Sustainable Benician

News on Community Recycling & Waste Services



Sustainability in Action

It's time to get ready for your spring garden.

Consider planting an extra row for Food is Free Solano or The Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano.

Free Compost Giveaway Saturday, March 23rd 9 AM–1 PM

First Baptist Church 1055 Southampton Rd., Benicia *Lower parking lot. Enter from Turner Dr.*

Bring your own containers. No bags please. For Benicia Residents only and by appointment to reduce waiting time. For instructions and to sign up, visit: **RepublicServices.com/BeniciaCA** and look for the "Compost Giveaway Signup" button.

Have questions? Want to be added to the reminder email blast? Contact MKnutson@ RepublicServices.com

Special thanks to First Baptist Church for the use of their lower lot.

Happy Gardening!



Other Sustainable Solano events in Benicia:

Reuse, Recycle, Organics (Free in-person class)

- Monday, March 25th, 6–7:30 PM
- Benicia Community Center, 370 East L Street, Benicia, Room 2

Hear the current status of recycling and SB 1383 foodwaste laws and learn, *"What goes where now?"* This is a hands-on presentation, by **Marie Knutson**, **Republic Services' Sustainability Advisor**. Plus, **Carla Murphy, a Vacaville Food Forest Keeper**, will share how she creatively repurposed "trash" items. Discover practical tips, and DIY projects that will inspire you to live greener. Bring your reuse ideas to share. From composting to upcycling, we have it covered!

Benicia Community Garden Annual Meeting

- Saturday, March 9th
- 10-11:30 AM
- Heritage Presbyterian Church, 1400 East 2nd St, Benicia

Join the annual meeting to discuss the 2024-2025 gardening season at Avant and Swenson gardens and sign the new agreement. Enjoy refreshments and lots of gardening information.

Benicia & Vallejo Annual Demonstration Food Forest Tour

- Saturday, April 27th
- 10 AM-4 PM

Tour the gardens and learn simple techniques that you can apply to your own yard to create a vibrant, food-producing ecosystem using water wisely.



To sign up for Classes and Tour please visit the calendar at SustainableSolano.org



Are you using your green yardwaste cart for food and food-soiled paper?

Senate Bill 1383 = Composting organics is the law. It's easy and a simple way to slow climate change. SB 1383 is a statewide effort to reduce emissions of short-lived pollutants by reducing organic waste disposal to 75% by 2025. Organic waste in landfills releases 20% of the state's methane, a climate super pollutant 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide.

Residents must:

- Subscribe and participate in your curbside organics program
- Properly sort your organics into the GREEN cart
- NOT put organics in your trash cart
- NOT put organics, including yardwaste, in your on-call trash cleanup. Use an on-call organics cleanup instead.

One of the provisions of the law requires auditing of residential garbage, recycle, and organics carts so it's important for the proper sorting of material into each cart.

Want more information? Go to calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/slcp/faq for Frequently Asked Questions or go to RepublicServices.com/BeniciaCA

How do you get your food scraps to your green cart? It's easy. Use a food waste pail. To keep it clean, you can line it with newspaper, a paper bag, or a 6400 series BPI-Certified Compostable bag (the only type of compostable plastic we can accept). If you don't have a pail, contact Customer Service, (707) 747-0608, and request one. *The pail is FREE*!





Important: Compostable plastics such as cold cups and utensils do not break down completely in our composting process. These should go in your garbage.



recycled paper

Celebrate Earth Day!

5 Earth Day Facts:

- Earth Day is on April 22nd every year. The 2024 theme is Planet vs. Plastics
- The first ever Earth Day was in 1970
- Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson invented Earth Day to combat the damage being done to the planet via contaminants like oil spills, pesticides, and deadly smog
- Earth Day started in the USA and is now a global event
- The Earth Day movement drove the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

5 Earth Facts:

- Earth isn't actually perfectly round
- Coral reefs are Earth's largest living structure
- Earth has a squishy interior
- Antarctica is home to the largest ice sheet on Earth
- The Moon is drifting away from Earth and the Earth's magnetic pole is creeping westward
 - from realsimple.com

For Earth Day information and events, visit **EarthDay.org**



