

JULY 2021

BIN THINKING

COMMERCIAL

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE **SB 1383** SHORT-LIVED CLIMATE POLLUTANTS - ORGANIC WASTE REDUCTIONS

In its ongoing effort to fight climate change, California is focusing its efforts to reduce organic waste deposited into landfills. Why organic waste? When food and other organic materials decompose, methane gas is released which is a potent greenhouse gas emission pollutant.

In September 2016, former Governor Jerry Brown signed into law Senate Bill 1383 (SB 1383) establishing methane emissions reduction targets in a statewide effort to reduce emissions of short-lived climate pollutants. Senate Bill 1383 empowers the Department of Resources Recycling & Recovery (CalRecycle) to enforce regulations and requirements upon municipalities and the organic-waste generators within their jurisdictions to achieve reductions in organic waste sent to landfills.

Additionally, SB 1383 requires the diversion of edible food, good for human consumption from being disposed of in landfills. The diverted edible food will be required to be redirected through food recovery programs and into the hands of those in need.

Meeting California's ambitious goals will require expanded organic recycling

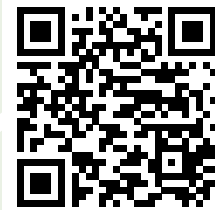
requirements for both residential and commercial customers. The City of Vacaville and Recology Vacaville Solano are currently working together to prepare for SB 1383, which becomes effective January 1, 2022. Though specific program details are still developing, below are some anticipated changes commercial customers can expect after January 1, 2022:

- All businesses will be required to subscribe to organic waste recycling services, though some businesses may qualify for an exemption as a Small Quantity Generator.
- Business owners and managers must require all employees to properly sort materials and to divert all recyclables.
- Most businesses will be required to provide labeled recycling bins in all customer areas. Sorting label and posters are to be provided to encourage proper sorting of materials.



- Some businesses will be required to participate in an Edible Food Recovery Program. Impacted edible food generators are categorized into two tiers, with different dates of participation. Those businesses will be contacted directly with additional information.

To learn more about SB 1383 and stay informed, please visit



<http://vacavillerecycling.com/sb-1383/>

Be sure to check the SB 1383 page often as the information will be updated frequently.



AB 827: Customer Access to Recycling

Beginning July 1, 2020, commercial waste generators and organic waste generators that provide customers access to the business must provide a labeled recycling bin or organic waste recycling bin to collect materials purchased on the premises.

KNOW WHAT TO THROW

What CAN go in your gray bin:

- ✓ Municipal solid waste
- ✓ Plastic shopping bags
- ✓ Plastic utensils
- ✓ Straws
- ✓ Broken glass & dishware
- ✓ Wrappers & chip bags
- ✓ Styrofoam
- ✓ Gloves and masks



What CANNOT go in your gray bin:

- ✗ Recyclable materials – Paper, plastics, glass, metal, and organic materials
- ✗ Electronic & universal waste – T.V.s, computers, cell phones, batteries, calculators, printers, fluorescent light bulbs, thermometers
- ✗ Hazardous waste – Paint, nonempty aerosol or solvent cans, cleaners, pesticides/herbicides, flammables, poisons, acids/bases, fuel canisters/tanks, motor oil
- ✗ Building & automotive waste – Asbestos, treated wood, antifreeze, tires
- ✗ Medical waste – Needles and sharps, biohazardous waste

TIP: If you aren't sure how to dispose of an item, www.WhatBin.com to find out.

Organic Waste in the Office

Food waste isn't limited to restaurants, cafeterias, and other food institutions. The truth is, businesses of all kinds generate a surprising amount of organic waste. Office buildings may not seem likely to produce organic waste, however, of the 4.4 pounds of waste an average office worker generates each day, nearly 30 percent is food waste. Taking a deeper look into the types of materials your office discards can uncover commonly overlooked opportunities to recycle more and waste less. Less waste means less money spent on your service bill, and you'll be doing your part to help reduce your business's environmental footprint.

Food Soiled Paper

- Coffee filters
- Paper bags
- Napkins, tissues, & paper towels
- Paper cups, hot sleeves, plates and take-out boxes or containers (without a plastic liner).

Food Scraps

- Coffee grounds, tea & tea bags
- Leftovers and spoiled food
- Bread, grains & pasta
- Fruit (puts, shells, & peels too)
- Vegetables
- Meat and bones
- Seafood
- Eggs and eggshells

Plants

- Flowers and floral trimmings
- Leaves
- Grasses and weeds from landscaping

Other

- Shredded paper
- Wooden chop sticks & coffee stir sticks

Still not sure if an organics recycling program is a good fit for your business?

Call Recology Vacaville Solano at (707) 448-2945 to schedule a FREE waste assessment.

