

Garden Grove Recycling & Waste Newsletter



REPUBLIC
SERVICES

Sustainability in Action

FALL 2023

RepublicServices.com/gardengroveca | 800.700.8610

What You Need to Know About Organics Recycling

A California law, known as Senate Bill (SB) 1383, establishes a goal of reducing the volume of organic waste disposed of in California landfills by 75% by 2025. In landfills, organic materials break down and create methane, a powerful greenhouse gas that contributes to increased warming of the climate. Because landfills are the third-highest emitter of methane, reducing organic materials sent to landfills will help reduce harmful emissions.

As required by this law, the Garden Grove Sanitary District approved an organics recycling program in partnership with Republic Services. Everyone in Garden Grove is now required to participate in organics recycling collection service. This includes people living in homes, condos and apartments, and businesses of all types and sizes.

Organic waste includes all food scraps, including cooked meat, fish, poultry, bones, fruits, vegetables, bread, pasta, rice, grains and dairy; food-soiled paper, such as greasy

pizza boxes, coffee filters, wet paper towels and soiled napkins; and yard trimmings, including grass clippings, leaves, small branches, plants, weeds and garden waste.

Residents

If you have curbside carts, food scraps and food-soiled paper now go into your brown cart with yard trimmings.

If you live in a multi-family complex with dumpsters, food scraps go into the green or brown organics cart or the organics dumpster with the green or brown lid.

Republic Services is working to implement organics programs at all multi-family properties, so if your property does not yet have a container, please be aware that a program will be coming soon!

Please do not bag food scraps in plastic bags. Place loose food scraps and food-soiled paper directly into the cart or dumpster or in a paper bag.

Businesses

SB 1383 also requires ALL businesses and multi-family properties to have recycling and organics recycling programs in place. Republic Services offers FREE technical assistance to help your business get started with these new recycling programs. Call

Republic Services at **714.238.3300** to get connected with a Recycling Coordinator who can help you review your options.

For more information on mandatory commercial recycling laws, refer to page 2.

Inspections

Republic Services will be conducting cart and dumpster inspections throughout the year to ensure proper disposal of materials. You may see uniformed Republic Services staff reviewing the contents of your recycling, organics and trash containers. If an improper item is found, a courtesy tag will be placed on the cart notifying you of the

incorrect items. These educational reviews are mandated by SB 1383 and will occur on an annual basis. If you have any questions on how to properly dispose of any materials, please call Republic Services at **714.238.3300**.

The Garden Grove Sanitary District and Republic Services appreciate your cooperation.

Additional Information

For all information related to SB 1383 and the latest updates regarding organics recycling in Garden Grove, please visit **GGcity.org/organics** or **RepublicServices.com/GardenGroveCA**.

See What Happens to Collected Organics

Instead of going to landfills, collected organic waste is now turned into beneficial products, such as compost, mulch and renewable energy, without the harmful methane emissions. To learn more about how this process works, check out this video showing how organics are processed after collection: **Youtube.com/watch?v=X8a37IGMPZwe**



ORGANICS

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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, Oils & Grease



Construction Waste



Hazardous Waste



Trash & Pet Waste

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
GREENFIELD, IN
PERMIT NO. 220

Republic Services
1131 N. Blue Gum Street
Anaheim, CA 92806

Edible Food Recovery

To reduce food waste and help address food insecurity, Senate Bill (SB) 1383 also requires that California recover or rescue 20% of surplus edible food to feed people in need by 2025. The law directs **food-generating businesses** to recover the maximum amount of their edible food that would otherwise go to landfills and to maintain records of their food donation activities. SB 1383 places mandated food donors into two tiers:

Tier 1 – Large food businesses (wholesale food vendors, distributors, food service providers and grocery stores) are required to have a food donation program in place. These businesses must show that they have agreements with partner agencies accepting food.

Tier 2 – Additional businesses (large cafeterias, restaurants and venues) will be required to comply with these same requirements on January 1, 2024.

Food-generating businesses have many options for food donation partners. Locally, Abound Food Care provides system-wide solutions to help edible food generators channel excess edible food to communities rather than landfills. Visit Aboundfoodcare.org to donate to help end hunger and food waste.

