

# Garden Grove Recycling & Waste Newsletter



Sustainability in Action

SUMMER 2024

RepublicServices.com/GardenGroveCA | 800.700.8610

## Organics Recycling in Garden Grove

### Residents

If you have carts that are collected curbside by Republic Services, food scraps and food-soiled paper go into your organics cart mixed 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 at your property. Your property should have food waste collection containers. If your property does not, please contact your property management or Republic Services at **800.700.8610**. Please do not bag food scraps in plastic bags. Place loose food scraps and food-soiled paper into the cart or dumpster. You may use paper bags or newspaper. It is recommended to use a kitchen pail or similar container to take materials from your kitchen to your green or brown containers for collection by Republic Services. Garden Grove



Residents may pick up a free kitchen pail from Republic Services. For more information, please visit [GGcity.org/news/kitchen-pails-organics](https://GGcity.org/news/kitchen-pails-organics).

### Businesses

All commercial businesses should now have recycling and organics recycling programs in place. Republic Services offers FREE technical assistance to help you with these recycling programs. Call Republic Services at **714.238.3300** to be connected with a Sustainability Advisor who can provide additional advice or can assist with adjusting service levels for your business's unique needs.

### Inspections

Republic Services will be conducting cart and dumpster inspections throughout the year to ensure proper sorting and 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 Senate Bill (SB) 1383 and will occur on an annual basis. You may receive additional charges if the Garden Grove Sanitary District or Republic Services staff continuously finds improper items in your containers. If you have any questions on how to properly dispose of any materials, please call Republic Services at **714.238.3300**.

### Additional Information

For the latest updates regarding organics recycling in Garden Grove, please visit [GGcity.org/organics](https://GGcity.org/organics) or [RepublicServices.com/GardenGroveCA](https://RepublicServices.com/GardenGroveCA).

## Pest-Proofing Your Brown or Green Organics Cart

Keeping pests and insects at bay around your organics cart can sometimes feel like a never-ending battle, but fear not! With a few simple strategies, you can maintain a clean and pest-free environment while doing your part to keep organic waste out of landfills.

Layering organic materials within your cart is essential. When filling your cart, aim to alternate layers of yard waste with food scraps or other organic materials. This helps to prevent any single type of waste from accumulating in one spot, reducing the likelihood of attracting pests. Plus, the layers create a balanced composting environment, leading to faster decomposition and nutrient-rich compost.

Another tip is to freeze your food scraps before placing them in the cart on collection day. Freezing not only helps to control odors, but it also discourages pests from feasting on your kitchen scraps before they make it to the cart. Simply pop your food scraps into a container and toss them in the freezer until it's time for collection. Come collection day, empty the frozen scraps into your organics (green or brown) cart or dumpster.

When it comes to keeping your organics cart clean and pest-free, regular maintenance is key. After each collection, take a few moments to clean out your empty cart. Using an automatic shut-off hand sprayer, give the interior of the cart a thorough rinse, making sure to remove any lingering debris or residue. Dump the excess water onto grass or in a planter and allow the cart to air-dry completely before closing the lid to prevent mold or mildew from forming.



## What Is SB 1383?

Senate Bill (SB) 1383 is a California state law aimed at reducing harmful greenhouse gas emissions by targeting short-lived climate pollutants, such as methane. Enacted in 2016, SB 1383 places significant regulations on managing organic waste, including food and yard waste, and mandates that businesses and local governments divert this organic waste from landfills through composting and other sustainable practices. Additionally, the law establishes a goal of reducing the amount of organic waste disposed of in California landfills by 75% by 2025.

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

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

# Customer Recycling Is Mandatory for Food Service Businesses

Under Assembly Bill (AB) 827, limited-service restaurants in California must now provide customers with visible, clearly marked and easily accessible containers for recyclables and organics (uneaten food scraps, soiled paper and similar items) adjacent to trash bins. Full-service restaurants need to provide separate containers for use by employees. This law also applies to food courts and any other businesses that sell food for on-site consumption. You can download container and cabinet labels from [RecyclingSimplified.com/business-resources](https://www.RecyclingSimplified.com/business-resources).



