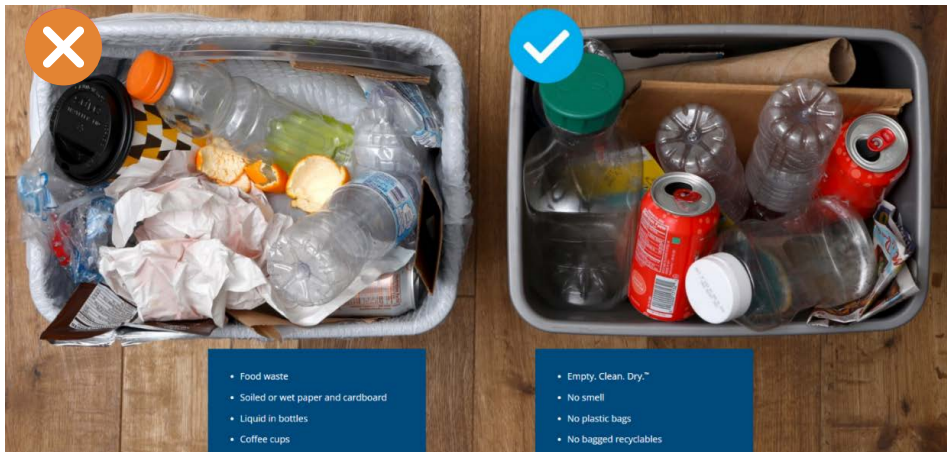


City of Garden Grove

800.700.8610 | RepublicServices.com/GardenGroveCA



Sustainability in Action



Know What Goes Where

- Keep recyclables clean and dry. Food residue, liquids and other contaminants can affect the quality of recyclable materials and may cause otherwise recyclable items to be discarded. Empty containers before recycling them. A quick rinse is usually all that is needed to remove leftover food or beverages and help keep recyclable materials clean.

- Recycle loose items in your cart. Bagged recyclables cannot be properly sorted at recycling facilities and may be removed from the recycling stream. Empty materials directly into the cart whenever possible.
- Recycle the right paper products. Clean paper, cardboard, newspapers, magazines, mail and paperboard boxes are accepted. Wet, greasy or heavily soiled paper should be placed in the trash.
- Leave plastic bags out of the recycling cart. Plastic bags, plastic film, shrink wrap and similar materials can become tangled in sorting equipment and create delays at recycling facilities.
- Keep flexible plastics out of recycling. Items such as chip bags, candy wrappers, bubble wrap and pouches are not accepted in most curbside recycling programs and should be disposed of in the trash.
- Recycle bottles, jars, cans and containers when they are empty and clean. Glass bottles and jars, metal food and beverage cans, and plastic bottles and jugs are valuable recyclable materials when properly prepared.

- Avoid wishcycling. Placing items in the recycling cart simply because they seem recyclable can increase contamination. If you are unsure whether an item is accepted, check local recycling guidelines before placing it in the cart.

Recycling

Acceptable Items

Paper & Cardboard

Plastic & Glass

Metal Cans

Empty. Clean. Dry.

Unacceptable Items

Dishes & Mirrors

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™

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Contamination Monitoring

In accordance with state law, Republic Services staff will be conducting annual contamination monitoring reviews. Representatives, in clearly identified uniforms, will be in the community reviewing the contents of yard waste, recycling and trash carts and dumpsters. If contamination is found, a tag will be placed on the cart or dumpster identifying the incorrect items. Residents are allowed three free passes before Republic Services can assess a contamination fee, while commercial accounts receive one free pass. Please note that these reviews are mandated by state law and will occur on an annual basis. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Download the Republic Services App

Republic Services gives you one simple tool to manage your account needs. Visit RepublicServices.com/Account/login to sign up or download the app. To view service schedules and access Track My Truck, customers should visit RepublicServices.com/schedule. By entering a service address, customers can see their collection schedule and review upcoming holiday service updates.