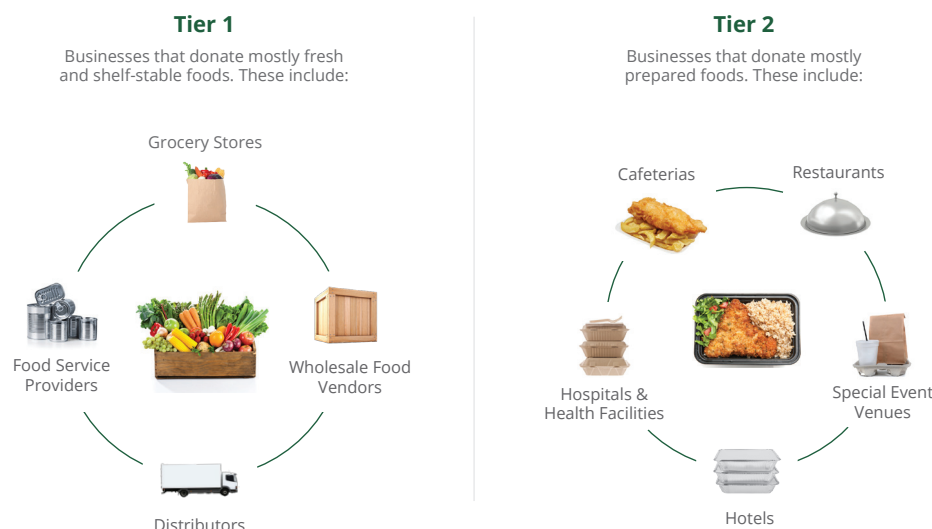
Did You Know?

Businesses that donate edible food are protected from liability by federal and state Good Samaritan laws. Contact Abound Food Care for more information on what qualifies as surplus edible food and how to properly participate in an edible food recovery program.



Credit: AJ_Watt | E+ | Getty Images

Donate: What tier are you?



California Recycling Laws for Businesses

Recyclables: Assembly Bill (AB) 341 makes recycling mandatory for businesses that generate 4 or more cubic yards of waste per week and for multi-family properties with five or more units. Under AB 341, businesses and properties must recycle paper, boxes, cans, bottles and containers, as well as recyclable items that are unique to their operations. Senate Bill (SB) 1383 expands on this requirement, making recycling of clean paper and cardboard mandatory at all businesses and multi-family properties, regardless of the amount of cubic yards of waste generated.

Organics: Under SB 1383 and AB 1826, California businesses are required to reduce the volume of organic waste sent to landfills. Under these laws, organic waste includes food scraps, food-soiled paper and yard trimmings. All businesses and multi-family properties should now be participating in organics recycling programs.

Customer Recycling: Under AB 827, limited-service restaurants in California must now provide customers with visible, clearly marked and easily accessible containers for recyclables and organic waste (uneaten food scraps, soiled paper, and similar items) next 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. You can download container and cabinet labels from RecyclingSimplified.com/business-resources.

For Assistance: You can learn more about these requirements at CalRecycle.ca.gov/recycle/commercial. If you have questions about your business's recycling programs, or if you wish to make changes to your service, please call Republic Services at **714.238.3300**.



Reducing Food Waste at Home

Food waste is a problem that affects both our economy and the environment. A significant portion of food waste occurs at the household level. Reducing food waste at home is not just a personal responsibility, but also a step toward a more sustainable planet. Here are some practical tips and tricks for minimizing food waste in your home:

Plan Your Meals

- **Create a shopping list:** Plan your meals for the week, make a shopping list and stick to it. This avoids impulse buying and ensures that you only buy what you need.
- **Use a meal planner:** Meal planning apps and tools can help you organize and plan your meals effectively to use what you have.

Store Food Properly

- **Use proper containers:** Store food in airtight containers to keep it fresh longer.
- **Understand food labels:** Learn the difference between "sell by," "use by," and "best by" dates, and don't throw away food that is still good to eat.
- **Rotate your stock:** Practice the "first in, first out" method to ensure that older products are used before newer ones.
- **Freeze what you can't eat:** If you have excess food, freeze it for later instead of tossing it out.

