

City of Fairfield

Commercial Recycling, Organics and Waste Services



Compliance With Senate Bill 1383 and the Importance of Waste Separation

California’s Senate Bill 1383 (SB 1383) mandates that all residents and businesses participate in the City’s recycling and organics collection program to reduce landfill waste. Businesses must subscribe to the City’s recycling and organics collection service, or self-haul organic waste to approved composting facilities. Additionally, they are responsible for educating employees about proper waste separation procedures.

When organic materials such as food scraps and yard waste are disposed of in landfills, they produce methane, a potent greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change. According to CalRecycle, landfills are the third-largest source of methane in California, exacerbating environmental challenges, such as extreme weather patterns, prolonged droughts and devastating wildfires. Composting organic waste significantly reduces greenhouse gas emissions, helping California progress toward its sustainability goals.

Organic waste accounts for more than a third of California’s waste stream. Businesses play a critical role in minimizing landfill contributions, by ensuring proper waste separation. While the benefits of composting take time to materialize, immediate action is necessary to drive lasting change.



Commercial Site Visits and Educational Support



Republic Services, in collaboration with the City of Fairfield, conducts periodic site visits to businesses, multifamily properties and restaurants to ensure compliance with SB 1383. These visits help reduce contamination and confirm participation in recycling and organics programs. Sustainability Advisors review waste collection processes, assess contamination levels, and provide guidance on proper sorting practices.

Businesses seeking to enhance their waste management programs or ensure compliance with SB 1383 can contact Republic Services’ Sustainability Advisors for support. Services include training sessions, educational materials, signage, waste assessments and program setup assistance, all at no additional cost.

For expert guidance on SB 1383 compliance and sustainability practices, please contact one of our Sustainability Advisors:

- Raychel Rabine: RRabine@RepublicServices.com or call **707.437.8950**
- Sandra Jacobson: SGonzalez4@RepublicServices.com or call **707.437.8947**
- Yolanda Ramirez: YRamirez@RepublicServices.com or call **707.437.8950**

Keep Your Recycling and Organics Containers Free of Contamination

Contamination occurs when materials that **cannot** be recycled or composted are placed in recycling or organics containers. Contamination also means your business is **non-compliant** with California's mandatory recycling and organics law (Senate Bill 1383). To stay in compliance and support a successful recycling and organics program, please follow these guidelines:

Recycling Containers

- ▶ Only place empty and clean recyclable materials in the recycling container.
- ▶ Keep food, liquids and nonrecyclables out of the recycling stream.

Organics Containers

- ▶ Only place organic materials in the organics cart.

Do **not** place plastic bags in recycling or organics containers.

Commercial Cart Guidelines

If your commercial business has cart service, please follow these guidelines to ensure safe timely service.

- ▶ Place your cart out the evening before your service day, to allow for early morning pickup.
- ▶ Always remember to place your carts in the designated area and at least 2 feet apart from each other.
- ▶ The lid must be closed to minimize any debris being left behind on the ground.



Senate Bill (SB) 1383 Business Requirements

Organics recycling service

All businesses are required to subscribe to and participate in organics curbside collection service or self-haul organic waste to a specified composting facility.

Containers

Businesses must provide collection containers for organic waste and recyclables in all areas where trash containers are provided to employees, customers, contractors and tenants, except in restrooms. Containers must have a label or color to clarify their disposal stream.

Education

Businesses must provide education to employees, contractors, tenants and customers regarding how to properly sort organic material into the correct containers to reduce contamination. Businesses must provide information about proper sorting of organic and recyclable materials to new tenants within 14 days of occupation of the premises.

Monitoring

Businesses must periodically inspect organic waste containers for contamination, inform employees if containers are contaminated, and instruct employees on how to properly sort material into the correct containers.

Edible food recovery

Commercial food generators are required to donate edible food to feed people, reducing the organic waste that goes to the landfill. Edible food recovery programs feed hungry people, create new green jobs, and strengthen relationships between food donors and food recovery organizations.

Businesses subject to SB 1383's edible food recovery mandates must:

- ▶ Establish written agreements with food recovery organizations or services responsible for collecting or receiving edible food.
- ▶ Maintain monthly records documenting the type, frequency and quantity (in pounds) of food recovered.
- ▶ Ensure that edible food suitable for donation is not intentionally discarded or composted, but instead directed to food recovery efforts.
- ▶ For additional guidance on SB 1383 compliance, edible food recovery partnerships, or reporting requirements, businesses can contact: **SB1383@solanocounty.gov**.

Start donating food today!

Contact a local food recovery organization.

Contact **SB1383@solanocounty.gov**.