

## Notice to all Homestead Valley Sanitary District Residents,

Mill Valley Refuse Service is considering changing the way it collects recycling at the curb by switching to a Dual-Stream system. Under this system, the company would provide everyone with a second recycle cart and ask residents to put only paper and cardboard in one; and cans, glass and plastic in the other. These would then be picked up on alternate weeks. The company conducted a pilot project to test this collection method late last year and found it to be feasible, although public reaction to it was mixed. Follow this link to read the full report on the results of the project: <https://www.millvalleyrefuse.com/post/4017587-dual-stream-pilot-program-report>.

Why consider changing the way recycling is collected? The reason is that Single-Stream collection (the way it's done now) creates a dirtier quality of material (paper is especially affected by moisture, food waste and broken glass), and the cost of processing this material has skyrocketed in the past two years.

Dual-Stream collection keeps the paper clean and is easier to process, so the cost of processing is half that of single-stream. Marketplace conditions indicate that the future health of recycling depends on collecting and processing cleaner streams of material, and MVRS believes its pilot project demonstrated that it's possible to recycle more by contaminating less.

Still, the company met some resistance in the pilot project areas because the alternating week pick up schedule was deemed to be inconvenient by many residents. Before making the changeover, the company hopes to gauge public opinion in some upcoming meetings in Tiburon (May 15), Mill Valley (May 20) and Corte Madera (May 21). Please consider attending one of these meetings to voice your opinion or hear what others have to say about it. Please double-check online agendas to be sure Dual-Stream collection is being discussed as these dates could change.

Homestead and the other jurisdictions served by MVRS will need to approve either the proposed Dual-Stream plan or maintain existing Single-Stream collection when the company's Rate Application comes up for a vote in June.