Commercial Organic Waste Recycling
State Mandatory (AB 1826)

Starting January 1, 2019
Businesses that generate 4 cubic yards or more of commercial trash per week shall arrange for organic waste recycling services.

How much is 4 cubic yards?
- **Dimensions:** 6 feet x 4.5 feet x 4 feet.
- **Volume:** 4 cubic yards (roughly 48 regular trash bags or 850 pounds)

Organics in California’s Overall Disposed Waste Stream 2014
Data from CalRecycle’s 2014 Waste Characterization Report

**Organics Include**
- Food Waste
- Landscape Trimmings
  - Leaves
  - Grass
  - Trimmings
  - Branches
  - Stumps
- Non-Hazardous Wood Waste
- *Compostable Paper

Examples of food-soiled paper: Napkins, tissues, paper plates & cups, to-go containers, food-service wrappers, pizza boxes.

*Boxes or food-service products such as wrappers, cups & bags that are lined with polyethylene or other synthetic grease-resistant compounds are not compostable.

California Legislature AB 1826
Summary:
- Starting January 1, 2019, a business or multi-family dwelling with 5 or more units that generates four cubic yards or more of commercial solid waste, per week, shall arrange for organic waste recycling services.
- All businesses (this includes multi-family dwellings that have 5 or more units) are required to be in compliance with AB 1826 by recycling all organic waste generated by landscaping and gardening maintenance activities occurring on site.
- Businesses within commercial centers with a shared trash system, are required to comply with AB 1826 if, collectively, all tenants generate four or more yards of organic waste per week.

What is Organic Waste?
- Food waste, green waste, landscape and pruning waste, nonhazardous wood waste, and food-soiled paper waste that is mixed in with food waste.

**Food Waste Recycling-CR&R:**
The City of Laguna Hills and CR&R Environmental Services have developed a Commercial Food Waste Recycling Program to help businesses meet the requirements of AB1826. CR&R can provide businesses or commercial centers with food waste collection receptacles of various sizes, and can collect these containers up to six days per week. CR&R is the City’s franchised waste hauler. Contact CR&R customer service at the number below to order organic waste containers.
1 (800) 826-9677 (Press 3).
In 2014, CalRecycle reported that over 40 percent of the material Californians disposed in the landfill was organic waste that could have been recycled.

The requirement to recycle organic waste can be met by taking one or any combination of the following actions*:

• Source-separate organic waste from other waste and subscribe to an organic waste recycling service that specifically includes collection and recycling of organic waste.

• Recycle organic waste on-site, or self-haul organic waste for organic recycling.

• Subscribe to an organic waste recycling service that includes mixed-waste processing that specifically recycles organic waste.

• Sell or donate the generated organic waste.

*Actions must be in compliance with local ordinances and requirements.

RESOURCES

www.findacomposter.com
www.calrecycle.ca.gov/recycle/commercial/organics
www.epa.gov/anaerobic-digestion
Cubic yard calculator (Convert dimensions of a 3D object (in feet) to volume in cubic yards)
(Length in feet) x (Width in feet) x (Height in feet)
27 = Cubic yards

Donating Edible Food
Waste Not OC Coalition (855) 700-9662
Food Finders (562) 283-1400 x105
Second Harvest of Orange County (949) 653-2900.

CR&R Customer Service
1-(800)-826-9677 (Press 3)

To answer questions about organic waste recycling or for free assistance with implementing an organic waste recycling program please contact EcoNomics or CR&R at the following:

EcoNomics Inc.
Geiza@economicsinc.net
(949) 324-5314

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