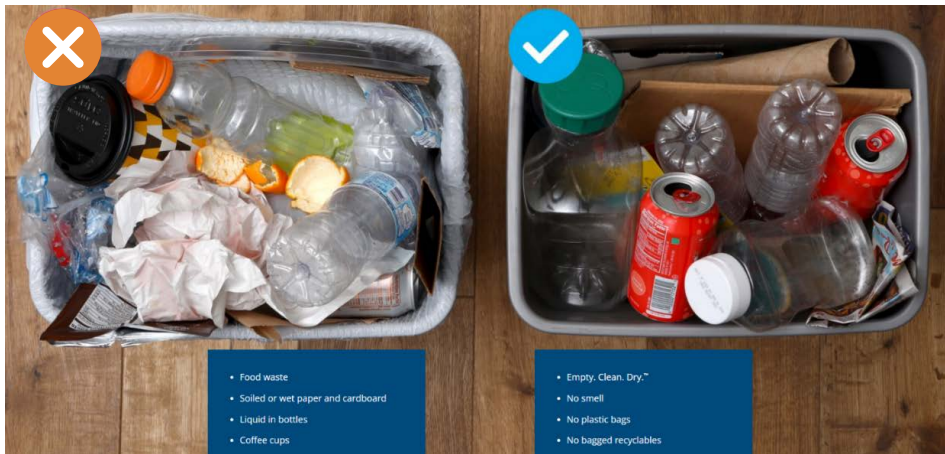


City of Fountain Valley

714.847.3581 | RepublicServices.com/FountainValleyCA



Sustainability in Action



What Happens to Recyclables in Orange County?

Republic Services operates dozens of recycling sorting and processing facilities across North America, including the Anaheim Recycling Center (CVT) right here in Orange County. This center, which was destroyed by fire in 2022, reopened in the spring of 2025. As rebuilt, it has twice the processing capacity of the previous facility.

At the center, three sorting lines receive incoming recyclables.

As materials flow through a complex system of conveyors, a combination of sorting machines and staff members separate materials by type. The machines include sensors and software that identify and direct materials quickly. The human sorters focus on quality control and contaminant removal. The newly rebuilt center also includes state-of-the-art fire detection and suppression systems.

The center features a learning center with an observation deck, allowing visitors to see how we process the recyclables from Fountain Valley and surrounding areas. Community groups and schools are welcome to schedule tours.

Taking It to the Next Level

After separation, materials like paper and cardboard are baled and shipped directly to manufacturing facilities. However, some materials, such as plastics, require additional processing before they are ready for reuse.

Republic Services has made a commitment to ensure that plastics find their highest and best use in domestic manufacturing. To that end, Republic Services has opened its first two regional polymer centers where bales of recycled plastic go through a secondary sorting process.

“As a leader in the environmental services industry, it’s our responsibility to challenge every truckload of material we collect,” said Jon Vander Ark, president and chief executive officer. “The Polymer Center is another example of our commitment to developing solutions that promote greater circularity and help customers achieve their sustainability goals.”

At the polymer centers, plastic bottles, jugs and tubs are first separated by type into PET (water or soda bottles), HDPE (milk or detergent jugs) and PP (yogurt cups and dairy tubs). Then HDPE and PP are further separated by color. Once separated and then cleaned, the plastic can go onto manufacturers to become new beverage bottles, custom containers and other plastic products.

To learn more about the Republic Services polymer centers, visit RepublicServices.com/sustainability/climate-leadership/polymer-center.



Look for Republic Services at community events for information on proper handling of recyclables, organics and trash.

Holiday Collection Schedule

- Labor Day – Monday, September 7, 2026 (service delayed one day)
- 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)



Facts About the Anaheim Recycling Center (CVT)

- 280,000 square feet
- 180+ employees
- Processes 185,000+ tons of recyclable material per year
- Serves 26 municipalities and jurisdictions, including 442,000 homes
- Produces 1,600 bales of recyclables per week, and an estimated 83,000 bales per year

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Mark Your Calendar

- **Paper Shredding & E-Waste Event** - Saturday, September 12, 2026, from 9 to 12 p.m. on the frontage road of the Fountain Valley Recreation Center & Sports Park, located at 16400 Brookhurst Street, Fountain Valley. Residents and businesses are invited to bring up to five (5) bankers-size boxes of paper for shredding. In addition, residents can drop off electronic waste.
- **Concerts in the Park** - Join us for lots of fun at the FV Recreation Center & Sports Park on the following dates for Fountain Valley Concerts in the Park. Concerts in the Park will feature nonprofit food booths, a drink garden and so much fun for people of all ages. All concerts run from 6 to 8 p.m.
 - o Thursday, July 23
 - o Thursday, July 30

Additional compost giveaway events may be scheduled throughout the year. Check the City's website for more information and updates.

