



LCF Organics

ENVIRONMENTAL TIMES NEWSLETTER

SB 1383 Is Here, Let's Get Organics Recycling!



Senate Bill (SB) 1383 is now in full effect, shaping how California tackles short-lived climate pollutants by enforcing a 75% reduction in organic waste and a 20% increase in edible food recovery by the end of 2025.

All California cities, including the City of La Cañada Flintridge, are required to provide organic waste collection services for all residents and businesses and ensure compliance through monitoring

and enforcement. Residents must place organic materials in their designated green waste bins. Businesses are required to recycle both organic and food waste. Food service businesses are also required to recover and donate edible food to food recovery organizations.

To support a sustainable, circular economy, cities and counties must now track and procure recovered organic waste products, such as compost or mulch, each year to meet their assigned targets. Jurisdictions have the flexibility to use or donate these materials based on local needs.

SB 1383 is not just a mandate, it's an opportunity to reduce landfill waste, cut methane emissions and boost California's green economy through infrastructure investment and job creation! Read along for the ins and outs of SB 1383 and organics recycling here in LCF.



For more information, visit [LCF.ca.gov/Public-Works/Organics](https://www.lcf.ca.gov/Public-Works/Organics).



Organic waste includes the following materials: food waste, green waste, landscape and pruning waste, non-hazardous wood waste and paper waste that is mixed in with food waste.



Did you know? When organic materials such as food or yard waste end up in a landfill, they emit methane gas—a climate pollutant 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide.

Organics Recycling Requirements: Resident Edition

Under SB 1383, all La Cañada Flintridge residents must place their organic waste in their green waste cart. Waste in the City is sorted into three separate streams: general trash, recyclables and organics (green waste), as required by all local trash haulers.

What CAN go in your green cart:

- Food scraps (including bones)
- Coffee grounds
- Yard trimmings (like grass, leaves, tree branches and brush)

What CANNOT go in your green cart:

- Metal, plastic or glass – place those items in your recycling bin
- Diapers and pet waste – toss those in your trash bin
- Household hazardous waste (HHW), such as paint, e-waste, batteries, pesticides, cleaning products and fluorescent bulbs – take to a designated HHW collection facility or disposal event

If you do not currently have a green cart or dumpster for organics, please contact your waste hauler to request service.

Organics Recycling Requirements: Commercial Business Edition

California law requires businesses, organizations and multi-family housing developments to comply with commercial recycling and organics recycling rules under SB 1383, Assembly Bill (AB) 1826, AB 341 and AB 827.

Who must comply?

- Businesses are required to recycle organic materials such as food and yard waste
- The business may be able to qualify for a waiver if they are considered a low volume generator

What's required?

To comply with state laws, businesses must:

- Separate organic waste and recycle it on-site, self-haul it or subscribe to a recycling service
- Provide recycling and organics bins for employees and customers, placed next to trash bins (except in restrooms)
- Clearly label bins to show which materials go where

Edible food recovery

These businesses are also required to recover and donate edible food by contracting with food recovery organizations and keeping donation records:

- Tier 1 (in effect since 2022): Distributors, grocery stores (10,000+ sq ft) and food service providers
- Tier 2 (in effect since 2024): Hotels (200+ rooms), large restaurants, schools, hospitals (100+ beds) and venues/events with 2,000+ daily visitors

Join Us for our Bi-Annual Compost Giveaway Event!

Saturday, October 18th

9am - 12pm | Olberz Park (One Civic Center Drive).

To support local sustainability efforts, the City of La Cañada Flintridge will host a free compost giveaway event for residents. The compost is made from recycled organic material collected through local green waste programs. Stay tuned on the City's website and social media channels to find out more!

For more information regarding SB 1383 and other commercial requirements, visit

LCF.ca.gov/Public-Works/Waste-Disposal-Recycling

LCF Residential Requirements



Under SB 1383, La Cañada Flintridge residents are now required to place organic waste into their green trash bin. Each trash hauler in the City will require residents to separate their waste into general waste, recycling and green waste.