Cook Smarter

- **Cook in appropriate portions:** Cook only the amount of food you need to avoid leftovers that may go to waste.
- **Repurpose leftovers:** Be creative with your leftovers by transforming them into new meals.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

- **Use food scraps:** Utilize peels, stems and other parts of vegetables and fruits in broths or as part of other recipes.
- **Compost your scraps:** Compost food scraps in your organics cart or dumpster. You can also add fruit and vegetable scraps to your backyard compost bin.
- **Recycle packaging:** Be mindful of packaging, and choose products with recyclable or minimal packaging.

Reducing food waste at home requires conscious effort, planning and creativity. By incorporating these strategies, you can positively impact the environment, save money and enjoy a more mindful and sustainable lifestyle.

Planning a Party?

No one wants to host a party or family gathering and run out of food. As a result, we tend to do the opposite—overbuy and over-prepare. By properly estimating how much food you need, you can save yourself time and money. Plus, you'll reduce waste and unwanted leftovers. To calculate what you'll need for your next party or celebration, use the "Guest-imator" tool at SavetheFood.com/guestimator.

Reducing Food Scrap Odors in the Kitchen and the Organics Cart

You can reduce odors in your kitchen and your curbside carts by adopting some of these habits:

Kitchen Pails

- Store your kitchen pail in the refrigerator, or empty it daily into your organics cart.
- Rinse your pail after you empty it, or wash it with warm, soapy water.
- Line your pail with a paper bag or newspaper to absorb liquids.
- Give your pail a light dusting of baking soda to help eliminate odors. Avoid using harsh chemical cleaners to clean your pail.
- Store meat and dairy scraps in a container in the freezer, and dispose of them in your organics cart on collection day.

Organics Carts

- Absorb excess moisture with food-soiled paper, such as pizza boxes or soiled cardboard.
- Wrap food scraps in newspaper, or place them in a paper bag.
- Freeze or refrigerate scraps, and place them into the cart on collection day to keep scraps from sitting for prolonged periods of time.
- Place leaves or other yard trimmings in the bottom of the cart, add food scraps, and then layer more yard trimmings on top.
- Clean the empty cart as needed. Simply attach an automatic shut-off spray nozzle to your hose, and use a high-pressure stream to spray the bottom and then the inside walls of the cart. Allow the water to sit for an hour. Then, drain the water out onto your lawn or another landscaped area (don't drain the water onto your sidewalk or driveway or into the gutter). Let the cart air-dry in the sun before filling it up.
- Store your cart or dumpster in the shade with the lid closed.

Putting a Stop to Illegal Dumping

When you spot an illegal dump site, don't ignore it. Instead, note the location, and report it to the Garden Grove Sanitary District. 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, as well as vehicle make, color and license plate number. Call the District's illegal dumping hotline at **714.741.5375** or the Garden Grove Police Department's non-emergency number at **714.741.5704** to report this activity. Working together, we can keep our community looking good for residents and visitors.



Credit: Francesco Scatena | iStock | Getty Images Plus

Free Community Cleanup Days

The Garden Grove Sanitary District, in partnership with Republic Services, hosts a series of community cleanup days throughout the District to help residents properly dispose of furniture, bulk items, non-refrigerant appliances, scrap metal, electronic waste, tree limbs (4-foot length maximum), brush, leaves, and lawn clippings at no additional cost. These are self-service events, so residents need to be prepared to unload their own items. Locations move around Garden Grove to make these events convenient for all residents. The 2024 event dates are being finalized. Please visit **GGcity.org/cleanup-days** as the page will be updated when the dates are confirmed.

Simple Tips for Collecting Food Scraps

Collecting food scraps in the kitchen as you cook or clean up is simple.



