Town of Apple Valley Residential Organic Waste Recycling and SB 1383

Frequently asked questions

**What is SB 1383?**

California Senate Bill 1383 was enacted in 2016 and became effective January 2022. It is a State Law

aimed at reducing short-lived climate pollutants and greenhouse gases. The law requires all organic

waste to be recycled, specifically food waste, for the purposes of diverting it from landfills.

**How does this law help the environment?**

This law will help California achieve its goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by diverting materials

from landfills that produce harmful gases such as methane. Organic materials (food scraps,

yard/green waste, etc.) make up almost half of the State’s waste stream. Redirecting these resources

to composting and digesting operations will save landfill space, reduce greenhouse gas emissions,

generate energy, and create valuable soil amendments that will be sold to farmers and other

agricultural users.

**Who must comply with the new law?**

The law affects all California residents, including those in single and multi-family homes, apartment

complexes, and commercial entities such as schools, hospitals, and care facilities. The law requires jurisdictions

to provide organic waste collection to all properties as a means of separating their organics for landfill

diversion and recycling.

**When will the Town require organics recycling to comply with SB 1383?**

The Town of Apple Valley program is tentatively scheduled to begin the first week of October 2022. Many commercial businesses are already recycling their organics under the Towns AB 1826 program for Mandatory Commercial Organics

Recycling. The commercial program is a four container system for source separated food and green waste and recyclable materials. This program will be expanding under SB 1383 to include multi-family dwellings of 5 or more units.

**How will the mandate affect residents?**

For single family dwellings and dwellings of up to 4 units, food waste will no longer be placed in the

regular trash. Residents will place bagged food scraps and loose yard/green waste in a new, green

cart that will be provided by the Town’s exclusive franchise waste hauler, Burrtec Waste Industries Inc.

**How do I know what can and can not be put in the green organics barrel?**

Acceptable organic materials in the residential program are food scraps such as fruit and

vegetable scraps, coffee grounds, grains, eggs/eggshells, meat, bones, seafood, leftovers – any food

waste material. Yard/green waste such as grass clippings, leaves, branches, and prunings may also be

placed in the container. Food scraps must be bagged, but green waste should remain loose in the cart. The

bags you use do not need to be compostable or biodegradable.

**Is there a charge for the new program?**

Although the State is imposing these requirements on jurisdictions it is not providing the

financial assistance needed to fully implement the program. As a result Town of Apple Valley customers

will see an increase in their trash bill to cover the costs associated with the program. The increase was approved by council on August 23rd, 2022 and includes costs for the added collection vehicle/route, equipment, containers, material processing, labor, and administrative costs for ensuring compliance with all obligations under SB 1383.

All solid waste rates are set by Resolution of the Town Council. Please contact 760-240-7000 ext 7561 for more

information.

**Will there be a reduced rate for low-income residents?**

The Town will continue to offer a hardship rate. Please contact 760-240-7000 ext. 7707 for

information on how to qualify.

**What if I already compost my food waste and/or generate little to no food waste?**

You can continue to compost food waste in your home or on your property. The Town’s program will

accept other organics that are not recommended for backyard composting, including larger

branches and certain food wastes that can attract vermin. While these are not recommended for

backyard composting, they will be processed for composting by Burrtec Waste. Unfortunately, SB 1383

does not allow residential exemptions; it requires the Town provide organics collection services

regardless of composting activities or amount of organic waste generated.

**When will I get my organics container and when will collection begin? Will my organics be picked**

**up the same day as my trash?**

Containers are being delivered starting September 12th and collection will begin October 3rd. Each household will receive one (1) 35-gallon green barrel. Organic waste pickup will be on a weekly basis and on the same day as your trash and recycling, organics.

**I’m concerned about potential odors and rodents. What can be done about these potential impacts?**

Here are some tips to help keep your barrels clean:

* Use a lined kitchen container (pale, bucket, bin, or box) to collect the material and securely

tie the bag/liner before placing it into the green barrel.

* Avoid putting excess liquids in containers.
* Keep lids closed at all times and store in a shady area if possible.
* Set your barrel out every week.
* Use scented liners or sprinkle baking soda into containers to remove odors.

**What happens to the organic waste after it is collected by Burrtec?**

Collected organic waste will be transported to the Victor Valley Compost Facility in Victorville, CA. It will be processed into compost/mulch material and then sold back to the Town for use on Town owned properties and given away to residents, free of charge. Excess materials will be sold to farmers.

**I live in the County – will I be affected by this program?**

Certain areas of the County may be required to have organics recycling under a separate County

program. Please contact San Bernardino County Solid Waste at 909-386-8701 for more information.

**How can I find out more about SB 1383?**

Visit CalRecycle's website at <https://calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/slcp/> or

visit the Solid Waste & Recycling web page of the Town’s website at www.applevalley.org or contact the

Solid Waste office at 760-240-7000 ext. 7561 or email [pquick@applevalley.org](mailto:pquick@applevalley.org).