

# State Laws for Businesses

**CA State Law SB 1383 and RecycleSmart’s Organics Reduction Ordinance (21-1)** Composting organics is now the law in California! Organic material accounts for more than half of California’s waste stream. Greenhouse gas emissions caused by the decomposition of organic material in landfills contribute to climate change. Every business must separate organics, including all food scraps, uncoated food-soiled paper and landscape trimmings.

**All businesses are required to:**

- Annually educate employees on how to separate organics, and how to properly sort all materials.
- Place recycling and organics containers in all areas where landfill containers are present (except restrooms), with proper signage.
- Certain food-generating businesses are required to donate excess edible food to feed people. Visit [RecycleSmart.org/FoodGenerators](https://recyclesmart.org/FoodGenerators).
- If you self/back haul your recycling and/or organics, your business is required to maintain records. Visit [RecycleSmart.org/Recycling-Reporting](https://recyclesmart.org/Recycling-Reporting).
- Certain businesses may be eligible for an organics-only waiver. Visit [RecycleSmart.org/Recycling-Reporting](https://recyclesmart.org/Recycling-Reporting).



For additional compliance information, visit [RecycleSmart.org/1383](https://recyclesmart.org/1383) or use the QR code. SB 1383 also requires local jurisdictions to monitor contamination and proper sorting by performing annual route audits. RecycleSmart or its contractors may be in the area assessing your carts and bins.

**Mandatory Commercial Recycling (AB 341 & RecycleSmart Ordinance 15-1)** requires a business generating four cubic yards or more of recyclables, organics and trash combined per week to arrange for recycling service.

**Customer Access to Recycling (AB 827)** requires some food-generating businesses to place recycling and organics containers in all areas where landfill containers are present (except restrooms), with proper signage, similar to SB 1383 described above but **front of house for customer access**.

## Free Technical Assistance and Resources

For free technical assistance, including employee, tenant and custodial training contact a Republic Services Sustainability Advisor at 925.671.5860 or email [SustainabilityAdvisors@RepublicServices.com](mailto:SustainabilityAdvisors@RepublicServices.com).

For free resources including signs, posters and training videos visit, [RepublicServices.com/recyclesmartca](https://RepublicServices.com/recyclesmartca)



# Empty, Clean, and Dry Recycling



**Empty.** Remove any remaining food or liquid.



**Clean.** Lightly rinse or wipe the item.



**Dry.** Shake out excess moisture or air dry.

**If your recycling or organics cart is contaminated with unacceptable materials or overloaded, it may not be serviced and/or you may be charged a go-back fee.**

**E-Waste:** Call Republic Services to schedule a pick-up for a fee, or take most electronics to Concord Recycling or Rapid Recycle for FREE. Visit [RecycleSmart.org/hhw](https://recyclesmart.org/hhw) for details.

**Bulky Items:** Disposing of large appliances and other bulky items in or near your bins is not permitted, and could cause access and safety issues for service. You can schedule special pick-up services (rates vary by item) by calling Republic Services at 925.685.4711, or check out local business reuse, repair and thrift resources at [RecycleSmart.org/reuse/](https://recyclesmart.org/reuse/).

**Hazardous Waste:** Eligible businesses can take paint, fluorescent bulbs, chemicals and other hazardous materials to Central San’s Hazardous Waste Facility located at 4797 Imhoff Place in Martinez **for a fee**. Visit [CentralSan.org/hhw](https://CentralSan.org/hhw).

**Batteries:** Batteries contain hazardous materials that start fires and are harmful to the environment. Drop off batteries **for free** at a convenient recycling location listed below:

**Alamo**

CVS/Pharmacy  
3158 Danville Blvd.

**Blackhawk**

CVS/Pharmacy  
3420 Camino Tassajara

**Moraga**

Ace Hardware  
1409 Moraga Rd.

CVS/Pharmacy  
1480 Moraga Rd. #D  
580 Moraga Rd.

**Lafayette**

CVS/Pharmacy  
3625 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Ace Hardware  
3311 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

**Danville**

CVS/Pharmacy  
650 San Ramon Val.

Danville Music  
115 Town and Country

Walgreens  
611 San Ramon Val.

**Orinda**

CVS/Pharmacy  
50 Moraga Way

Rite Aid  
27 Orinda Way

**Walnut Creek**

CVS/Pharmacy  
1123 S. California Blvd.  
1914 Tice Valley Blvd.  
738 Bancroft Rd.

Rite Aid  
1526 Palos Verde Mall

Ace Hardware  
2044 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
CONCORD, CA  
PERMIT NO. 122



Republic Services of Contra Costa County  
441 N. Buchanan Circle, Pacheco, CA 94553  
925.685.4711 | [RepublicServices.com/recyclesmartca](https://RepublicServices.com/recyclesmartca)



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# Business Service Guide



Sustainability in Action



Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority





# Landfill

## Yes

- Plastic Utensils
- Plastic Packaging
- Compostable & Biodegradable Plastic
- Food Service Ware
- Juice Pouches
- Chip Bags
- Snack Wrappers
- Broken Dishware
- Expanded Polystyrene Foam
- Diapers
- Pet Waste
- Receipts
- Coated Paper (cups, cartons, boxes)
- Plastic (without recycling number)
- Non-Usable Textiles

## No

- Food Scraps
- Uncoated Food Soiled Paper
- Landscape Trimmings
- Recyclables
- Electronics
- Medicine
- Medical Sharps
- Batteries
- Fluorescent Bulbs
- Motor Oil/Filters
- Hazardous Waste



# Recycling

## Yes

- Empty, Clean, and Dry™ (#1-7) Plastic Containers
- Plastic Bags (clean and bundled)
- Metal Containers
- Clean Foil
- Glass Bottles and Jars
- Clean Paper (if shredded, put in clear bag)
- Clean Cardboards (flattened)

## No

- Food Scraps
- Food-Soiled Paper and Containers
- Garbage
- Paper Towels
- Paper Plates
- Organics
- Wood
- Expanded Polystyrene Foam
- Hazardous Waste
- Batteries
- Electronics
- Plastic Utensils
- Broken Glass



# Organics

## Yes

- Small Twigs and Branches (4' or less in length and 6" in diameter)
- Landscape Trimmings
- Uncoated Food-Soiled Paper (including napkins, paper towels, paper food cartons, pizza boxes)
- Raw and Cooked Food, Leftovers, To-Go Food
- Fruits and Vegetables (raw and cooked)
- Dairy Products
- Breads
- Meat and Seafood (including bones, shells)

## No

- Plastic
- Glass
- Metal
- Pet Waste
- Diapers
- Plastic Food Containers
- Compostable & Biodegradable Plastic
- Expanded Polystyrene Foam
- Treated or Painted Wood
- Coated Paper Products (including "shiny" paper cups, bowls, cartons, takeout boxes)



# Food Scraps

## Yes

- Fruits and Vegetables
- Dairy Products
- Breads
- Meat and Seafood (including bones, shells)
- Paper Towels and Napkins
- Plate Scrapings (unusable food, leftovers)

## No

- Landscape Trimmings
- Plastic
- Glass
- Metal
- Paper Products (except paper towels, napkins, coffee filters, tea bags)
- Pizza Boxes
- Pet Waste
- Diapers
- Plastic Food Containers
- Compostable & Biodegradable Plastic
- Expanded Polystyrene Foam
- Treated or Painted Wood

