



SB 1383: Organics Recycling FAQ

The City of Poway is preparing for changes to both residential and commercial trash and recycling collection services, to help you better understand what changes will be taking place, please reference this FAQ Sheet. For more information please visit the City of Poway's Trash & Recycling [webpage](#).

Q: What is SB 1383 ?

A: In September 2016, Governor Brown signed into law SB 1383, establishing methane emissions reduction targets in a statewide effort to reduce emissions of short-lived climate pollutants in various sectors of California's economy. SB 1383 establishes targets to achieve a 50 percent reduction in the level of the statewide disposal of organic waste from the 2014 level by 2020 and a 75 percent reduction by 2025. The law grants CalRecycle the regulatory authority required to achieve the organic waste disposal reduction targets and establishes an additional target that not less than 20 percent of currently disposed of edible food is recovered for human consumption by 2025. Find out more information [here](#).

Q: What is considered "organic waste"?

A: Food waste, landscape trimmings (leaves, grass, trimmings, branches, stumps), non-hazardous wood waste, and compostable paper (compostable paper includes food-soiled paper that is mixed in with food waste and other compostable paper) are all considered organic material.

Q: What is food-soiled paper that is mixed in with food waste ?

A: Examples of food-soiled paper that are typically mixed in with food waste include products such as napkins and tissues, paper plates and cups, to-go containers, food-service wrappers, pizza boxes, and cardboard produce boxes.

Q: What is considered compostable paper ?

A: Materials such as stained pizza boxes, uncoated paper cups and plates, used coffee filters, paper food cartons, napkins and paper towels are all compostable paper.

Q: What is considered edible food waste ?

A: Edible food waste is food that would otherwise go to waste from places such as restaurants, grocery stores, produce markets, or dining facilities. The food is edible, but often not sellable. Products that are at or past their "sell by" dates or are imperfect in any way, such as a bruised apple or day-old bread are donated by grocery stores, food vendors, restaurants, and farmers' markets. Other times, the food is unblemished, but restaurants may have made or ordered too much or may have good pieces of food (such as scraps of fish or meat) that are byproducts of the process of preparing foods to cook and serve. Also, food manufacturers may donate products that marginally fail quality control, or that have become short-dated.

Q: How will SB 1383 affect my current waste and recycling program at home or at my business?

A: The City of Poway has an exclusive solid waste franchise agreement with EDCO Disposal. EDCO will still be the exclusive franchised hauler operating in the City of Poway for solid waste and commingled recyclables, however, they will be expanding their current services to include a commingled green waste and organics service route beginning in 2021.

Residential: Instead of a two-bin configuration, Poway residents will be provided with a commingled organics/green waste cart for all organic waste, including pre and post-consumer food scraps, as well as yard trimmings. EDCO will also be providing each Poway resident with a caddy for the convenient collection of food scraps in the kitchen of your home, this caddy is dishwasher safe, as well as odor and bug resistant. This caddy can easily be stored under the sink or on your kitchen counter, when your caddy is full you will simply empty it into your green cart and it will be serviced on your organics collection day. For more information on how you can reduce food waste at home, please visit the San Diego Food System Alliance website.

Commercial: Businesses will also be required to subscribe to an organics service route. Any pre or post-consumer food scraps, landscaping waste and any other organic waste will be placed in the designated commingled organics/green waste cart or dumpster and serviced by EDCO on your organics service day. For food waste generators producing edible food waste, such as grocers, markets, restaurants, and hospitality groups will need to arrange a food recovery or donation program to divert all edible food waste away from the landfill.

Q: Does food waste include meat and dairy?

A: Yes, meat is a form of food waste. The City of Poway and EDCO Disposal's organics collection program will include the recycling of meat and dairy products.

For more information on SB 1383 - Organics Recycling, please visit CalRecycle.Ca.gov.

Coming 2021

Coming in 2021, EDCO's New Organics Recycling Program will collect food scraps and landscape waste mixed together in a green organics container.



Why Recycle Food Waste?

Organic waste accounts for over 40% of the material in California's waste stream. Organic material cannot break down when buried in a landfill, as it would in nature or in a compost pile. Instead, it decomposes without oxygen, releasing methane gas into the atmosphere. Organic material (food scraps and yard waste) will soon be recycled when placed in green carts and then transported to EDCO's AD Facility, once completed, where it will break down and convert into renewable natural gas and fertilizer.

What is Anaerobic Digestion (AD)?

AD is the natural process in which microorganisms break down organic materials such as food waste, green waste, fats, oils and greases. AD happens in closed spaces where there is no oxygen.



What Will Go in the Green Container? If It Grows, It Goes!

Food Scraps: Cooked or raw meat, poultry and seafood (including bones), cheese, dairy products, fruits, vegetables, grains, pasta, eggshells, bread, coffee grounds, tea bags, tea leaves, baked goods, nuts, jelly, candy, snack foods, leftovers, spoiled food.

Yard Waste: Grass clippings, small branches, small tree limbs, tree roots, flowers, leaves, plants, straw.

Food-Soiled Paper: Paper bags, paper napkins, paper towels, paper plates, paper cups, paper take-out containers and take-out boxes (with no plastic or wax coating, and with metal removed), coffee filters, tissues.

Natural Fibers: Popsicle sticks, sawdust, toothpicks, wooden chopsticks, untreated wood.

SOURCES

<https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/climate/slcp>

<https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/slcp/education>

<https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food>