composting consists of placing organic matter into long rows.
2. Rows are turned to disperse nutrients, manage temperature, and mix moisture.
3. Eventually the mixture becomes **soil**, and is often enriched with nutrients.

Alternatives

**To reduce food waste:**
only buy what you will eat, donate unused food items, and freeze or store uneaten food for later.

**To replace common plastic items:**
find replacements labeled as compostable, fiber-based options are better than bioplastics.

**Key Facts**

- 400 tons composted by UCSC in 2021-2022
- 0.1 pounds of compost generated per person per day
- Products must state compostable to be put into a green bin, products that only say biodegradable should be treated as landfill.

**Allowable Items**

- compostable to-go food containers and utensils
- paper coffee filters and tea bags
- compostable bags, cups, plates
- wooden chopsticks
- wooden stirrers and toothpicks
- plant material
- all food scraps, such as fruits, vegetables, coffee grounds, dairy, eggs, meat, seafood, bones & shells, leftovers, spoiled food

**Composting**

- Custodial staff collects waste from buildings and brings it outside.
- Grounds staff consolidates waste and drives to processing facility.
- Organic waste is taken to ReGen Monterey and placed into long windrows and turned often to manage temperatures and produce a quality mixture.
- Eventually, the organic waste turns into soil.