

Upper Valley Disposal & Recycling Service Defining Our Circular Economy

A Longtime Community Partner: Upper Valley Disposal & Recycling Service and Clover Flat Resource Recovery Park has always been an industry leader in creating some of the earliest sustainability practices to having women serve in our leadership positions. It's been an honor to serve the Upper Valley as an employer, sustainable leader, and notably, a thoughtful community partner for nearly 60 years.

Recent research has affirmed what we already know and placed into practice: compost is a critical component to combat climate change. As we are experiencing changes in our local environment, we can all help our valley and state by using more compost. Scientific research has proven that compost is an effective tool in carbon sequestration, meaning compost captures our carbon emissions. By having healthy soils, we will enjoy clean air and water, bountiful crops and forests, productive grazing lands, diverse wildlife, and beautiful landscapes.

Sustainability Leader: Last month, we had the pleasure of hosting the new director of CalRecycle, Rachel Waggoner, along with staff from the California Natural Resources Agency, to take a tour of our compost operations. We were proud to brief CalRecycle and the California Natural Resources Agency that we have diverted nearly 30,000 tons and Clover Flat has diverted over 75,000 tons of waste, just in the last two years, into recyclable, reuse products. In addition, we have been able to remove over 30,000 MTCO₂e of carbon emissions, each year, which is the equivalent of removing the pollution of 46,000 passenger vehicles from our roads and the equivalent of conserving enough energy to power 12,000 households. We remain firm in our commitment to combating climate change by providing programs and services that reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG).

At the Clover Flat Resource Recovery Park and Landfill in Calistoga, we strive to divert as much material as possible and, in 2014, the Recovery Park launched its Renewable Energy program. We became a renewable energy provider because of our commitment to preserve and protect our local environment. Rather than flaring the methane, we invested \$48M to collect and capture methane gas which is converted to electricity through a partnership with Pacific Gas & Electric Company; we are able to provide the city of Calistoga enough energy to power the equivalent of 800 residential



Staff Training with Amy Markov

A Paradigm Shift for Climate Change:

The state of California recently enacted, SB 1383, which is a new state mandate for every community to combat short lived climate pollutants and remove organic waste from the waste stream. By January 2025, California must achieve a 75% of organics reduction and in addition must ensure that 20% of food be directed into a recovery program for human consumption that meets the program's specifications. Every community in California is required to create a comprehensive plan and begin implementation in January 2022. Our team is preparing to implement the SB 1383 plan in partnership with the Joint Powers Authority JPA of Upper Valley Waste Management Agency (UVA). The Upper Valley Waste Management Agency is comprised of local elected officials from the city of Calistoga, St. Helena, Town of Yountville, and Napa County. The UVA oversees our work and efforts and ensures our compliance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations. Collectively, our outreach program coordinator Andy Buck and UVA's Amanda Griffiths have created a detailed plan, approved by the JPA Board of Directors, to comply with SB1383 and it requires our community's commitment and participation for successful implementation. This will involve public education initiatives, outreach to businesses and individuals, training, audits, lead checks and on-going documentation to ensure we fulfill the state's mandate. Our SB 1383 kickoff date, July 1, 2021, will begin with expanding organics collection to include food scraps and soiled papers.

As the drought in California continues and our communities plan for more fire mitigation and defensible property management,



Clover Flat Resource Recovery Park

we are beginning to create a solution for our community's wood waste. Our plans include a more sustainable approach, with Clover Flat Resource Recovery Park taking the lead, to manage this organic feedstock, which is large both in size and volume, by converting this biomass feedstock to electricity. We believe this will capture our community's local wood, grape vine, and cuttings waste produced each year and produce a sustainable resource. Through a linking process, wood is slowly baked and the by-product called bio-char and can be used back in local vineyards and is considered a high value product for carbon sequestration. This will provide a long term solution for the eventual ban of ag burning and a pathway to clean air all year long.

Come See Us!

Our relationship with you and our community is important to us. That's why we regularly host tours with our neighbors, local schools, and community groups to educate our community on recycling, waste management, and sustainable environmental practices. We are committed to providing excellent customer service, provide great product to benefit our local soil, and execute sustainable, environmentally friendly practices to benefit our community. Our goal is to ensure your materials

are collected, recycled, reused, or repackaged to ensure that our upper valley remains a world class home for all of us.

Tours can be arranged to see the Recycling Center, Resource Recovery Park or if you are a residential customer or business up valley needing recycling outreach and support, we are here to help! Contact us at info@uvwa.com



Napa County Biomass Specialist Amanda Griffiths, CalRecycle Director Rachel Waggoner, St. Helena City Councilmember Jada Glendon touring UVA's Compost Operations

Starting July 1, place food scraps into green compost cart.

