



BURRTEC NEWS

WASTE AND RECYCLING NEWSLETTER

Fall 2022



Sponsored by Burrtec Waste Industries for the City of Highland
Commercial, Industrial and Multifamily Customers

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What is organic waste?

Organic waste is any material that is biodegradable and comes from either a plant or an animal.

Examples of organic waste include the following material types:

- Food waste
- Food scraps
- Non-edible food
- Food soiled paper
- Non-hazardous wood waste
- Green waste (known as landscape or pruning waste)



SENATE BILL 1383 ORGANICS DIVERSION AND RECYCLING ARE YOU IN COMPLIANCE?



HOW DOES THIS AFFECT MY BUSINESS OR PROPERTY?

Businesses and multifamily properties are required to:

- Subscribe to recycling and/or organic waste collection service provided by Burrtec. (Customer must secure containers provided by Burrtec. If lost or stolen, customers are responsible for container replacement cost.)
- Annually provide information to employees, contractors, tenants, and customers about recycling, organic waste collection requirements and proper sorting of materials.
- Ensure employees, contractors, tenants, and customers have access to an adequate number, size, and location of containers with appropriate labels and container color.
- Provide containers for the collection of all waste streams including trash, food waste and recyclables in all areas where disposal containers are provided for customers, except for restrooms.
- Provide information to new tenants before or within 14 days of occupation of the premises.
- Prohibit employees from placing recycling and organic waste in a container not designated to receive those materials types.

WHAT ARE THE ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS?

Supermarkets, grocery stores, food service providers, distributors, or wholesale food vendors have additional edible food recovery requirements such as:

- Not intentionally spoiling edible food that is capable of being recovered by a food recovery organization or service.
- Making arrangements via contract with a food recovery organization or service to recover edible food that would be redistributed for human consumption.

WHY IS ORGANIC WASTE A PROBLEM?

- The state agency CalRecycle reports that organic waste in landfills accounts for 20 percent of the methane gas generated in California and that methane emissions reductions help in combating climate change.

For more information about edible food requirements, please visit calrecycle.ca.gov

Holiday Schedule

Please note that services are interrupted on the following holidays:

Memorial Day		Independence Day		Labor Day
Thanksgiving Day		Christmas Day*		New Year's Day*



***Due to the 2022 Christmas and 2023 New Year's Day holidays on Sunday, there will be no service interruptions or delays during the holiday weeks.**



When the holiday falls on a weekday, collections for the remainder of the week will be delayed by one day. There is no service interruption or delay when the holiday falls on a Saturday or Sunday.

Help Keep Your Recycling Clean

As of 2018, China, the largest market for the world's recycling materials, enforced the new "National Sword" policy. This policy banned numerous materials including several types of plastics, unsorted mixed paper and set strict standards for contamination levels. This policy has impacted recycling operations across the United States. Stakeholders are now faced with the challenges of processing recyclables that have little to no market value. Lowering the levels of contamination and understanding that certain materials may no longer be recyclable can help. We need your support. In order to continue pursuing alternative markets and help contain costs, please help lower the levels of contamination by only placing acceptable materials in your recycling container.

Sorted recycle bales are shipped to recycling manufacturing companies and made into new products. At the sorting line at the Material Recovery Facility (MRF), workers must remove any contaminants— this is an essential but also time-consuming step that can slow down the process. If any contaminants are missed in the sorting process, the finished recycle bales could be rejected by recycling manufacturers and, therefore, not acceptable to be recycled. Keeping your containers free of trash and non-recyclable contaminants will help reduce recycling costs. Spread the message, "Help keep your recycling clean!"



Attention Food Service Providers

Existing state law requires businesses that generate 2 cubic yards or more of commercial solid waste per week to implement a recycling and organics program. Effective July 1, 2020, the State of California now requires food establishments that provide trash containers for products purchased and consumed on the premises to also provide properly labeled containers for recyclables and organic waste (food waste). These containers must be placed adjacent to trash containers.

The new law applies to limited-service restaurants such as those restaurants where customers order and pay at the counter and bus their own tables after eating. The law will affect restaurants, malls, and other businesses that serve food. Full-service food establishments that do not provide access to trash containers for products consumed on the premises will be exempt, as food workers will likely separate post-consumer food waste and recyclables in the dish washing areas.



Requirements

- AB 827 requires collection containers at the front-of-house to be visible, accessible, and labeled.
- This law affects businesses that sell products that are meant for immediate consumption.
- Full-service restaurants where employees bus and clean tables are exempt but must provide labeled collection containers adjacent to trash containers for employees/staff to separate post-consumer recyclables and organics.

For further information regarding this law, please visit <https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov>

Make Your Recycling Program a Success!

Ensuring the success of your recycling program depends on a few key elements; most importantly assistance from employees and/or residents.

Here are a few pointers to get you started in the right direction:



Post signage to remind employees and/or residents to recycle specific items (cardboard, paper, etc.). Communication is essential! Newsletters and flyers also reinforce the message.



Placement of recycling containers next to trash containers increases the chances of getting more recyclables into the correct container.



Emptying recycling containers into the proper recycling bin will ensure that your business or multi-family residential dwelling is doing their part to lower costs and reduce landfill waste.