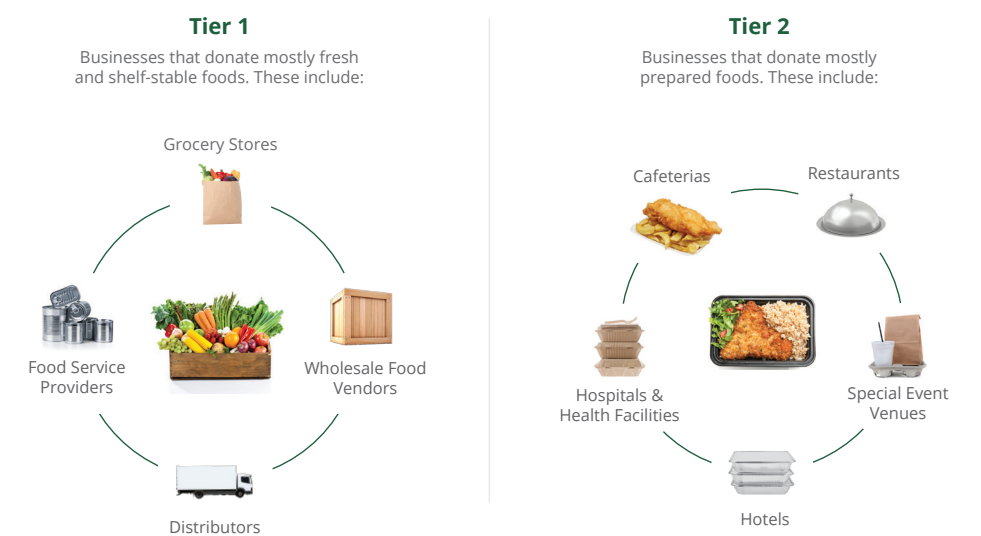
If you have questions about your business recycling programs, or if you wish to make changes or improvements, call Republic Services at **714.238.3300**.

# Food Recovery Requirements for Businesses

To further reduce food waste and help address food insecurity, SB 1383 requires that certain California businesses 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, have an agreement with a food recovery organization, and maintain records of their food donation activities for review upon inspection. SB 1383 places mandated food donors or generators into two tiers. All tiered edible food generators, such as wholesale food vendors, distributors, food service providers and grocery stores, as well as some cafeterias, restaurants and venues, are required to comply.

Locally, Abound Food Care (formerly known as Waste Not OC), a partnership of nonprofits, public agencies and private businesses, is working with Republic Services and the Garden Grove Sanitary District to ensure that surplus food feeds hungry people in our own communities. Abound Food Care provides system-wide solutions to help food generators channel excess edible food to communities rather than landfills. By reducing food insecurity and food waste, we're improving the health of our communities and the environment. Visit [Aboundfoodcare.org](https://www.Aboundfoodcare.org) to learn more.

## Donate: What tier are you?



# Free Community Cleanup Days

Free Bulky Item Drop-Off Days



The City of Garden Grove and Garden Grove Sanitary District, in partnership with Republic Services, host a series of community cleanup days throughout the city to help residents properly dispose of furniture, large bulky 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 from their vehicles. The locations change for every event to make these events convenient for all residents. All cleanups run from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

- Saturday, July 20 – Ralston Intermediate, 10851 Lampson Ave.
- Saturday, September 14 – H. Louis Lake Senior Center, 11300 Stanford Ave.
- Saturday, November 9 – Garden Grove Municipal Service Center, 13802 Newhope St.

Events will NOT accept hazardous waste (such as paints, oils, chemicals, pesticides, batteries or LED lights); construction and demolition materials (such as concrete, dirt, rocks, brick, asphalt, sand or treated/painted wood); tires; large appliances (such as refrigerators, freezers and AC units); and palm fronds. For a full list of unacceptable items, visit [GGcity.org/cleanup-days](https://www.GGcity.org/cleanup-days).

Dates and locations may be subject to change. Check the City website and social media platforms for updates, or call **714.741.5344** for more information.

