

## DID YOU KNOW?

Recyclable organic waste accounts for approximately 40% of the material Californians dispose of in landfills annually as per CalRecycle. Recycling organic waste can save Costa mesa businesses money by reducing disposal costs while supporting green jobs in our community.

## AB 1826 IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

Businesses and multifamily complexes must follow the following implementation schedule for recycling organic waste:

April 1, 2016: Businesses that generate 8 cubic yards of organic waste per week.

January 1, 2017: Businesses that generate 4 cubic yards of organic waste per week.

January 1, 2019: Businesses that generate 4 cubic yards of commercial solid waste per week.

Summer/Fall 2021(2): Businesses that generate 2 cubic yards of commercial solid waste per week.\*

\*Takes effect if CalRecycle determines that statewide disposal of organic waste in 2020 has not been reduced by 50% of 2014 levels.

## ORGANICS RECYCLING SUCCESS STORIES

Albertsons grocery stores in San Diego have participated in the collection of food scraps for compost and food rescue for disadvantaged communities since 2011.

Edible food is donated to the Feeding America food bank, and inedible food is sent for composting to a specialized site operated by the City of San Diego. Fifteen stores participate in the program, resulting in 58 tons of edible food donations and 37 tons of food scraps composted annually.

The Hyatt Regency Hotel in Sacramento began a food and green waste collection program in 2011. This high-rise hotel has 503 guest rooms, 4 restaurants, and a main kitchen serving about 1,975 meals daily. In the first year, the hotel diverted more than 243 tons of food waste to Clean World Partners, an anaerobic digestion facility, where the organic material is converted into renewable natural gas for fuel.

# ORGANIC WASTE RECYCLING

PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
WWW.COSTAMESACA.GOV/RECYCLING  
714.754.5323





## ORGANICS RECYCLING SERVICES

---

*With the passage of AB 1826 by the State of California, new organic recycling requirements will be phased in over the next several years and help the state meet its goal to recycle 75% of its waste by 2020.*

### WHO'S REQUIRED TO COMPLY?

The law requires that businesses arrange for recycling services for the following types of organic waste: food waste, green waste, landscape and pruning waste, nonhazardous wood waste, and food-soiled paper. Multifamily complexes must arrange for recycling services for the same material except for food waste and food-soiled paper. Most organic waste is recyclable through composting, mulching, and anaerobic digestion.

### HOW TO COMPLY?

The City requires all franchise waste haulers that provide recurring service to have an organics recycling program available to customers. Customers may contract with any provider or separate vendor for organics collection. The requirement to recycle organic waste can be met by taking one or any combination of the following actions in the City of Costa Mesa, provided that the action is in compliance with local ordinances and requirements:

- Source-separate organic waste from other waste and participate in a waste recycling service that includes collection and recycling of organic waste;
- Recycle organic waste on site or;
- Subscribe to an organic waste recycling service that may include mixed waste processing that specifically recycles organic waste;
- Sell or donate the generated organic waste - subject to Code Compliance and all applicable health and safety laws.

## EXEMPTIONS

---

The law allow jurisdictions to, on a case-by-case basis, grant exemptions to businesses and multifamily complexes that meet any of the following criteria:

- The multifamily complexes or businesses lack sufficient space to provide additional organic material recycling bins.
- The business currently implements actions that result in the recycling of a significant portion of organic waste.
- Limited-term exemptions may be granted for extraordinary and unforeseen events.

### HOW TO QUALIFY?

To qualify, a formal request must be submitted to the Public Services Department. The City will review each case in accordance with Section 8-83 of the Municipal Code. Please contact your Franchise Waste Hauler with specific waste or organics hauling questions.