

ORGANICS RECYCLING NEWSLETTER

Mt. Diablo Resource Recovery is your one-stop shop for organics, recycling, and solid waste collection services. We serve our customers, communities, and environment responsibly by optimizing the use of material we collect and process.

Mandatory Composting Law In California. Why Your Business Must Recycle Organics.

What Is Organic Waste?



FOOD:

Bones, shells, raw, cooked, or spoiled food scraps of any variety.



FOOD-SOILED PAPER:

Napkins, paper towels, paper-based take-out containers, pizza boxes, and coffee filters.



LANDSCAPE WASTE:

Brush, branches (less than 3' in length and 6" in diameter), lawn and plant clippings, shrubbery, twigs, weeds, and wood chips (no dirt).

Put Food Scraps, Food Soiled Paper, and Landscape Waste in the Right Place.

The decomposition of organic waste in landfills produces methane emissions, which are a significant source of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that contribute to global climate change. **Methane is a climate super pollutant, as it is 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide.**¹ Food waste alone makes up approximately 18 percent of total landfill disposal.² By taking steps to prevent food waste, rescuing edible food, and increasing the composting and diversion of organic waste throughout the state will help reduce methane emissions from California's landfills.

California state law SB 1383 requires all businesses to divert organic waste from the landfills by placing discarded food scraps into the organics container. This material is converted into soil-enriching compost.

Businesses with a large amount of organic waste may choose to back-haul their organic material. A record must be kept showing the amount of organics delivered to the composting facility.

Record keeping: Self-haulers must record the amount of organic waste delivered to each solid waste facility, operation, activity, or property that processes or recovers organic waste. This record shall be subject to inspection by the City and include:

- Delivery receipts and weight tickets from the facility accepting the waste.
- The amount of material in cubic yards or tons transported to each facility.
- If the material is transported to a facility that does not have scales on-site or employs scales incapable of weighing the self-hauler's vehicle in a manner that allows it to determine the weight of waste received, the self-hauler is not required to record the weight of material, but shall keep a record of the facilities that received the organic waste.



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Prevent Food
Waste Tips
For Businesses



Almost 1 in 4 Californians don't have enough to eat.

State law SB 1383 requires food service businesses to donate edible food to food recovery organizations instead of recycling or throwing it away.

Why must some businesses donate food?

SB 1383 aims to rescue 20% of currently wasted surplus food by 2025.

There are 3 main requirements for complying with the new law:

1. Donate the maximum amount of surplus edible food that would otherwise be discarded.
2. Establish written agreements with food recovery organizations to pick up or receive your surplus edible food.
3. Maintain monthly records of type, frequency, and pounds of food recovered and sent to/collected by each organization.

What Type of Business Has to Comply?

TIER 1 GENERATORS

Law Is Now
In Effect



Supermarkets: Gross annual sales of two million dollars or more.



Grocery Stores: A total facility size equal to or greater than 10,000 square feet.



Food Service Providers: Provides food services to institutional, commercial, or industrial locations.



Food Distributors: Distributes food to entities including supermarkets and grocery stores.



Wholesale Food Vendors: Food is received, stored, and prepared for wholesale distribution.

TIER 2 GENERATORS

Law Is Now
In Effect

Restaurants: 250 or more seats, or a facility size equal to or greater than 5,000 square feet.

Health Facilities: With an on-site food facility and 100 or more beds.

State Agency Cafeterias: 250+ seats or a total cafeteria size equal to or greater than 5,000 square feet.

Hotels: With an on-site food facility and 200 or more rooms.

Large Venues: Annually seats or serves an average of more than 2,000 individuals per day of operation.

Large Events: Charges an admission price, or is operated by a local agency, and serves 2,000 or more individuals per day.

Local Education Agencies: With an on-site food facility.

As of January 1, 2024 jurisdictions are required to enforce this law and penalties may be issued. For non-compliance. To learn more visit mdrr.com/foodrecovery or scan the QR code.



1. California's Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Reduction Strategy. CalRecycle Home Page, 2019, calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/sclp/. Accessed 21 Sept. 2023.
2. State of Disposal and Recycling in California, page 39. 2017. calrecycle.ca.gov/Publications
3. Food Donors: Fight Hunger and Combat Climate Change. CalRecycle Home Page, calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/sclp/foodrecovery/donors/.

RECYCLE YOUR WASTE AT OUR PLACE!

Your friendly + convenient self-haul destination

Our Recycling Center and Transfer Station (Contra Costa Waste Services) is located at 1300 Loveridge Road in Pittsburg. The facility is open daily for businesses from 5:00 am to 6:00 pm (closed Christmas + New Year's Day only). We accept solid waste, organics, wood, plastics, metals, cardboard, building material, dirt, rock, concrete, electronics, appliances, and more. For the full list and pricing, please visit www.mdrr.com/rcts.

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