



City of Santa Paula, CA

MANDATORY COMMERCIAL **ORGANICS** & **FOOD WASTE RECYCLING FAQ** (Frequently Asked Questions)

AB1826 Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling
AB1826 Affects business or multi-family units of 5 or more.

AB1826: Mandatory Commercial **Organics** Recycling

What is AB1826?

In October 2014, California passed Assembly Bill 1826 requiring all businesses, including multifamily dwellings, to recycle their organics waste. By January 1, 2019 all businesses generating at least 4 cubic yards of organics waste per week will be required to recycle organic waste. *THIS IS A STATE LAW: Each city is required to implement this program. Therefore they have asked each hauler to assist them in getting this done.

Who Must Comply?

All businesses that generate organics waste, including multifamily residential dwellings that consist of five or more units. Multifamily dwellings are not required to arrange collection of food scraps or food soiled paper. Green waste, landscape and pruning waste, and nonhazardous wood waste generated at these sites would still be subject to the law.

What Are My Recycling Options?

Athens Environmental Services is visiting each customer to evaluate their organics recycling needs including container types, service requirements, and site logistics. For each type of business, Athens Environmental Services will be offering training, containers and support materials to ensure our customers are informed and recycling correctly.



Landscapers, Who Recycles It?

AB 1826 requires covered businesses that contract for green waste services to stipulate in the landscaping contract that the landscaper will recycle all the green waste it collects from the business/multifamily complex. Currently, delivery of green waste to a landfill for use as Alternative Daily Cover (ADC) is permissible until year 2020. Commencing in 2020, if the landscaper takes the green waste to a landfill for use as ADC or any other facility or transfer station that would then take the material to a landfill, the multifamily dwelling will not be recycling the green waste as required.

Why Recycle Commercial Food Waste & Organics?

On average, a restaurant disposes more than 50 tons of organic waste per year. 76% of this waste is organics and can be recycled. However, if not hauled and processed by a permitted food waste recycling company like Athens Environmental Services, 100% would be sent to a landfill.

ZERO WASTE

AES provides food waste recycling programs for both commercial and residential. The collected material is brought to our compost facility where it will be processed into nutrient rich compost for agricultural use.

General Information:

What Are Considered Organics?

Organics waste includes food scraps, green waste, landscape and pruning waste, nonhazardous wood waste, and food-soiled paper waste (paper products mixed in with food scraps). Examples include, but are not limited to...

GREEN WASTE: • Grass clippings • Leaves and branches • Flower and hedge trimmings • Weeds • Lumber, scrap wood and plywood types (not painted or treated)



FOOD SCRAPS: • Fruits and vegetables • Cheese and dairy • Meat, bones, poultry, and seafood • Bread, rice, and pasta • Coffee filters and tea bags • Cut flowers and herbs • And any putrescible matter produced from human or animal food production, preparation, and consumption activities



FOOD-SOILED PAPER: • Napkins, towels, and tissues • Paper plates and cups • Fast food wrappers (paper only. No aluminum or plastic coating.) • Egg cartons • Pizza boxes • Paper packaging • 100% (fiber based) compostable serving-ware and to go container packaging



<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Recycle/Commercial/Organics/FAQ.htm>