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## **Recycling through the Reuse** program

## By Ashley Louisiana

Growing up in Moraga, my mom would get excited when it was "pickup day." She would get up early and drive around picking up the goods she wanted from the curb that others no longer needed. She would come home with new kitchen gadgets and household items. The good news for our unsuspecting neighbors, she retired almost 10 years ago and doesn't live in the area.

Coming full circle and working as the Program Manager at RecycleSmart, I am now carrying on my mom's legacy of finding good homes for usable cast-offs, but in a more organized (and legal) way. I help manage a unique program our communities can feel proud to be part of, called Reuse & Cleanup Days. The program was started in 1999 to respond to the environmental, social, and economic issues impacting Contra Costa County. Twice a year on pre-scheduled days, all 65,000 single-family homes in the RecycleSmart service area can set out gently used household items at the curb, at no additional cost, to be picked up by Mt. Diablo Resource Recovery (MDRR).

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Turning Up the Rock Star Treatment

