



SB 1383: Organics Recycling FAQ Sheet



The City of Suisun City is preparing for changes to both residential and commercial trash & recycling collection services. To help you better understand what changes will be taking place, please reference this FAQ Sheet. For more information please visit: www.suisun.com/sb-1383

Coming 2022...

Coming January 1, 2022, all Californians will be required to collect and dispose of all organic waste in their green lid waste cart. Organic waste can no longer be placed in the regular trash cart per Senate Bill (SB) 1383. Continue to put all carts at the curb for weekly pick-up service.

Why Recycle Organic Waste?

Organic waste accounts for over 56% of the materials in California’s waste stream. 40% of food produced in California goes uneaten and ends up in landfills. Organic materials cannot break down when buried in a landfill as it would in nature or in a compost pile. Instead, it decomposes without oxygen and releases methane gas into the atmosphere. Methane gas contributes to climate change which is responsible for the changing weather patterns and the significant fire seasons we are experiencing in California. To comply with SB 1383, all organic waste (food scraps and yard waste) placed in your green lid waste cart will be brought to a compost facility where it will be recycled by converting it to natural gas and/or to fertilizer (compost).

What must go in the Green Cart?

*** IF IT GROWS, IT GOES! ***

Food Scraps: Cooked or raw meat, poultry, 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, and spoiled food.

Yard Waste: Grass clippings, small branches, small tree limbs, tree roots, flowers, leaves, plants, and straw. Note green cart lid must be fully closed to be serviced.

Food-Soiled Paper: Paper bags, paper napkins, food-soiled kitchen paper towels, uncoated paper plates (Chinet, etc.), coffee filters, tissues, and paper take-out containers/boxes (with no plastic or wax coating and metal removed).

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

FAQ Sheet

Q. What is Senate Bill (SB) 1383?

A. In September 2016, Gov. Brown signed into law SB 1383, establishing methane emissions reduction targets in a statewide effort to reduce emission of short-lived climate pollutants in California created by organic waste. SB 1383 establishes targets to achieve a 50% reduction in the level of the statewide disposal of organic waste (from 2014 level) by 2020 and a 75% reduction by 2025. The law grants CalRecycle the regulatory authority to implement the organic waste disposal reduction targets and establishes an additional target that no less than 20% of currently disposed of edible food waste is recovered for human consumption by 2025.

FAQ Sheet—Continued

Q. What is considered “organic waste”?

A. Food waste, landscape trimmings (leaves, grass, branches, etc.), coffee grounds, non-hazardous wood waste (non-pressure treated wood) and compostable paper (food soiled paper that is mixed with food waste and other compostable paper) are all considered organic material and will need to be put into your green waste cart.

NOTE: Plywood & painted wood *cannot* be put into the organic waste cart for disposal.

Q. What is food-soiled paper that is mixed with food?

A. Examples of food-soiled paper that are typically mixed in with food include products such as napkins, food soiled kitchen paper towels, tissues, uncoated paper plates & cups, compostable to-go containers, pizza boxes, and cardboard produce boxes.

Q. What is considered compostable paper?

A. Materials such as stained pizza boxes, uncoated paper bags, uncoated paper plates & cups, used coffee filters, paper food cartons, food soiled paper napkins and food soiled 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 some way, such as a bruised apple or day-old bread are donated by grocery stores, food vendors, restaurants, and farmer’s 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 by-products of the process of preparing foods to cook and serve. Also, food manufactures must donate products that marginally fail quality control or that have become short-dated. All donated edible food must meet the California Retail food code safety requirements.

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

A. The City of Suisun City has an exclusive solid waste franchise agreement with Republic Services (Republic). Republic will still be the exclusive franchise hauler operating in Suisun City for solid waste and recycling, and will help implement SB 1383.

Residential: Residents will use their existing green lid waste cart to dispose of all organic waste along with all green waste from landscaping.

Commercial: Businesses will be required to subscribe to organic waste service through Republic Services and to dispose of any generated organic waste properly. Food waste generators producing edible food waste, such as grocers, markets, restaurants, and hospitality groups will need to arrange for a food recovery or donation program to divert edible food waste away from the landfill. A contractual agreement between both parties must be in place.

For more information on SB 1383 - Organics Recycling, please visit <https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/slcp>

More questions?

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