

City of Brea

800.700.8610 | RepublicServices.com/municipality/brea-ca



Sustainability in Action



Credit: Kosamtu | E+ | Getty Images

From Summer Gardens to Fall Cleanups

Did you know that landfills are the third largest source of methane, a greenhouse gas, in California? Organic waste is one of the largest material types sent to landfills, and when it is improperly disposed of in the trash container, instead

of the organics container, it decomposes and produces greenhouse gases. Summer and fall bring increased gardening and outdoor gatherings, making organics recycling more important than ever.

Senate Bill 1383 helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions by diverting food scraps and landscaping debris from landfills, while also promoting edible food recovery and the creation of compost. Organic materials include food (fruit, bread, fish, meat, vegetables, dairy, coffee/tea grounds), landscaping (grass, flowers, leaves) and food-soiled paper (pizza boxes, paper towels/napkins, paper bags, newspaper). By implementing these simple actions of properly sorting organic materials into your containers, residents and businesses help support California's climate goals and build a more sustainable community. For more information about the City's sustainability and



waste collection programs, please visit Cityofbrea.gov/recyclebrea.

Simple Steps for Organics Recycling Success at Home

- Separate food scraps and food-soiled paper from the recycling and trash in your kitchen.
- Put scraps into a container with a lid to reduce odors. If you wish, you can freeze or refrigerate the scraps.
- Do NOT bag scraps in plastic, compostable or biodegradable collection bags. You may use paper bags or wrap scraps in newspaper, paper towels, and napkins to absorb liquids.
- Place loose food scraps and food-soiled paper into your organics container.
- Keep the container cleaner by placing cardboard, leaves or other yard clippings in the bottom, adding food scraps, and then layering more yard clippings on top. You can also sprinkle baking soda at the bottom to reduce odor.
- Keep bugs and animals out by fully closing the lid of your container.

To learn more about proper disposal of organics, recycling and trash in Brea, please visit RepublicServices.com/municipality/brea-ca.



Credit: Gorica Poturak | iStock | Getty Images Plus

Customer Recycling is Mandatory for Food Service Businesses

Under Assembly Bill (AB) 827, limited-service restaurants in California must provide customers with visible, clearly marked and easily accessible containers for recyclables and organics (uneaten food scraps, soiled paper and similar items) adjacent to trash containers. Full-service restaurants need to provide separate containers for use by employees. This law also applies to food courts and any other businesses that sell food for on-site consumption. You can download container and cabinet

labels from RecyclingSimplified.com/business-resources. If you have questions about your business recycling programs, or if you wish to make changes or improvements, call Republic Services at **714.238.2444**.



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Recycling

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 Carpet & Rugs
 Hazardous Waste
 Garden Hoses
 Tires & Car Parts
 Toys
 Clothing & Bedding
 Construction Waste
 Appliances
 Furniture
 Diapers & Pet Waste
 Yard & Food Waste
 Plastic Bags & Styrofoam™

REPUBLIC SERVICES

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**You can place food in a paper bag.*

The image shows a grid of eight items, each with a green checkmark icon in the top left corner, indicating they are recyclable. The items are: Styrofoam™ (a white foam container), Diapers & Pet Waste (a package of diapers and a green waste bag), Plastic Bags & Wrap (a clear plastic bag), Toys (a colorful toy set), Clothing & Bedding (a pair of sneakers and a stack of folded clothes), Garden Hoses (a coiled green hose), Dishes & Mirrors (a stack of colorful plates), and Non-Recyclable Plastics (a blue plastic bottle, a yellow plastic cup, and a pair of blue gloves).

Recyclables

Yard & Food Waste

Hazardous Waste



In accordance with State law, annual contamination monitoring reviews are occurring on an ongoing basis at randomly selected addresses for all Republic Services routes within the City of Brea. Representatives, in clearly identified uniforms, will be in the community reviewing the contents placed in the organic waste, recycling and trash containers. Common contaminants observed during recent monitoring include: food scraps and hard plastics in the trash container; plastic bags in the recycle container; plastic bags/wrappers in the organics container.

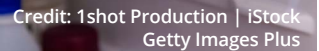
Fall 2026

Remember – no grease or food scraps containing fat, oil or grease (FOG) should ever go down your kitchen drain. FOG is the leading cause of sewer blockages, which can result in costly plumbing repairs and sewage overflows that pollute. To keep your home's plumbing running smoothly, follow these three simple



- Many mealtime favorites, including meat fats, creamy sauces and salad dressings, contain FOG, so stay mindful while cooking. Help protect your home and the environment by keeping FOG out of your drains. Don't clog with FOG!