# Break Down Those Boxes

Please break down and flatten all cardboard and paperboard boxes. First, it will save a lot of room in your recycling cart. Second, it keeps items from getting caught inside the box. At the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), staff members and machines work together to identify and sort materials as they travel rapidly over and through equipment. When other recyclables are inside boxes, they aren't visible and can't be separated by category, leading to contaminated bales of boxes and lost recyclable containers. Thank you for your help!

# Join Us for National Night Out

The Garden Grove Police Department invites the community to National Night Out, a free community-building event featuring giveaways, live demonstrations and more! This exciting event will take place on Tuesday, August 6, from 5 to 8 p.m., at 11301 Acacia Parkway.

Parking is available at the following locations:

- Garden Grove Community Meeting Center – 11300 Stanford Ave.
- Garden Grove High School – 11271 Stanford Ave.
- Healthy Aging Center Acacia – 11391 Acacia Pkwy.
- First Baptist Church – 12761 S. Euclid St.
- SteelCraft Garden Grove – 12900 S. Euclid St.

For more details, please visit [GGcity.org/events/national-night-out-2024](https://www.GGcity.org/events/national-night-out-2024).

## Donation Over Disposal

In a world where consumerism often reigns supreme, the question of what to do with our possessions when they are no longer of use frequently arises. The knee-jerk reaction for many is to simply toss them away, relegating them to the fate of a landfill. However, a more conscientious approach lies in donating these items.

By donating, we extend the lifespan of these items and lessen our impact on the planet's limited space resources. Additionally, donating can benefit those in need in your community. What might be clutter to us could be a valuable resource to someone else. Clothes, furniture, books, and other household items can find new life in the hands of those who can't afford to buy them brand-new. Donating allows us to contribute to our communities and support those who may be less fortunate or are going through difficult times.

Fortunately, there are several ways to begin. One option is to donate to local charities or non-profit organizations. There are many thrift stores and donation centers where you can drop off your gently used items. These organizations often support various causes, such as homelessness, education or healthcare, so you will often have items that are in need.

Another possibility is to donate online. Several websites and apps facilitate the donation process by connecting donors with individuals or organizations. Whether it's clothing, electronics or household goods, there's likely a platform where you can find someone who could benefit from your donations. You can also consider organizing a donation drive in your neighborhood or workplace. Encourage others to join you in decluttering their homes and donating items to those in need.



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## Report Illegal Dumping

When you spot an illegal dump site, don't ignore it. Instead, note the location, and report it to the City. 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 City's Public Works Department at **714.741.5375** or the Garden Grove Police Department's non-emergency number, **714.741.5704**, to report this activity. Working together, we can keep our community looking good for residents and visitors.

## How to Properly Dispose of Sharps

Republic Services provides Garden Grove residents who use syringes, needles, lancets and similar sharps for in-home medical care with up to four free sharps disposal kits per year. These kits include a 1-gallon sharps container, instructions and a pre-paid postage mailing packet to use when the container is full. Kits will be mailed to your home. There is a limit of one sharps kit per household, per quarter. To order your free kit, call **855.737.7871** or order on the website. Use code "GardenGrove" to receive the kit for free.

## Medication Disposal

Unused or expired medications left in your home can lead to accidental poisoning or allow access for misuse of the medications. Many local drugstores accept medications for proper disposal. You can quickly search online for "medication disposal near me" to locate permanent disposal locations nearby. For more details, visit [OCLandfills.com/hazardous-waste/medication-and-sharps-disposal](https://oclandfills.com/hazardous-waste/medication-and-sharps-disposal).



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## Back-to-School Savings

As the back-to-school season approaches, it's time to gear up for another academic year. However, this doesn't mean you'll have to break the bank. With proper planning and smart choices, you can navigate back-to-school shopping, while saving money and reducing waste.