Simple Tips for a More Sustainable Summer

If you are headed outside this summer, below are some ideas to keep your outing sustainable. These tips reduce waste, cut down on extra packaging and are easy to take with you on the go.

- Store food in reusable containers.
- Bring refillable water bottles.
- Choose cloth napkins instead of paper napkins.
- Buy snacks in bulk when possible.
- Prepare food at home in reusable containers to avoid single-use plastics.
- Bring a small cooler or insulated bag to keep food safe.
- Plan for leftovers before the picnic begins.

Help Keep Fountain Valley Clean

Not only are illegally dumped items unsightly, but they can also create health and safety hazards and decrease property values. Here's what you can do to help prevent and clean up illegal dumping.

- When you see litter, pick it up. An area that is clean and clear of litter is more likely to stay that way.
- Use appropriate carts for all organics, recycling and trash.
- Don't set large items that need to be disposed of, such as appliances or furniture, outside until after you make a call to schedule a bulk item pickup.
- When you spot an illegal dump site, don't ignore it. Instead, note the location, and report it to the City of Fountain Valley.
- 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 and/or vehicle, as well as the license plate number. Call the Police Department's non-emergency number to report this activity.
- Take part in community cleanup programs to help keep your city looking good for residents and visitors.

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.
- Flatten cardboard boxes before placing them in your recycling cart. Flattening boxes creates more space in the cart and helps improve collection and processing efficiency.
- 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 wish-cycling. 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.
- Small actions make a big difference. Taking a few extra moments to sort materials correctly helps reduce contamination, improve recycling efficiency and ensure more materials can be made into new products.



Compost shouldn't look like this! If you have a green cart for mixed yard and food waste, please don't use plastic bags. The material collected from the green carts goes directly to a composting facility that doesn't have equipment to remove bags.

What Do I Do With My Organics?

When food and yard waste end up in landfills, they decompose and release methane, a greenhouse gas. In fact, landfills contribute more than 20% of methane emissions. Senate Bill (SB) 1383 is a state law aimed at reducing greenhouse gas.

The law set an ambitious goal to reduce the amount of organic waste sent to California landfills by 75% by 2025. To reach that target, cities like Fountain Valley have rolled out programs that change the way residents handle food scraps, yard trimmings and food-soiled paper. Organic waste includes everything from leftover cooked meat, fish, poultry and bones, to fruits, vegetables, bread, rice, pasta and grains. It also covers food-soiled paper products like napkins, wet paper towels and coffee filters, as well as yard debris such as grass clippings, leaves, small branches and garden waste. Instead of throwing these items in the trash, residents are asked to keep them separate and dispose of them with their yard trimmings.

To support this effort, the City of Fountain Valley is offering free kitchen food scrap pails to residents while supplies last. These can be picked up at City Hall, located at 10200 Slater Ave., during regular business hours from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday. The pails help make it easier to collect food scraps in the kitchen before transferring them to the proper outdoor bin.

For single-family households, food scraps and food-soiled paper should go directly into the green cart with yard waste, without being bagged in plastic. Paper bags or newspapers can be used to contain scraps and absorb liquids. To keep the green cart clean and reduce odors, residents can layer food scraps between dry materials like leaves or cardboard, or sprinkle baking soda in the bottom of the cart. One important reminder for residents with cart service is that plastic bags, even those labeled compostable or biodegradable, are not allowed for food scraps. All food waste must be placed loose in the bin, wrapped in paper, or collected in a paper bag.

Multi-family tenants have a food waste-only program and will place organics into a cart or dumpster with a brown lid designated for food waste only. Since multi-family containers are considered commercial and the material is processed differently, tenants may bag their food waste in clear plastic bags before placing it into the designated container. All organics must be placed inside the container with the lid fully closed and nothing sticking out or left on the ground.