Food waste is a problem that affects both our economy and the environment. A significant portion of food waste occurs at the household level. Reducing food waste at home is not just a personal responsibility, but it is also a step toward a more sustainable planet. Here are some tips for minimizing food



- **Create a Shopping List:** Plan your meals for the week, make a shopping list, and stick to it. This helps you avoid impulse buying and ensures you buy only what you need.
- **Use a Meal Planner:** Meal planning apps and tools can help you organize and plan your meals effectively.

- **Use Proper Containers:** Store food in airtight containers to keep it fresh longer.
- **Understand Food Labels:** Learn the difference between “sell by,” “use by” and “best by” dates, and don’t throw away food that is still good to eat.
- **Rotate Your Stock:** Practice the “first in, first out” method to ensure that older products are used before newer ones.

- **Cook in Appropriate Portions:** Cook only the amount you need to avoid leftovers that may go to waste.
- **Repurpose Leftovers:** Be creative with your leftovers by transforming them into new meals.
- **Freeze What You Can't Eat:** If you have excess food, freeze it for later instead of tossing it out.

- **Use Food Scraps:** Utilize peels, stems and other parts of vegetables and fruits in broths or as part of other recipes.
- **Compost Your Scraps:** Add fruit and vegetable scraps to your backyard compost or vermicompost bin.
- **Recycle Packaging:** Be mindful of packaging, and choose products with recyclable or minimal packaging.

Clear the Clutter Before the Holidays

Brea residents receive three (3) free bulky item pickups per calendar year, with up to 20 items per pickup. In addition to these services, residents can also schedule to recycle their electronic waste (e-waste) as many times as needed and at no charge. To schedule a pickup, call Republic Services at **714.238.2444**. Please note that there is a bulky item pickup fee for multi-family and commercial properties. If you live in a multi-family property, you should coordinate with your property management.



Simple Tips to Prepare You for the Upcoming Season

- Visit your local thrift store to find your next Halloween costume or reuse your costume purchases from previous years.
- Participate in your local “Buy Nothing” group on social media. Your neighbors may need to re-home their previously used toys, costumes, and decorations.
- Properly dispose of fallen leaves, small branches, and gourds in your organics container.
- Recycle empty and clean pie tins, aluminum foil, metal cans, beverage containers, glass jars, and plastic containers.
- Use the paper bags you receive from the grocery store for disposing of food scraps before placing them in your organics cart.
- Donate your extra shelf-stable food items to a local non-profit or food recovery organization.



Report Illegal Dumping

Not only are illegally dumped items unsightly, but they can also create health and safety hazards and decrease property values. Here’s what you can do to help prevent and clean up illegal dumping.

- When you see litter, pick it up. An area that is clean and clear of litter is more likely to stay that way.
- Use appropriate containers for disposing of all organics, recycling and trash.
- Don’t set large items that need to be disposed of, such as appliances or furniture, outside until after you make a call to schedule a bulk item pickup.
- When you spot an illegal dump site, don’t ignore it. Instead, note the location, and report it to the City of Brea.
- If you see someone dumping illegally, do not confront them. If possible, discreetly take a photo of the activity. Write down a description of the person and/or vehicle, as well as the license plate number. Call the police department’s non-emergency number to report this activity.
- Take part in community cleanup programs to help keep your city looking good for residents and visitors.

Holiday Collection Schedule

There will be no recycling, organics or trash collection services on these holidays. Collection will be delayed by one day on and after the holiday.

- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day
- New Year’s Day

Residential Container Placement Tips

- Place containers either in the street gutter, against the curb, in front of premises or adjacent to premises, or in the alley or easement in the rear of the premises.
- Place containers out the night before your regular collection day.
- Place containers with the lid openings facing toward the street.
- Place containers in a visible location at least 3 feet apart and 5 feet away from mailboxes, trees, basketball hoops, cars or other stationary objects.



Schedule a Community Presentation

City of Brea and Republic Services staff understand that implementing new programs and creating more sustainable habits can be challenging at times. If you are interested in scheduling an educational presentation on the City of Brea’s recycling programs with the City of Brea and Republic Services staff for your community or business, please email recyclebrea@cityofbrea.gov.