- Take inventory of what you already have. Many items, like backpacks, binders, and calculators, can be reused from previous years, saving you money and reducing unnecessary purchases.
- Shop secondhand. Thrift stores and online marketplaces are treasure troves for affordable and gently used school supplies. From clothing to textbooks, buying secondhand not only saves money, but it also reduces the demand for new production.
- Invest in durable, high-quality items that will last longer. While they may have a higher upfront cost, they will save you money in the long run by eliminating the need for frequent replacements. Look for products made from sustainable materials, like recycled paper.
- Take advantage of sales and discounts by planning your shopping in advance. Start looking for deals early, and consider bulk-buying essentials, like pencils and notebooks, to save both money and packaging waste.
- Try DIY. Get creative, and make your own school supplies whenever possible. From decorating plain notebooks, to sewing your own pencil case, DIY projects are not only fun, but they are also eco-friendly and budget-friendly.
- Pack a waste-free lunch. Invest in reusable containers, water bottles and utensils to pack your lunch. Not only does this reduce single-use plastic waste, but it also saves money compared to buying pre-packaged meals every day.
- Be a mindful consumer. Before making a purchase, consider if you really need it.



## Holiday Collection Schedule

- Labor Day – Monday, September 2 (service delayed one day)
- Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, November 28 (service delayed one day)
- Christmas Day – Wednesday, December 25 (service delayed one day)
- New Year's Day – Wednesday, January 1 (service delayed one day)

## Bulk Item Pickup



The City of Garden Grove and Republic Services provide both single- 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 **800.700.8610** at least 24 hours before your regular collection day to request a bulk item pickup. Once you have made the call, a truck will be scheduled to collect your bulk items on your next regular collection day.

Single-family residents should place items at the curb after scheduling a pickup. Please attach a "Scheduled for Pickup" sign (available at [Bit.ly/3tbDCLi](https://bit.ly/3tbDCLi)) to your bulk items to let our driver know you have scheduled this service. 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 pickup.

## Compost Giveaway Recap

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Compost Giveaway event on April 13! We were thrilled to see 210 vehicles come through, and we successfully distributed 40 cubic yards of compost in just 2½ hours.

### 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 the City of Garden Grove.*



[RepublicServices.com/GardenGroveCA](https://RepublicServices.com/GardenGroveCA)

## How to Safely Dispose of Your Batteries and Household Hazardous Waste

You can help reduce the risk of fires and protect our soil and waterways by properly disposing of all household batteries, hazardous waste and electronics. Here's what you need to do:

- When you remove batteries from devices and prepare to discard them, tape over the terminal ends with clear packing tape. Bag your batteries in a sealable plastic bag.
- Separate household hazardous chemicals, including pesticides and fertilizers, oil-based paint, automotive fluids, pool chemicals and similar items, from other waste.
- Set aside old electronic devices, such as computers, televisions, laptops, tablets, smartphones and wireless speakers.
- Do not place any of these items into your recycling, yard waste or trash carts or dumpsters!
- Deliver batteries, household chemicals and electronics to one of Orange County's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Centers. These items are accepted at no charge. For additional details, visit [OCLandfills.com/hazardous](https://OCLandfills.com/hazardous) or call **714.834.6752**.



## 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

Public battery disposal bucket in Garden Grove City Hall's front lobby at 11222 Acacia Parkway

## Used Motor Oil Pickup for Garden Grove Residents

Used motor oil and filters can be recycled and are accepted at Orange County's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Centers. Residents also have the option of recycling used motor oil at a local state-certified collection center. Visit [www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/UsedOil/CertifiedCenters](https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/UsedOil/CertifiedCenters) for locations. In addition, Garden Grove offers a Residential Used Motor Oil Recycling Program. To participate in this program, follow these few simple steps:

- Drain your oil into a clean, sealable plastic container, such as a milk, water or detergent bottle, or an oil bottle, not larger than 5 gallons.
- Place oil filters into a plastic bag, and seal it.
- No more than 20 gallons of oil will be accepted per pickup.
- Call **800.449.7587** to schedule a collection.
- On your scheduled collection day, place the items by your front door or on your driveway, as directed.
- The collection crew will arrive between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on the collection day and will put the items into a spill-proof container in the collection vehicle.

For more information, call the City's Used Motor Oil Recycling Administrator at **714.741.5344**.



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Có sẵn bằng tiếng Việt