



CITY OF BELL GARDENS

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

8327 GARFIELD AVE., BELL GARDENS, CA 90201-6122
(562)806-7770 FAX (562)806-7789

To: City of Bell Gardens Business and Multi-family Property Owner/Manager
From: Chau Vu, Director of Public Works, City of Bell Gardens
Re: Organics Recycling Requirements for Businesses and Multi-Family Communities, State Regulation AB 1826

Dear City of Bell Gardens Business Owner or Manager:

Assembly Bill AB 1826, the Mandatory Organics Recycling Regulation, was signed by Governor Brown in 2016, and phases in requirements for commercial businesses and multi-family complexes to divert organic materials from landfilling. Organic material is defined in the bill as food waste, food-soiled paper, landscaping waste and compostable utensils.

Implementation began with the largest food waste generators, such as grocery stores, large restaurants, and food processing businesses. As of January 1, 2019 the legislation now requires businesses and multi-family complexes that generate 4 or more cubic yards of trash a week to comply with the regulations. However, multi-family complexes are only required to recycle landscaping waste which can be managed by your property’s landscaper if the landscape materials are taken offsite and diverted from landfilling.

Mandatory Organics Recycling Implementation Schedule

Description	Implementation Date
Tier 1: Businesses with 8 cubic yards of organic waste per week	April 1, 2016
Tier 2: Businesses with 4 cubic yards of organic waste per week	January 1, 2017
Tier 3: Businesses with 4 cubic yards of trash per week	January 1, 2019
Tier 4: Businesses that generate 2 cubic yards or more of trash per week*	January 1, 2020

**Tier 4 businesses will only be required to recycle organics in the event that the State has not reached its goal to reduce landfilled organics by 50%.*

How to Arrange for Organics Services

- Businesses and multi-family complexes that meet the threshold requirements of AB 1826 must arrange for organic waste recycling services. Please contact your current solid waste and recycling hauler to find out how they can help you recycle your organic waste or report any current onsite organics recycling programs.
- Businesses and multi-family complexes may also donate or make other arrangements to divert organics from landfilling. Some of these methods include self-hauling the materials to organics recycling facilities, or donating edible food. Your business may receive tax deductions and create stronger ties with your community by donating food to charitable organizations. Be sure to inform your waste hauler of any organics or landscape waste recycling programs your property currently uses to recycle or divert organics (donations, composting, self-haul, etc.).

Annual Site Visits

AB 1826 requires that businesses and multi-family complexes meeting the thresholds of the regulation that do not have an organics recycling program are visited annually. These visits will be performed by your waste hauler to inform your business of the regulations, offer organics recycling solutions, and document all current organics recycling programs in place.

Opportunities to Save Resources and Help the Environment

Organics represent approximately 35% of all material currently landfilled. Recycling organic materials conserves resources and reduces greenhouse gas emissions. It extends the life of our landfills and helps create a healthy environment for our community and future generations.

Be Sure to Educate Your Employees and Tenants

Employees and tenants are key to a successful organics recycling program. Please make sure your employees and tenants know which organic materials can be recycled as organics and where to place the materials for temporary storage and ultimate collection or donation.

Where to Go for More Information

Information about California’s business and multi-family organics recycling requirements is available from the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) at <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/recycle/commercial/organics/>.

Food Donation Opportunities

Los Angeles Regional Food Bank:

1734 E. 41st Street
Los Angeles, CA 90058
Phone: 323-234-3030
<https://www.lafoodbank.org/>

Poets Food Recovery Network:

13406 E. Philadelphia Street
Whittier, CA 90608
Phone: 562-464-4521
Contact: Christina Fong
(cfong@poets.whittier.edu)
<http://www.foodrecoverynetwork.org>

Food Finders:

3744 N Industry Ave, Suite 401
Lakewood, CA 90712
Phone: 562-283-1400
<http://foodfinders.org>

Renuevo Food (Food Pantry):

3154 E Gage Ave
Huntington Park, CA 90255
Phone: 323-895-6610

FoodHelp (Food Pantry):

10909 New Street
Downey, CA 90241
Phone: 562-862-2438
<https://www.facebook.com/FoodHelp/>

For additional opportunities to donate edible food in Los Angeles County please visit:

<http://dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/sbr/food-drop.aspx>
You can also search: FoodDropLA.org

Thank you for your participation in this important program. For more information, please contact the City of Bell Gardens’ solid waste consultant at 949-251-0930. To set up organics recycling service or if you are not sure what Tier your business or complex falls under, please contact your trash hauler.

Sincerely,
Chau Vu
Director of Public Works