

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Textile Talk

What are textiles? CalRecycle defines textiles as items made of thread, yarn, fabric, or cloth (not including furniture, mattresses, or leather). A 2018 waste characterization study found that approximately 1.2 million tons of textiles were landfilled in California alone! To prevent textiles from being landfilled, try some of the tips below.

Reduce: Especially as trends change, it's tempting to buy new clothing or household decorations. Try mixing and matching pieces you already own to create new looks. When a need does arise, consider buying secondhand. You can find great new-to-you items in local thrift stores, at garage sales, or even on online selling platforms.

Reuse: Rather than throwing out your textiles, consider handing down to a family member or friend or donating to a local organization. Other methods of reuse are using old t-shirts as cleaning rags, turning an extra curtain into a table runner, and making a rug out of ripped towels. You can find all sorts of DIY reuse projects on the internet by simply searching "crafts with [item]" *e.g. crafts with socks*

Recycle: Textiles can be self-hauled to the Tehama County/Red Bluff Landfill and dropped off in the on-site textile recycling container free of charge. In fact, 28,940 pounds of textiles were recycled from the landfill in 2022!

Items not accepted for textile recycling at the Landfill include pillows, sleeping bags, mattresses*, rugs, carpet**, cushions, foam furniture, foam mats, vinyl shower curtains, large luggage, wet items, and smelly or moldy items.

**Mattresses and box springs self-hauled to the Tehama County/Red Bluff Landfill are accepted at no charge.*

***Carpet and carpet padding are accepted for recycling at the Tehama County/Red Bluff Landfill at a significantly reduced fee.*

For more information on reuse and recycling in Tehama County, please visit www.tehamacountylandfill.com or call the Tehama County Solid Waste Management Agency at (530) 528-1103.