

Garden Grove Recycling & Waste Newsletter



REPUBLIC
SERVICES

Sustainability in Action

WINTER 2024

RepublicServices.com/GardenGroveCA | 800.700.8610

Free Community Cleanup Drop-Off Days



The City of Garden Grove and the Garden Grove Sanitary District, in partnership with Republic Services, will be hosting a series of community cleanup days throughout the city 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 in which residents will be unloading their own items. All cleanups are from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

- Saturday, January 27
Pacifica High School
6851 Lampson Ave.
- Saturday, March 16
Skylark Elementary School
11250 Mac Murray St.
- Saturday, May 11
Garden Grove Park
9301 Westminster Ave.
Paper shredding opportunity
- 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.

Items that will not be accepted include 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 platforms for updates, or call **714.741.5344** for more information.

Mark Your Calendar for the Compost Giveaway

Compost creates healthier soil by adding organic matter and improving soil structure. Healthy soil uses water more efficiently, allowing available water to flow toward your plants' roots, storing water in the soil longer, and reducing runoff and erosion.

The City of Garden Grove and Republic Services will be giving away compost for free on Saturday, April 13, from 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. (or until compost runs out), at the Garden Grove Municipal Service Center, 13802 Newhope St. Please bring your own containers or buckets for Republic Services staff to fill with compost. This event will be held rain or shine but may be subject to changes or postponement for other reasons. For updates, visit RepublicServices.com/GardenGroveCA or [GGcity.org/organics](https://www.ggcity.org/organics).



Credit: Cat_Chart | iStock | Getty Images Plus

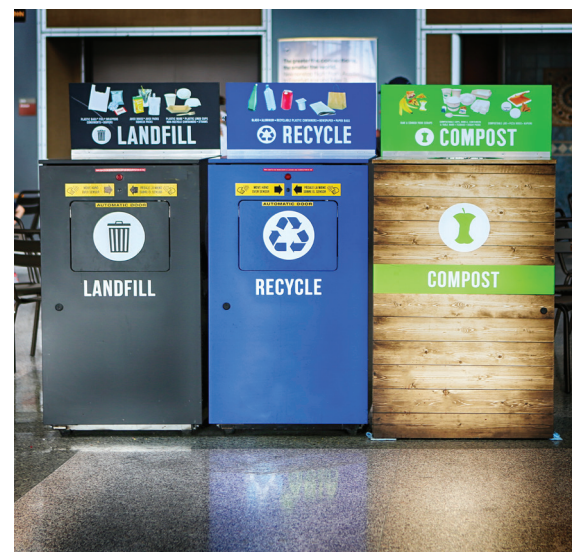
To receive free compost, residents must provide proof of residency (California driver's license or utility bill). There is a limit of 60 gallons of compost per household.

For more information, contact Republic Services at **714.238.3300**.

Customer Recycling Is Mandatory for Food Service Businesses

Under Assembly Bill 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 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.

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**.



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

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



Organics Recycling Reminders

Almost everyone in Garden Grove now has organics recycling service available at their homes and businesses under the state-mandated Organics Recycling program approved by the Garden Grove Sanitary District and implemented by Republic Services. Multi-family communities without organics recycling will receive the service in early 2024.

Residents

If you have curbside carts, food scraps and food-soiled paper now go into your organics 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. If your property does not have a container, one will be coming soon. Please do not bag food scraps in plastic bags. Place loose food scraps and food-soiled paper into the cart or dumpster. You may also use paper bags.

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 get connected with a Recycling Coordinator if you need advice.

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 state law 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**.

Additional Information

For the latest updates regarding organics recycling in Garden Grove, please visit **GGcity.org/organics** or **RepublicServices.com/GardenGroveCA**.

Holiday Tree Recycling

Real holiday tree collection at the curb continues through Friday, January 12, 2024. Remove 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. Because of the chemicals used in flocking trees to create the snow effect, no flocked trees will be accepted for recycling.



