

Organics Cart

As of January 1, 2022, all residents and businesses in California are required to recycle food and yard waste. Acceptable materials include food waste, green waste, landscape and pruning waste, non-hazardous wood waste and food-soiled paper products. All food and yard waste is collected in one cart for residential and commercial customers.



95-Gallon Organics Cart*

Dimensions

Height: 45 3/8 inches
Width: 27 1/2 inches
Depth: 33 1/4 inches

*Cart colors may vary by area

Acceptable Food Waste Items



Fruit



Vegetables



Pasta, Grains,
Rice and Beans



Meat



Bones



Dairy



Eggshells



Prepared
Food

Acceptable Yard Waste Items



Grass



Leaves



Plants



Branches

Acceptable Food-Soiled Paper Items



Napkins



Paper Plates



Tea bags



Coffee Grounds

Unacceptable Items

- Trash
- Plastic film
- Cans
- Oil and grease
- Glass
- Packaging
- Cardboard
- Plastic bags
- Diapers





The Law

In 2016, Senate Bill 1383 was signed into law to combat climate change and reduce landfill methane emissions. Methane is a climate super pollutant, 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide. Organics like food scraps, yard trimmings, paper and cardboard currently make up 50% of what Californians dump in landfills. Diverting organic waste to recycling can significantly reduce these local air quality emissions. The goal was to reduce organic waste disposal 50% by 2020 and 75% by 2025.

What Does It Mean?

This law requires your waste hauler to collect your organic waste, including food waste, and dispose of it in a more sustainable manner, instead of simply taking it to the landfill.

What Is Organic Waste?

Organic waste includes food waste (vegetable and fruit scraps, eggshells and meat—anything you eat and any byproduct of your meal), food soiled paper (napkins, paper plates, paper containers, pizza boxes, coffee filters) and green material (landscaping, pruning waste, sticks, leaves, wood).

Who Is Affected?

Everyone. Residents, multi-family properties and complexes, businesses, schools and public agencies all need to comply with the law and enroll in an organics recycling program.

How Is It Processed?

The law requires a significantly higher level of processing of organic material than current standards. Processors are required to monitor, track and ultimately limit the amount of organic material sent to landfills after processing, requiring additional processing and the development of new systems to remove contaminants and excess organic material that may have previously been sent to the landfill as residue.