Credit: Candle Photo | iStock | Getty Images

1. At the cutting board, set a scrap bowl or your kitchen pail next to you. Place all trimmings into the scrap bowl or pail. Have a separate pile for plastic wrappers, produce stickers and bags, and make sure those items go into the trash.
2. After cooking, scrape any food waste left behind into the kitchen pail. If you bake with parchment paper that is 100% fiber-based, it can go into the pail, too.
3. When you're done eating, scrape food from plates or bowls directly into your kitchen pail. This includes uneaten food, bread or pizza crusts, and even bones.
4. When cleaning out the fridge, remove old food from wrappers and packages before you place it into the kitchen pail or curbside cart. For instance, if you have old yogurt or sour cream, dump it out of the plastic container. Don't forget to wipe out or rinse the tub for recycling!

Old Furniture? Large Appliances? Schedule a Bulk Item Pickup

The Garden Grove Sanitary District and Republic Services provide both single-family and multi-family residents with convenient pickups for bulk items and electronics by appointment. Residents may request up to three bulk item pickups per year, with a total of 10 items accepted per pickup, at no additional cost. To schedule this service, simply call Republic Services Customer Service at **714.238.3300** at least 24 hours before your regular collection day to request a bulk item pickup.



Single-family residents should place items at the curb after scheduling a pickup. Please do not block sidewalks or obstruct traffic. If you live in a multi-family complex, check with your property manager to determine the best location for setout.

SCHEDULED FOR PICKUP

This bulk item has been scheduled for pickup.

Please call Republic Services at **714.238.3300** with questions or to schedule an additional pickup.



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Clip this sign, and attach it to bulk items set out for pickup. To print additional copies, go to **Bit.ly/3tbDCLi**.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Centers

Household hazardous waste (HHW) is any product in your home that could be poisonous or dangerous if thrown into the trash. HHW includes batteries, car and lawn care products, paints and paint thinners, cleaning supplies, solvents, and more. **Never toss HHW into the trash!** HHW can endanger children or pets, result in spills in your neighborhood or cause fires in collection trucks if placed into carts and dumpsters.

Orange County residents can dispose of HHW for FREE at any of the County's four HHW Collection Centers. Electronic waste items, such as televisions, computers, tablets and cell phones, are also accepted at these centers. Proof of County residence is required.

Homebound seniors and disabled residents of Orange County may qualify for scheduled pickups of HHW. If you need more information about this special assistance, please call **714.834.4000**.



Recycle Your Holiday Tree



Credit: kzenon | iStock | Getty Images Plus

Real holiday trees will be accepted at the curb by Republic Services for three weeks beginning Tuesday, December 26, 2023. Be sure to take off all lights, ornaments, tinsel and garlands, as well as the metal or plastic stand. Set the bare tree at the curb or next to the dumpsters in your complex. If your tree is more than 6 feet tall, please cut it in half for safe and easy collection. No flocked trees will be accepted for recycling.

If you don't take your tree down until late January, please cut it into pieces that will fit into your organics cart or dumpster with the lid closed. You can also recycle holiday wreaths and greenery in your organics cart or dumpster. The wreaths and greenery must also be bare, so please remove all wires, hooks, bows and other decorations. Collected trees and greenery are turned into mulch, compost and ground cover.

If your family enjoys an artificial tree, pack it up for next year. If you are discarding an artificial tree or wreath or a flocked tree, please place it into the waste cart or dumpster, or schedule a bulk item pickup. Artificial trees and wreaths and flocked trees are not recyclable.

Orange County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Centers

Hours: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday (closed on major holidays and during rainy weather)

Locations:

- 1071 N. Blue Gum St., Anaheim, 92806
- 17121 Nichols Ln., Gate 6, Huntington Beach, 92647
- 6411 Oak Canyon, Irvine, 92618
- 32250 Avenida La Pata, San Juan Capistrano, 92675

Contact Us

Collection Service, Billing, Public Disposal Center
800.700.8610

Household Hazardous Waste
714.834.6752

Residential Motor Oil Collection
800.449.7587

Street Sweeping Citation, Storm Drains, Sewers
714.741.5375

Republic Services is the **sole provider** of waste services in Garden Grove.

RepublicServices.com/gardengroveca



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Holiday Collection Schedule

- Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, November 23, 2023 (service delayed one day)
- Christmas Day – Monday, December 25, 2023 (service delayed one day)
- New Year's Day – Monday, January 1, 2024 (service delayed one day)



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Có sẵn bằng tiếng Việt