After Friday, January 12, bare trees should be cut into pieces that will fit into your organics cart or dumpster with the lid closed. You can also schedule a bulk item pickup to dispose of real holiday trees, as well as flocked or artificial trees. To schedule a pickup, call **714.238.3300**.

How to Reduce Odors in the Kitchen and the Cart

Collecting food scraps separately from trash is a new habit. Here are tips to help reduce odors.

Kitchen Scraps Containers

- Store your kitchen scraps container or pail in the refrigerator, or empty it daily into your organics cart.
- Rinse your scraps container after you empty it.
- Line your scraps container with a paper bag or newspaper to absorb moisture.
- Give your scraps container a light dusting of baking soda to help eliminate odors.
- 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 a pizza box.
- Wrap food scraps in newspaper, or place them into a paper bag.
- Freeze or refrigerate scraps, and place them into the cart on collection day.
- Place leaves or other yard



Credit: Onfokus | iStock | Getty Images Plus

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 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, driveway or into the gutter!) Let the cart air-dry in the sun.

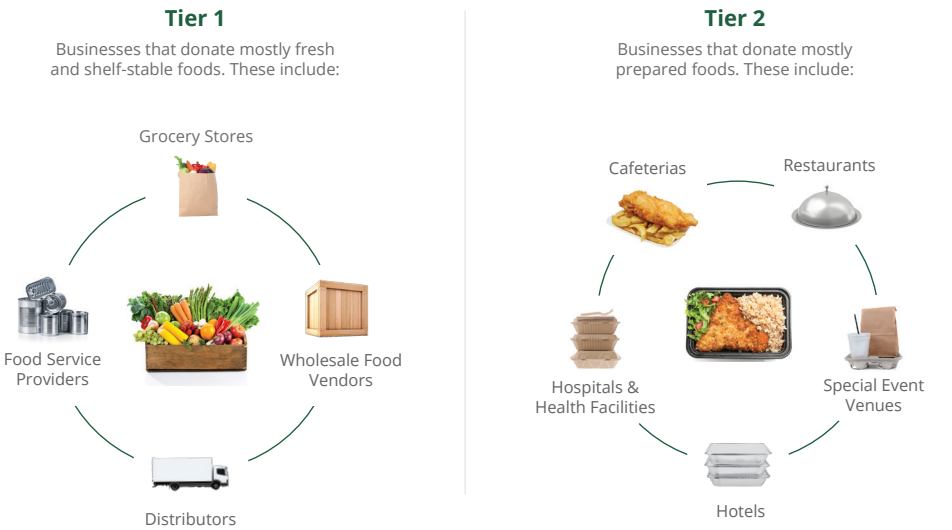
Please remember — residents may not use plastic bags of any kind for food scraps! All food scraps should be loose, wrapped in paper, or contained in a paper bag.

Food Recovery Requirements for Businesses

Senate Bill (SB) 1383 requires that certain **food-generating businesses** donate the maximum amount of edible food that would otherwise be disposed of to food recovery organizations. SB 1383 places mandated food donors into two tiers. Tier 1 businesses have been required to have programs in place for the past two years, and those programs must continue. Tier 2 businesses must begin programs as of January 1, 2024. Businesses that donate edible food are protected from liability by federal and state Good Samaritan laws.

Locally, Abound Food Care (formerly known as Waste Not OC), a partnership of nonprofits, public agencies and private businesses, is working to ensure that surplus food goes to feed 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** to learn more.

Donate: What tier are you?



Let's Talk About Recycling!

