



Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling



What you need to know:

The passage of Assembly Bill 1826, Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling, aims to reduce organic waste going to the landfill. This new law requires recycling of organics to be phased in over several years in order for California to recycle 75% of its waste by 2020.

Businesses, including public entities, and multi-family complexes of 5 units or more* are required to recycle their organic waste on and after April 1, 2016, depending on the amount they generate per week. Organic waste is defined as: food waste, green waste, landscape and pruning waste, nonhazardous wood waste, and food-soiled paper.

*Multi-family complexes need only to arrange for green waste recycling services.

Starting dates for organic recycling programs:

April 1, 2016 - generators of 8 or more cubic yards of organic waste per week

January 1, 2017 - generators of 4 or more cubic yards of organic waste per week

January 1, 2019 - generators of 4 or more cubic yards of solid waste per week

Organic recycling services:

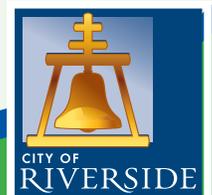
Most organic waste is recyclable through methods such as composting, mulching, and anaerobic digestion. Organic recycling services often accept a wide variety of different types of organic waste.

The requirement to recycle organic waste can be met by taking one or any combination of the following actions:

1. Source-separate organic waste from other waste and subscribe to an organic waste recycling service that specifically includes collection and recycling of organic waste. Contact your current hauler for organic recycling services.
2. Recycle organic waste onsite, or self-haul organic waste for organic recycling.
3. Subscribe to an organic waste recycling service that includes mixed waste processing that specifically recycles organic waste.
4. Sell or donate the generated organic waste.

For more information on the law:

Go to CalRecycles' Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling webpage at calrecycle.ca.gov. This site explains the requirements of the law and has helpful information, including links on food waste management and composting.



Please contact your current refuse and/or recycling hauler for assistance. They can provide you with a free waste assessment and determine a program suitable for your needs. Or contact the City of Riverside Public Works Department at 826-5311.

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