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Page 1

How Does Trash End Up in Our Ocean?

Ever wonder how trash ends up in our waterways and oceans? You don't have to look far for the source. In fact, 80% of the trash found in the ocean comes from land sources, such as littered packaging. The top marine pollutants are cigarette butts, food wrappers, bottle caps, plastic straws, water bottles, bags and cutlery.

If someone litters, the trash can end up in our storm drains. The storm drain system is not treated, so any trash that makes it to the drain will pollute our creeks, rivers and the ocean. When recycling and trash carts are not properly closed, waste can be blown away by the wind. This is especially true for lightweight items, like plastic bags and food wrappers. Once these items are in the environment, rain or runoff can drag them into our storm drains and eventually our ocean.

The most effective way to prevent trash from polluting our oceans and waterways is to stop it at the source. Here are some easy ways to get started:

- Always secure the lid on recycling and trash carts.
- Bring your own to-go containers when dining out.
- Pack a waste-free lunch with reusable baggies or food containers.
- Bring a reusable water bottle wherever you go.
- Recycle and reuse products whenever possible.
- Always throw cigarette butts in a designated ash tray.
- Spread the word! Talk to your friends and family about how you can stop pollution in your everyday life.

Clear the Clutter This Fall

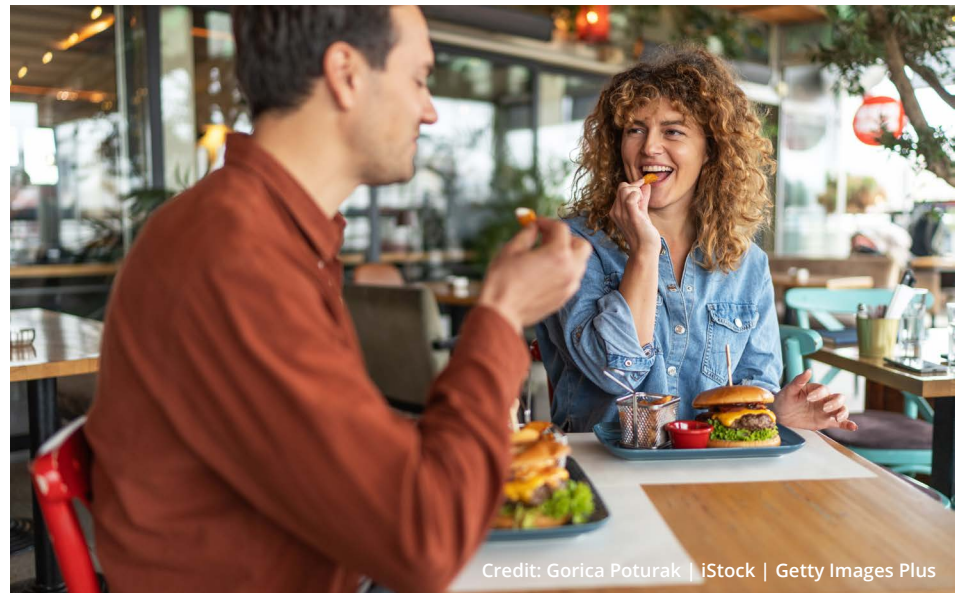
- Visit your local thrift store to find your next Halloween costume, or reuse your costume purchases from previous years.
- Participate in your local "Buy Nothing" group on social media. Your neighbors may need to re-home their previously used toys, costumes, and decorations.
- Properly dispose of fallen 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 nonprofit or food recovery organization.

Keep FOG Out of Your Drains

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 our streets and waterways. To keep your home's plumbing and Brea's sewer system flowing smoothly, follow these three simple steps:

1. Pour liquid FOG, like oil or grease, into a sealable bag, jar, or container, then place it into the trash.
2. Scrape food scraps containing FOG into your organics container.
3. Wipe remaining grease and food debris from dishes and pans with a paper towel, then toss it into your organics container.

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!