RECYCLE

Acceptable Items (Empty, Clean and Dry)

Paper & Cardboard

Metal Cans

Plastic & Glass

Unacceptable Items

Dishes & Mirrors

Carpet & Rugs

Yard & Food Waste

Construction Waste

Garden Hoses

Tires & Auto Parts

Furniture & Appliances

Clothing & Bedding

Toys

Hazardous Waste

Diapers & Pet Waste

Plastic Bags & Styrofoam™

Over the past few months, recycling has been in the news. For example, much of the plastic produced is never recycled. That's true, because much of the plastic produced makes durable goods — from auto parts to kitchen containers — that are used for decades. However, about one-third of plastic packaging, such as bottles, jugs, jars and tubs, is recycled each year. The same is true for glass bottles and jars, which can become new bottles, jars and fiberglass. Manufacturers who use those recyclables could use more of them!

The materials we collect are recycled, and we will continue to accept materials, sort them, and deliver them to markets where manufacturers turn them into new products.

Your recycling continues to conserve natural resources, reduce water and air pollution in manufacturing, save energy, and create jobs. According to the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, the U.S. scrap industry supports more than 506,000 American jobs. More than 70% of recyclables nationwide are used in U.S. factories. Energy savings achieved by using recyclables instead of virgin materials in manufacturing range from 34% for glass to 96% for aluminum.

So keep recycling! Recycling is still a great way to care for our environment and support our economy.

Guidelines for Great Recycling

- **Know What's Recyclable** – Place all clean, dry paper in your recycling cart or dumpster. This includes cardboard and other boxes, envelopes, junk mail, magazines, newspaper, office paper, school papers, paperback books, paper grocery bags, shredded paper (bagged) and wrapping paper with no metal. Also, recycle metal cans, glass bottles and jars, and plastic bottles, jugs and containers in the same cart or dumpster.
- **Label Bins Clearly** – Inside your home, label your recycling bins clearly to remind everyone what can and cannot be recycled. Simple, visible labels can make a big difference.
- **Empty, Clean and Dry** – Empty bottles and other containers, remove excess residue, rinse them out, and allow them to air-dry.
- **Save Space in the Cart** – Break down and flatten boxes before recycling. If needed, cut cardboard into pieces no larger than about 18 by 18 inches.
- **Keep It Loose** – Don't bag your recycling. Place all items loose into the recycling cart.
- **Avoid Hazardous Materials** – Never put tanglers, like hoses or cords, or hazardous waste, such as batteries, chemicals or medical sharps, into your recycling cart. These items can endanger workers and damage equipment.
- **Steer Clear of Contaminants** – Keep “yucky” items out of your recycling cart! This includes dirty recyclables, greasy pizza boxes and, especially, diapers.
- **Learn More** – For more tips about recycling, visit [RecyclingSimplified.com](https://www.RecyclingSimplified.com).



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, and write down a description of the person, as well as the vehicle make, color and license plate number. Call the City's illegal dumping hotline 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 city looking good for residents and visitors.



Bulk Item Pickup

Furniture, old appliances and electronics are among the most common items illegally dumped along roadways, in parks and on vacant lots. There is no need to dump these items improperly. The City of Garden Grove and Republic Services provide 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 attach this sign 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.

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](https://bit.ly/3tbDCLi).

Prescription Drug Take-Back Event

Unused or expired medications left in your home can lead to accidental poisoning or allow access for misuse. The Garden Grove Police Department and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency will be hosting a prescription drug take-back event in April 2024. The event date and other details will be available online at ggcity.org/events. Year-round, you can dispose of unused prescription drugs at the Garden Grove Police Department, 11301 Acacia Pkwy.



Meet Mitch Kopczyk

As General Manager, Mitch Kopczyk is responsible for all operations in the Anaheim and Santa Ana Hauling Divisions. He ensures that all federal, state, and local laws and ordinances are met and is responsible for managing all programs to provide the highest levels of service in the safest manner possible. Mr. Kopczyk joined the Republic Services team in 2014 and has worked in multiple locations across the country in Texas, Florida, Oklahoma and California.

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

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 or call **714.834.6752**.



Orange County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Centers

Hours:

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 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

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 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 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 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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Disponible en español



Có sẵn bằng tiếng Việt