

Why Do We Need Mandatory Organics Recycling?

An important part of California's efforts to protect the environment is to increase the diversion of organic materials away from landfills and toward the production of value-added products such as compost, fertilizers, and biofuels. Compost, made from a mixture of food and yard wastes that have been fully decomposed, can fertilize and condition soil.



Compost is a key to healthy soil, and healthy soil is critical to reducing carbon in the air. Keeping recyclable and compostable materials out of the garbage is an excellent first step toward cost savings and improved operational efficiency.



Recycling and Organics Recycling Guide for Businesses



By California's Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery

Recycling Laws

Businesses that generate a certain amount of solid waste are subject to various recycling laws:

MCR: Mandatory Commercial Recycling (AB 341)

Businesses, including schools and public entities that generate 4 cubic yards or more of commercial solid waste per week, shall arrange for recycling services.



MORe: Mandatory Organics Recycling (AB 1826)

Businesses, including schools and public entities that generate 2 cubic yards or more of commercial solid waste per week (total for trash, recycling and organics), shall arrange for organic waste recycling services.



Educating and Involving Customers to Achieve California's Recycling Goals

- Effective July 1, 2020, *MCR*- and *MORe*-covered businesses must provide organics and recycling containers at front-of-house to collect waste generated from products purchased and consumed on the premises ([AB 827, McCarty, Chapter 441, Statutes of 2019](#)).

These containers must be placed adjacent to trash containers and be visible, easily accessible, and clearly marked.

- This law targets businesses that sell products meant for immediate consumption.
- Full-service restaurants do not have to provide containers for patrons but must provide containers for employees to separate post-consumer recyclables and organics for customers.
- Please contact your city/county or hauler for more information and for signage.*
- Model signage is available at calrecycle.ca.gov. Search for "[Education/Outreach Toolkit](#)"



State Resources

Mandatory Commercial Recycling information:
<https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/recycle/commercial>

Mandatory Organics Recycling information:
<https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Recycle/Commercial/Organics/>

*To find your city or county contact, call 916-341-6199.

Find your local assistance staff here:

<https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/LGCentral/Contacts>

Local Resources

(Enter resources here such as city/county, food bank and hauler contact info)