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 onsite consumption. You can download container and cabinet labels from [RecyclingSimplified.com/business-resources](https://www.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**.



Credit: 1shot Production | iStock | Getty Images Plus

Give Good Food a Second Life

- Practice FIFO (first in, first out): consistently check to make sure that you are rotating food based on expiration dates.
- Sign up for food apps that discount food items, such as Too Good to Go and Flash Food.
- Repurpose cosmetically imperfect but safe produce (and other extra food) into fruit bowls, juices, soups or casseroles.
- Order smartly: consider what is in season and historical patterns.
- Participate in internal food donation programs –
 - o If you have a business, consider giving extra food to your employees.
 - o If you hosted an event or made extra food at home, bring these goodies to your work for others to enjoy so nothing goes to waste.
 - o Join local Facebook or Nextdoor groups to give perfectly good food to others in your local community.

Republic Services provides both single-family and multi-family residents with convenient pickups for bulk items and electronics by appointment. Each household may request up to three bulk item pickups per year, with a total of 10 items accepted per pickup, at no additional cost. To schedule this service, simply call Republic Services Customer Service at **800.700.8610** at least 24 hours before your regular collection day to request a bulk item pickup. Once you have made the call, a truck will be scheduled to collect your bulk items on your next regular collection day.



See Something, Say Something

Report Illegal Dumping

When you spot an illegal dump site, don't ignore it. Instead, note the location and report it to the City. 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, as well as vehicle make, color, and license plate number. Call the City's Public Works Department at **714.741.5375** or the Garden Grove Police Department's nonemergency number, **714.741.5704**, to report this activity. Working together, we can keep our community looking good for residents and visitors.

Unused or expired medications left in your home can lead to accidental poisoning or allow access for misuse of medications. Many local drugstores accept medications for proper disposal. You can quickly search online for “medication disposal near me” to locate permanent disposal locations nearby. For more details, visit [OCLandfills.com/hazardous-waste/medication-and-sharps-disposal](https://www.oclandfills.com/hazardous-waste/medication-and-sharps-disposal).



The Garden Grove Police Department hosts two annual drug take-back events in coordination with the Drug Enforcement Administration's National Drug Take Back Program. Look for information about the next National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, scheduled to take place in October, on the City website or social media accounts.



Please break down and flatten all cardboard and paperboard boxes. First, it will save a lot of room in your recycling container. Second, it keeps items from getting caught inside the box. At the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), staff members and machines work together to identify and sort materials as they travel rapidly over and through equipment. When other recyclables are inside boxes, they aren't visible and can't be separated by category, leading to contaminated bales of boxes and lost recyclable containers. Thank you for your help!



TAKE CHARGE. STAY SAFE.

DON'T Recycle or Trash Lithium Batteries at Home

Lithium batteries are extremely popular because they are reliable and long-lasting. These types of batteries are found in a wide range of devices, including cell phones, power tools, laptops, tablets, children's toys, scooters, electric toothbrushes and more.



PREVENT FIRES

Lithium and lithium-ion batteries, which are made from highly flammable materials, can pose a serious fire risk.¹ If overheated, punctured or faulty, these batteries can cause fires or explode.



PROTECT PEOPLE

Lithium battery fires are incredibly difficult to extinguish and may reignite days later. When batteries fail, they can release toxic gases that endanger individuals in their homes and workplaces.

DO'S & DON'TS

DON'T

Overcharge lithium batteries or leave them plugged in overnight.

DON'T

Throw away lithium batteries in the trash.

DON'T

Try to recycle lithium batteries at home.

DO

Store batteries between 40°F and 80°F.

DO

Cover battery terminals with electrical tape and/or place them in separate plastic bags when disposing.

DO

Dispose of lithium-ion batteries at designated recycling or household hazardous waste collection centers.