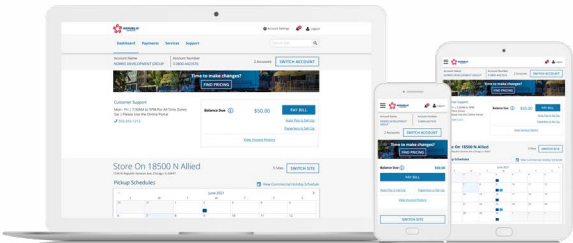
Stay Connected with the City of Brea

- Stay Informed with “Brea Talks” – Stay connected with local news and services by listening to “Brea Talks,” the City’s official podcast, available on major platforms, YouTube, and BREAtv, with episodes covering topics like trash sorting and organics recycling.
- Volunteering in the Community – Whether you can help for one day or make a longer commitment, volunteers play an important role in keeping events running smoothly. If you are interested, complete and return the Volunteer Form to BreaSpecialEvents@cityofbrea.gov. For questions, call 714.990.7771.
- Follow the City and Read the Brea Line Newsletter – Stay up to date on City news and events by following the City of Brea on social media. You can also subscribe to the City’s Brea Line newsletter for updates delivered to your inbox. For more information, visit Cityofbrea.gov/483/Brea-Line-Newsletter.



Download the Republic Services App

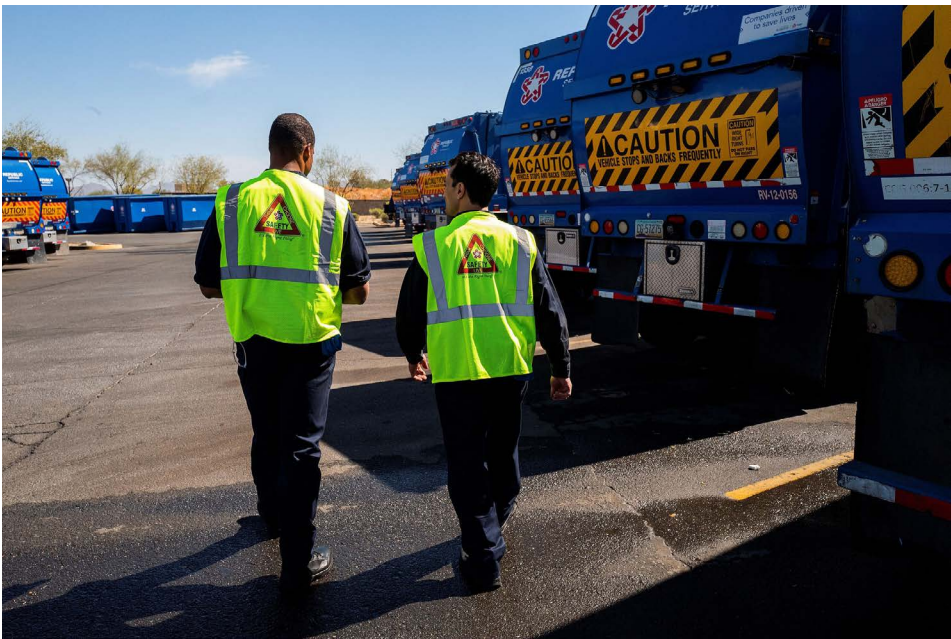
Republic Services gives you one simple tool to manage your account needs. Visit RepublicServices.com/account to sign up or download the app.



Contact Us

City of Brea – Recycle Brea (Public Works)
714.990.7691
RecycleBrea@cityofbrea.gov

Republic Services
714.238.2444
OCRecycles@RepublicServices.com



Join the Republic Services Family

Republic Services is always looking for talented, hardworking employees. If you would like to stay close to home and advance in a well-paying career, consider joining our team. Available jobs in our region include drivers, equipment operators, mechanics, shop technicians, material sorters, laborers, customer service specialists, dispatchers, recycling coordinators, sales representatives, office support staff members and more. To see and apply for open positions, visit RepublicServices.jobs.

New Shopping Bag Requirements

Senate Bill 1053 further reduces single-use plastic waste by eliminating the distribution of plastic carryout bags at stores. Paper bags are now available for purchase in many stores and can be used then disposed of in your organics container. Bringing a reusable bag remains the most sustainable option and helps reduce waste. This supports California’s broader efforts to decrease plastic pollution and keep recyclable materials clean and marketable.



Credit: Leo Patrizi | E+ | Getty Images

