

Waste Wise Business Spotlight

Albert Building
1010 B Street, San Rafael

The Albert Building has come a long way since the days when so much trash was generated from the offices that it would fill up the freight elevator on a daily basis! Robert Berry, who has owned and managed the building for over 35 years, is helping to bring the 1930s structure into the modern age. The downtown property houses ground floor retail and restaurant space, and about 40 offices in the floors above.

This year Mr. Berry began composting paper hand towels from the bathrooms and has improved recycling in the offices - and now just uses one 64-gallon cart per day for landfill waste! The key, he says, was when he decided to provide dedicated bins throughout the building. **Bins are either labeled or color-coded**, and sized appropriately for the location. **Recycling and compost bins don't get plastic liners** - which helps to differentiate them and saves staff time. **Mr. Berry worked with his janitorial service** to establish the new system, and created materials to inform tenants of the changes. Mr. Berry is also in the process of getting the building LEED certified, and says his motivation is that "it's the right thing to do."

Best Practices:

- Provided tenants with bins and educational materials
- Worked with janitorial company to establish a new system that worked for everyone

Results:

- Reduced size of landfill can for 40+ businesses to just one 64-gallon cart



For more info & other Waste Wise Spotlights, visit: CityofSanRafael.org/waste-wise

Saving Money and the Environment by Being Waste Wise

Find the right container for your needs!



This is a great solution for deskside recycling. The hanging basket is for landfill waste.

This 23-gallon container is great for copy rooms, or other areas with a larger volume of paper.



For bathroom paper toweling composting, make your "default" container for Compost and make sure it is clearly labeled.

Add another small trash can for Landfill. Labels like this are also a great idea!



Go to CityofSanRafael.org/waste-wise for a downloadable recycling letter for tenants. Marinsanitaryservice.com also has a wealth of resources for making your commercial recycling program a success!