- ✓ Residents must place the following items into their green curbside cart:
 - Meat
 - Plate scrapings
 - Bones
 - Dairy
 - Baked goods
 - Kitchen trimmings
 - Fruits and vegetables
 - Food-soiled paper
 - Grains, seeds and beans
 - Coffee grounds and filters
 - Yard debris: grass, leaves, tree trimmings and brush
- ✗ No metal, plastic, glass, pet waste, household hazardous waste or diapers should be placed into green carts. For residents that do not have carts or dumpsters for organic materials, please contact your waste hauler.

Best Practices for Managing Organic Waste: Composting or Recycling

Did you know your food scraps can help grow healthier gardens and reduce greenhouse gas emissions? Through composting, everyday items like fruit peels, coffee grounds, pasta and eggshells can be transformed into nutrient-rich soil.

Items you CAN compost:

- Fruit and vegetable scraps
- Coffee grounds and loose tea
- Dry goods (pasta, rice, oats)
- Eggshells and nutshells

Items you CANNOT compost:

- Dairy, meat, bones and seafood
- Grease or oily foods
- Chemically treated grass

How to get started:

1. Purchase a kitchen pail or repurpose a mixing bowl, plastic bag, or sealable container (like a coffee can or metal tin) to store scraps. **Pro tip:** Keep your container in the freezer to prevent odors.
2. Add the food scraps (green materials) into your compost storage container. Don't forget to add brown materials, such as dry leaves and wood chips, to help maintain a balance ratio. **Pro tip:** Chop materials into small pieces or add nitrogen-rich items (like coffee grounds or chicken manure) to speed up decomposition.
3. Not composting? You can place these items into your green cart.

Composting works best with a balance of “greens” (like food scraps) and “browns” (like dry leaves). Keep it moist and give it air by mixing occasionally. If you're composting at home, there are different methods to try, including hot composting and even worm bins!





Food Waste Reduction Tips

Decreasing household food waste will save you money, reduce your carbon footprint and make SB 1383 compliance easier!

Check out these helpful tips on reducing your food waste:

- 1. Plan before you shop** – Make a grocery list before heading to the store, and track what you use during the week to avoid overbuying.
- 2. Know your expiration dates** – “Best before” means the food is still safe to consume but may lose quality, and “Use by” means it’s no longer safe to eat and must be tossed.
- 3. Store food properly** – Keep your fridge below 40°F to slow bacteria growth and:
 - a. Use the coldest drawer for meat and fish (around 29°F).
 - b. Use the low humidity drawer for foods that rot (bananas, apples and avocados)
 - c. Use the high humidity drawer for foods that wilt (leafy greens, cucumbers and citrus)
 - d. Store onions, potatoes and tomatoes in a cool, dark place—not the fridge.
 - e. Keep herbs fresh by trimming the stems and placing them in a cup of water.
- 4. Repurpose scraps** – Use wilted greens in soups, sauces or smoothies. Save veggie scraps in the freezer for homemade broth, and freeze the broth in ice cube trays for easy use later.
- 5. Compost what’s left** – Compost all organic scraps, except meat, bones or greasy foods, by placing them in your kitchen pail or green cart.
- 6. Donate what you can** – Have extra canned or packaged food? Donate it! The City is working with local businesses to support food recovery efforts under SB 1383, which aims to recover 20% of edible food for people in need by the end of 2025.

To learn more ways to reduce food waste, visit CalRecycle.ca.gov/Organics



Food left outside, including pet food, can attract bears. To avoid unwanted wildlife encounters, always secure your trash and avoid leaving food outdoors.

Need a bear-resistant container? Contact your waste hauler to request a bear-resistant bin or barrel.



Household Hazardous Waste

Many common household products, such as automotive and home improvement products, contain potentially hazardous ingredients and require special care when disposed.

It is illegal to dispose of household hazardous waste in the garbage, down storm drains or onto the ground. By throwing household hazardous waste in the garbage, you can cause additional hazards to your waste collection workers and neighborhood.

