

Mandatory Commercial Organic Waste and Recycling Law

Assembly Bill (AB) 341 Mandatory Commercial Recycling (MCR) requires businesses generating 4 cubic yards or more of trash per week to have recycling service.

Senate Bill (SB) 1383 California’s Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Reduction Strategy: Composting organics is the law in California! When organic material (food scraps, food-soiled paper and yard waste) goes to the landfill, it emits harmful greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change.

Businesses are required to:

- ✓ Subscribe to a collection service for recycling and organics, and sort waste in the correct container.
- ✓ Annually educate employees on proper waste sorting.

Edible Food Recovery: Large food-generating businesses (i.e., supermarkets) may be required to implement a surplus edible food recovery program. For more information, please visit: [Tinyurl.com/RecycleMoreFoodRecovery](https://tinyurl.com/RecycleMoreFoodRecovery).

SB 1383 Waivers: Businesses that generate less than 20 gallons of organic material per week, or lack adequate space for organics containers, may qualify for an organics waiver. Think you qualify? Apply at: [Tinyurl.com/1383waiver](https://tinyurl.com/1383waiver).

Customer Access to Organics and Recycling (AB 827) Businesses selling food for on-site consumption must provide front-of-house, clearly labeled recycling and organics containers next to trash bins, to collect waste from on-site products. Full-service restaurants must instead provide labeled recycling and organics containers in back-of-house areas for employee use.

New Bag Requirements SB 1046 & SB 1053 Starting January 1, 2025, businesses may only provide pre-checkout bags that are compostable (meeting state standards) or that are made from recycled paper. Beginning January 1, 2026, all take-out bags must be recycled paper, with a minimum \$0.10 charge per bag—including at checkout, self-checkout, in-store pickup and delivery. For details, please visit: [TinyURL.com/CalRecycleBagRequirements](https://tinyurl.com/CalRecycleBagRequirements).



Commercial Hazardous Waste

Improper disposal of hazardous waste is illegal and dangerous! Hazardous waste found in ANY of your collection containers is considered contamination and is subject to an additional charge or non-collection. Your business may qualify to drop off waste at the West Contra Costa HHW Collection Facility in Richmond. Please visit [Recyclemore.com/hazardous-waste/vsqq/](https://recyclemore.com/hazardous-waste/vsqq/) for eligibility requirements.

Locking Containers



Commercial customers may request locking dumpsters or carts. Lock and key service is available for a monthly fee. Please call **510.262.7100** to arrange this service.

Container Exchanges & Repairs

For lost, stolen or damaged containers, please call **510.262.7100** to schedule a delivery or repair. No-charge container exchange options may be available for your business.

Service Day Guidelines

- For missed pickups, general questions or service help, give customer service a call at **510.262.7100**.
- ✓ Metal dumpsters must be accessible for service by 4 a.m. on service day or set out the night before. Carts must be curbside by 6 a.m. or the night before.
 - ✓ Lids must close. Overloaded dumpsters may not be serviced, or you may be charged an overage fee.
 - ✓ Waste must be sorted into the correct containers. Contaminated dumpsters may not be serviced, or you may be charged a contamination fee.
 - ✓ Keep containers accessible and free from obstruction during your service day. Fees may be assessed for return trips when a dumpster is blocked from access at the time of collection.



Holiday Schedule

If any of the following holidays falls on a Monday–Friday, service will be delayed by one day for the remainder of the week: July 4 (Independence Day), Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas Day, New Year’s Day.



Commercial Waste Collection Service Guide



Sustainability in Action

Organics

Recycling

All recyclables must be empty, clean and dry!

Landfill

Interior Collection Containers

Republic Services offers interior recycling and organics collection containers (supplied by RecycleMore) at no additional cost to your waste bill. To request containers for your business, call 510.262.7140 or email RecyclingCoordinators@RepublicServices.com.

- Yes

 - ✓ Meat and seafood (including bones and shells)
 - ✓ Yard trimmings
 - ✓ Fruits and vegetables
- ✓ Food-soiled paper (e.g. napkins, paper towels and brown cardboard)
 - ✓ Dairy products
 - ✓ Bread
- Yes

 - ✓ Rigid plastic bottles and containers
 - ✓ Metal
- ✓ Glass
 - ✓ Paper
 - ✓ Flattened cardboard



- Yes

 - ✓ Plastic utensils
 - ✓ Packing peanuts
 - ✓ Snack wrappers/bags
 - ✓ Dishware
- ✓ Diapers and pet waste
 - ✓ Styrofoam™
 - ✓ Clothing and bedding



No bag is best! If a bag is required, please use paper bags. Plastic bags will be considered contamination.



No bag is best! Please place recyclables loose in the container. Clear plastic bags or paper bags are the only bags accepted in recycling.



IMPORTANT: DO NOT place batteries in ANY collection containers! This creates serious fire risk and endangers the community.

No – These items are considered contamination

- | | | |
|------------|----------------|---|
| ✗ Plastic | ✗ Batteries | ✗ Biodegradable or compostable rigid plastics |
| ✗ Glass | ✗ Pet waste | |
| ✗ Metal | ✗ Diapers | |
| ✗ Wrappers | ✗ Plastic bags | |

No – These items are considered contamination

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------|------------------------------|
| ✗ Food scraps | ✗ Batteries | ✗ Hazardous waste |
| ✗ Trash | ✗ Hot ashes | |
| ✗ Wood | ✗ Electronics | ✗ Yard trimmings |
| ✗ Styrofoam™ | ✗ Paper towels | ✗ Plastic bags, plastic film |

No – These items are considered contamination

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|---------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| ✗ Recyclables | ✗ Batteries | ✗ Hazardous waste |
| ✗ Electronics | ✗ Fluorescent bulbs | ✗ Food scraps |
| ✗ Sharps | ✗ Motor oil/filters | ✗ Yard trimmings |
| ✗ Medicine | | ✗ Hot ashes |

Technical Assistance & Resources

Republic Services' Sustainability Advisors can guide you through state and local waste regulations, ensure compliance, and optimize your waste services to help you reduce contamination and avoid overage charges.

We offer a range of no-cost support, including:

- ✓ Educational materials and signage
- ✓ Staff trainings and presentations
- ✓ Waste assessments and program setup
- ✓ Recommendations for service improvements
- ✓ Answers to any waste-related questions

To schedule a site visit, request materials, or arrange a training in English or Spanish, contact 510.262.7140 or email RecyclingCoordinators@RepublicServices.com.