These changes are part of a broader effort to keep organic material out of landfills, protect air quality, and build a more sustainable California. For more information about Fountain Valley's organics program, visit RepublicServices.com/FountainValleyCA.



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 feature discounted food items, such as Too Good to Go and Flash Food.
- Repurpose cosmetically imperfect but safe produce (and other extra food) into fruit salads, soups, sauces, juices or casseroles.
- Look at your family's schedule for the week before planning meals and shopping.
- 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.
- Share surplus produce from your garden or fruit trees with friends and neighbors.
- Join local Facebook or NextDoor groups to give perfectly good food to others in your community.

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

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What to Do With Bulk Trash Items

Single-Family Units: By appointment, Republic Services provides pickup for large items at the curb. Residents may request up to four bulk item pickups at no charge during each calendar year. Each of these pickups is limited to 10 bulk items. Items should weigh no more than 40 pounds and be no more than 6 feet long. Additional bulk waste pickup is available year-round for a fee. To schedule this service, simply call Republic Services Customer Service at **714.847.3581** at least 48 hours before your regular collection day to request a bulk item pickup.

Multi-Family Units: For a fee, bulk item pickups are available by appointment. Speak to your property manager about how to handle bulk trash items, or call Republic Services at **714.847.3581** for details and to schedule a pickup.

Summer 2026

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COMMERCIAL INFORMATION

Edible Food Recovery

Each year, Californians throw away enough fresh, edible food to make 2.5 billion meals. At the same time, one in five residents struggles with food insecurity, often facing impossible choices between putting food on the table and paying for housing or medical bills. This staggering imbalance is at the heart of California's push to reduce food waste and feed more people in need.

Senate Bill 1383, a groundbreaking California law, requires that the state must recover 20% of edible food that would otherwise be sent to landfills. The goal is not only to ease hunger but also to cut down on the methane emissions created when organic waste, like food, decomposes in landfills. Methane is a powerful climate pollutant, and reducing its release is key to addressing climate change.

To meet this goal, cities and counties across California are required to build or expand local food recovery programs. Businesses that regularly generate surplus food must make every effort to recover as much edible food as possible, diverting it from the trash and into the hands of those who need it. Organizations and services involved in this process are expected to track and report their food recovery efforts to help ensure the system is effective and accountable.

In Fountain Valley, Republic Services and the City have teamed up with Abound Food Care, a nonprofit that connects surplus food with food banks, pantries, soup kitchens and other community organizations. This partnership is part of a larger statewide effort to build a stronger, more resilient food recovery network. Residents and businesses can learn more about how local food recovery works and get involved by visiting AboundFoodCare.org.

Mandatory Recycling for Food-Service Businesses

- **Assembly Bill (AB) 827** – Limited-service restaurants in California must now 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 bins. Full-service restaurants need to provide separate bins for use by employees. This law also applies to food courts and other businesses that sell food for on-site consumption.

Commercial Organics Collection

Only commercial facilities, including businesses and multi-family properties, with "Food Waste-Only" organics collection service may use plastic bags to dispose of food scraps. The organics collected from commercial facilities in Fountain Valley are delivered to a processing center where bags are ripped open and separated from the organics. To see this in action, visit Bit.ly/4aatmG1.

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.

Main Sources of Trash in the Ocean

- **Litter Bugs:** 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.
- **Gone With the Wind:** 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.

Even if you live miles from the coast, all our actions impact the health of our waterways. The most effective way to prevent trash from polluting our oceans and waterways is to stop it at the source.

Trash Pollution Prevention

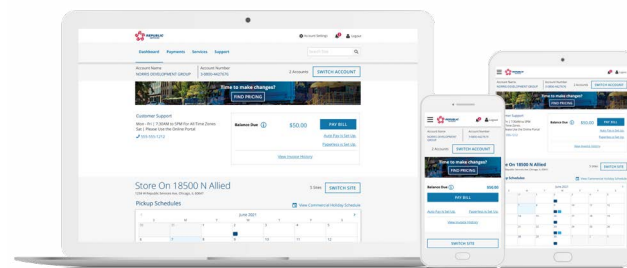
Each of us has the power to stop trash from getting into our waterways. Pledge to do at least one of the following:

- 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.

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.



Contact Us

Republic Services

17121 Nichols Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92647

714.847.3581 | Recycle437@RepublicServices.com

RepublicServices.com/FountainValleyCA