Residents are eligible to drop off Household Hazardous Waste at the Glendale Environmental Management Center. Additionally, S.A.F.E. Collection Centers run by Los Angeles County are available. For a complete list of accepted items please visit the Glendale HHW Program webpage or S.A.F.E. Collection Centers webpage.



For more information, visit LCF.ca.gov/Public-Works/Waste-Disposal-Recycling



What Goes Where: Waste Sorting Made Simple

All California residents and businesses are required to separate waste into three categories: trash, recycling and green/organic waste. Sorting helps reduce methane emissions from landfills by keeping organic waste, like food scraps, out of the trash.

Check out the guidelines below to ensure you are sorting smart.



Recyclables – Blue Bin

Materials must be clean and dry

- Cardboard and paper (office paper, newspaper, egg cartons)
- Aluminum cans and foil
- Pet food cans
- Glass bottles and jars
- Plastic bottles and containers



Green/Organic Waste – Green Bin

- Fruits, vegetables, bread, rice and pasta
- Meat, bones, poultry, seafood and soft shells (lobster, crab, eggshells)
- Cheese and dairy
- Napkins, paper towels, coffee filters
- Flowers and herbs
- Leaves, grass, brush and weeds
- Tree trimmings and untreated/unpainted wood



Trash – Black Bin

- Any items that don't belong in recycling or organic bins, including diapers, feminine hygiene products and pet waste

For questions about specific items or to request an updated materials list, please contact your waste hauler.



City Waste Hauler Requirements

The City of La Cañada Flintridge works with three waste haulers, Republic Services (formerly Allied Waste Services), Athens Services and NASA Services.

Each hauler is responsible for implementing SB 1383 requirements, and a key part of this process is contamination monitoring. Waste haulers check green waste bins to ensure only approved organic materials are included, helping keep the program effective and compliant.

Throughout this transition, the City and waste haulers remain committed to educating residents and providing useful information to make recycling easier. Thank you for helping build a cleaner, greener community for generations to come!

Learn more about each hauler's services and SB 1383 information by scanning the QR codes below.



Republic Services
RepublicServices.com



Athens Services
AthensServices.com



NASA Services
NasaServices.com

CITY INFORMATION

The City Council meets the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 6 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, One Civic Center Drive, La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011.

City Council

Kim Bowman – Mayor
Jeanne Kim Hobson – Mayor Pro Tem
Michael T. Davitt
Keith Eich
Stephanie Fossan

Public Safety

Sheriff's Station: (818) 248-3464
Fire Station 82: (818) 790-4686
Fire Station 19: (818) 249-1562

City Staff

Daniel Jordan - City Manager
Arabo Parseghian - Assistant City Manager
Adrian R. Guerra - City Attorney
Tania Garcia - City Clerk
Maged El-Rabaa - Director of Public Works/City Engineer
Susan Koleda - Director of Comm. Development
Kristin Cook - Director of Admin. Services
Terry Kim - Director of Finance

City Hall

One Civic Center Drive, La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011

Administration: (818) 790-8880 Public Works: (818) 790-8882
Finance: (818) 790-8880 Building and Safety: (818) 790-8651
Community Development: (818) 790-8881

City Hall Hours: Mon – Thurs: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Fri: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Building & Safety Hours: Mon – Thurs: 7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., Fri: 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Website: LCF.ca.gov

WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED

Stay up to date on the latest news and events by following the City on social media.



[Facebook.com/ CityOfLaCañadaFlintridge](https://www.facebook.com/CityOfLaCañadaFlintridge)



[X.com/TheCityOfLCF](https://twitter.com/TheCityOfLCF)



[Instagram.com/TheCityOfLCF](https://www.instagram.com/TheCityOfLCF)

Sign up to receive emails from the City, including the LCF Bulletin monthly e-newsletter, emergency updates and other important news.



LCF.ca.gov/SignUp

Contact Your City Council

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