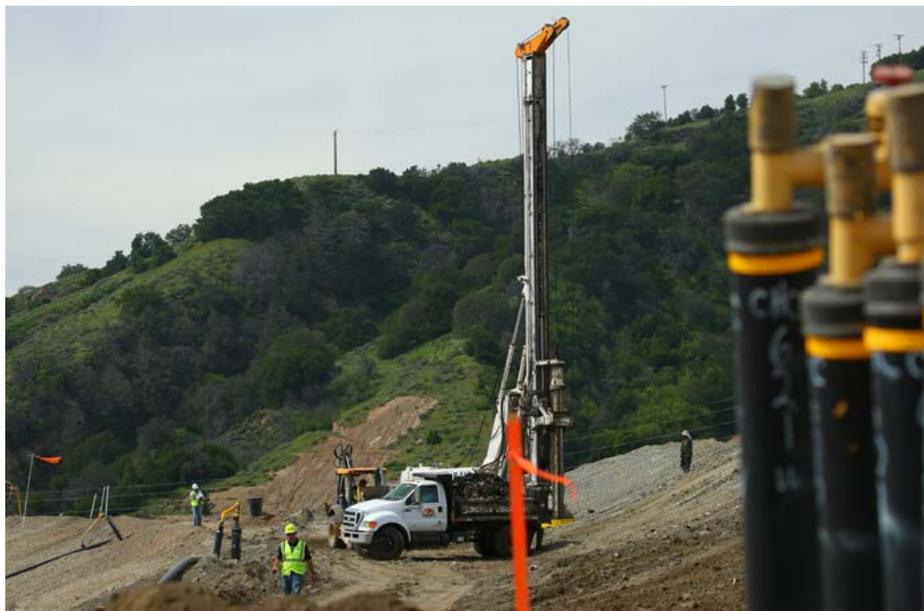




Five Halloween Recycling Mistakes to Avoid

October 26, 2018



SYLMAR, Calif. Oct. 26, 2018) – Trick-or-treating, costumes, pumpkin carving, witches, and, of course, candy, are all right around the corner as we prepare for Halloween. Though many of us have the best intentions to recycle following the spooky holiday, we aren't always recycling the right items. In fact, more than 30 percent of what goes into residential recycling containers today shouldn't be there.

So, to avoid recycling mistakes this Halloween, the Sunshine Canyon Landfill team has provided information on five items commonly placed in the recycling bin that should not be recycled.:

- 1. Candy wrappers:** Those candy wrappers may feel like plastic, but they're considered a mixed material and therefore aren't recyclable. If you have the misfortune of getting a box of raisins in your trick-or-treating loot, you can toss the box in your recycling container. Another tip: Never try to recycle anything smaller than a credit card.
- 2. Pumpkins:** They're not recyclable, but they don't necessarily have to go in your trash. Whether whole or carved into jack-o-lanterns, pumpkins can be disposed of in your [yard waste](#) bin, if you have one. Pumpkins also may be [composted](#).
- 3. Costumes:** Fabric costumes and latex masks can be reused, but not recycled. You can always save the costume and repurpose it for next year, or use as a dress-up costume that kids can play with year-round. Check [Earth911](#) for clothing donation sites near you.

4. **Makeup:** Tins and tubes of face paint and fake blood aren't recyclable. Even if the container is made from plastic or metal, it most likely is contaminated by goopy residue. It's better just to throw it away.
5. **Spooky lighting:** Strings of lights can easily get tangled in the sorting equipment, so don't place these items in your recycling bin. However, there are [mail-in recycling programs](#) available, or you can throw them in the trash.

Along with avoiding these common pitfalls, following a few simple guidelines can help all of us be better recyclers. Know what to throw; make sure items are empty, clean and dry; and keep recyclables loose – never in bags or containers. For more simple recycling tips and resources, visit [RecyclingSimplified.com](#).

To learn more about Sunshine Canyon Landfill, visit us online at [sunshinecanyonlandfill.com](#).