

City of Fairfield

Recycling, Organics and Waste Services



✓ What can **ALWAYS** be placed inside your recycling cart:



PLASTICS

Recycle plastics #1 through #7. Look on the bottom of containers for a number inside the recycling arrows



METAL CANS

Recycle all food and beverage metal cans – steel, tin, bimetal and aluminum



PAPER & CARDBOARD

Envelopes, office paper, newspaper, magazines, junk mail, catalogs, paperback books, phone books, brochures, greeting cards and file folders



GLASS

Recycle clear and colored glass

✗ Do not place in your recycling cart:

- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| ✗ Appliances | ✗ Electronic waste | ✗ Pots or pans |
| ✗ Batteries | ✗ Food waste | ✗ Polystyrene foam |
| ✗ Bubble wrap | ✗ Food wrap | ✗ Sports equipment |
| ✗ Carbon paper | ✗ Garden hoses | ✗ Tires |
| ✗ Ceramics | ✗ Green waste | ✗ Toys |
| ✗ Christmas lights | ✗ Packing paper | ✗ Window glass |
| ✗ Coat hangers | ✗ Pizza boxes | ✗ Wood waste |
| ✗ Diapers | ✗ Plastic bags | |
| ✗ Electrical cords | | |

✓ What can **ALWAYS** be placed inside your organics cart:



YARD DEBRIS

Flowers, grass cuttings, leaves, weeds, small tree and brush trimmings, yard trimmings



FOOD SCRAPS

Fruit, vegetables, bones, coffee grounds, tea bags, dairy products, egg shells, fish, meat, grain products and baked goods



FOOD-SOILED PAPER

Pizza boxes, paper plates, paper towels, paper napkins, paper cups and waxed paper

✗ Do not place in your organics cart:

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ✗ Aluminum foil | ✗ Hazardous waste | ✗ Oleanders |
| ✗ Bamboo | ✗ Lawn sod | ✗ Recyclable materials |
| ✗ Burn materials/ash | ✗ Liquids | ✗ Rock |
| ✗ Dead animals | ✗ Manure/pet waste | ✗ Sand |
| ✗ Dirt | ✗ Palm fronds | ✗ Polystyrene foam |
| ✗ Diapers | ✗ Plastic bags | ✗ Wood (coated, treated or painted) |
| ✗ Foil-lined food wrap | ✗ Plastic wrap/straws | |
| ✗ Trash | | |

How to Recycle Properly

- ✓ Rinse plastic and glass bowls, and remove lids
- ✓ Rinse aluminum and metal cans
- ✓ Flatten cardboard boxes
- ✓ Don't place recycling items in plastic bags
- ✓ Be sure cart lid is closed
- ✓ Please place carts at least 2 feet apart and 6 feet away from other objects on the curb



How to Keep Your Organics Cart Clean

Here are some tips to keep your organics cart clean:

- ✓ Wrap your food waste in newspaper, or place them inside a paper bag.
- ✓ Place your used paper towels and napkins with your food waste. This will help to reduce moisture and odors.
- ✓ You can also keep your food scraps in the freezer and place them in the green waste cart before your collection day.
- ✓ You can use compostable bags, but they must meet Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI) standards and show the BPI symbol.

California Law SB 1383: Why is it so important to compost our organics?

State law, Senate Bill 1383 (SB 1383), mandates all Californians to participate in the City's recycling and organics collection program. SB 1383 requires that residents separate all organic waste and recyclables from the trash so this material can be diverted from the landfill.

When organic materials, like food waste and yard waste, are landfilled, they break down and generate methane gas, a climate pollutant. Methane is a type of greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change. According to CalRecycle, Californians have already experienced the effects of climate change: hotter summers, devastating fire seasons and extreme changes in weather patterns. CalRecycle reported that landfills are the third-largest source of methane in California. However, when organic waste is composted, instead of landfilled, the amount of greenhouse gases generated is significantly less. If everyone helps do their part by placing organic waste in the organics cart, we can help our environment and be more sustainable.

CalRecycle reported that organic waste accounts for more than a third of the material in California's waste stream. We need your help to reduce the amount of organics going to the landfill. It is going to take some time before we see the positive effects of composting our organics, but we need to start now.



Sustainability in Action