LEARN MORE AT:

RepublicServices.com/LithiumBatteries



REPUBLIC[®]

SERVICES

Sustainability in Action

1. https://ehs.oregonstate.edu/sites/ehs.oregonstate.edu/files/pdf/si/lithium_fire_prevention_si093.pdf

Free Community Cleanup Days

The City of Garden Grove and Garden Grove Sanitary District, in partnership with Republic Services, host a series of community cleanup days throughout the city to help residents properly dispose of furniture, large bulk items, non-refrigerant appliances, scrap metal, electronic waste, tree limbs (4-foot length maximum), brush, leaves and lawn clippings at no additional cost.

These are self-service events, so residents need to be prepared to unload their own items from their vehicles. The locations change for every event to make these events convenient for all residents. All cleanups run from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

- Saturday, November 7 – Garden Grove Municipal Service Center, 13802 Newhope St.

Events will NOT accept hazardous waste (such as paints, oils, chemicals, pesticides, batteries or LED lights); construction and demolition materials (such as concrete, dirt, rocks, brick, asphalt, sand or treated/painted wood); tires; large appliances (such as refrigerators, freezers and AC units); and palm fronds. For a full list of unacceptable items, visit GGcity.org/cleanup-days.

Dates and locations may be subject to change. Check the City website and social media platforms for updates, or call **714.741.5344** for more information.

Holiday Collection Schedule

- Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, November 26, 2026 (service delayed one day)
- Christmas Day – Friday, December 25, 2026 (service delayed one day)
- New Year’s Day – Friday, January 1, 2027 (service delayed one day)



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Contact Us

Republic Services
Collection Service, Billing,
Public Disposal Center
800.700.8610

Household Hazardous Waste
714.834.6752
Residential Motor Oil Collection
800.449.7587
Public Works-Related Issues
714.741.5375

What Do I Do With My Organics?

Residents

If you have carts that are collected curbside by Republic Services, food scraps and food-soiled paper go into your organics cart mixed with yard trimmings. If you live in a multi-family complex with dumpsters, food scraps go into the green or brown organics cart or the organics dumpster with the green or brown lid at your property. Your property should have food waste collection containers. If your property does not, please contact your property management or Republic Services at **800.700.8610**. Please do not bag food scraps in plastic bags. Place loose food scraps and food-soiled paper into the cart or dumpster. You may use paper bags or newspaper. It is recommended to use a kitchen pail or similar container to take materials from your kitchen to your green or brown containers for collection by Republic Services. Garden Grove residents may pick up a free kitchen pail from Republic Services. For more information, please visit GGcity.org/news/kitchen-pails-organics.

Businesses

All commercial businesses should now have recycling and organics recycling programs in place. Republic Services offers FREE technical assistance to help you with these recycling programs. Call Republic Services at **714.238.3300** to be connected with a Sustainability Advisor who can provide additional advice or can assist with adjusting service levels for your business’s unique needs.

Inspections

Republic Services will be conducting cart and dumpster inspections throughout the year to ensure proper sorting and disposal of materials. You may see uniformed Republic Services staff reviewing the contents of your recycling, organics and trash containers. If an improper item is found, a courtesy tag will be placed on the cart notifying you of the incorrect items. These educational reviews are mandated by Senate Bill (SB) 1383 and will occur on an annual basis. You may receive additional charges if the Garden Grove Sanitary District or Republic Services staff continuously finds improper items in your containers. If you have any questions on how to properly dispose of any materials, please call Republic Services at **714.238.3300**.

Additional Information

For the latest updates regarding organics recycling in Garden Grove, please visit GGcity.org/organics or RepublicServices.com/GardenGroveCA.

Organics

Acceptable Items

✓ Yard Waste

✓ Food Waste

✓ Food-Soiled Paper & Paper Bags*

*You can place food in a paper bag.

Unacceptable Items

✗ Recyclables

✗ Plastic Bags & Wrap

✗ Fats, Oil & Grease

✗ Construction Waste

✗ Trash & Pet Waste

✗ Hazardous Waste

Republic Services is the **sole provider** of waste services in the City of Garden Grove.

RepublicServices.com/GardenGroveCA

