



CITY OF SAN DIMAS
Residential FAQ's

California SB 1383



Q: How is the city planning to assist in educating residents and commercial businesses on how to recycle organic food waste?

A: Staff has created a section on the City's website with information education residents and commercial businesses on the city-wide organics program <https://sandimasca.gov>.

Q: Will it affect my rate?

A: Yes, all rates will be affected – residential, multifamily, and commercial. These rates cover the costs of yard waste and food waste collection, transportation and the processing of these materials.

Q: Will I be fined if I don't do this?

A: SB 1383 does require the City to fine violators. However, the City will make every reasonable effort to collaborate to develop solutions, before enforcement.

Q: What can I put inside my organics cart?

A: Meat, fish, poultry, dairy products, fruits, vegetables, bread, pasta, rice, grains, plate scrapings, food soiled paper (minimal amounts acceptable), grass, leaves, small branches, shrubbery, plants, weeds, and garden trimmings.

Q: What is contamination?

A: Contamination occurs when you place non-acceptable items in the wrong bin. Contaminants can ruin an entire truck load of organics or recyclables and prevent these materials from being recycled. Loose plastic bags and bagged materials in organics and recycle carts are the most common contaminants. Please empty your organics and recyclable materials directly into your organics or recycle carts to give them the best chance of becoming new products.

Q: How will containers be monitored for contamination under SB 1383?

A: Waste Management SmartTruckSM technology captures images of materials as they're leaving the cart and entering the truck. This process occurs during every collection activity. When contamination occurs, Waste Management provides the customer with targeted feedback and education that includes the image of the cart contents. The hope is that this rapid feedback will help correct contamination. Please ensure that your preferred contact information is up to date by setting your preferences in your online <https://www.wm.com> account or My WM mobile application.

Q: Will someone inspect my home or business?

A: SB 1383 requires the City or a designee to inspect for contamination (materials being placed in the wrong cart) and notify the resident of contamination while providing education.

Q: Is the City planning on entering private properties to check for contamination?

A: At this time, the exact methodology to address the State's cart contamination minimization requirement has not been formalized. Regardless, the City and any partners will be sure to abide by laws respecting privacy and the authority limitations outlined in the legislation.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/laws/rulemaking/archive/2020/slcp>

Q: How can I avoid odors and residue?

A: Consider lining your organics cart with a layer of green waste or cardboard before placing your food waste inside. Keep your food scraps in the refrigerator or freezer and empty it directly into the organics cart on your service day to minimize odors. All single-family residents are eligible to receive one free cart exchange per year. Contact WM Customer Service at (800) 266-7551.

Q: Can I place plastic, biodegradable or compostable bags in my organics cart?

A: No. Please do not place any type of bag inside the organics cart. If you choose to collect your organic waste inside a bag, please empty the bag directly into your organics cart and discard the bag into the trash cart. Unfortunately, these products often do not break down at industrial composting facilities.

Q: Will I be receiving a fourth trash cart to separate food waste?

A: No, food waste will be co-mingled with the green waste in the organics cart. For those customers who currently have only a trash and recycling cart, you will be receiving a third cart for organics collection.

Q: Can I request a smaller organics cart?

A: Yes, contact Waste Management at (800) 266-7551 for available sizes.

Q: Do the regulations require single-family residences and multi-family complexes to subscribe to organics collection and recycle both green waste and food waste beginning January 1, 2022?

A: Yes, the regulations require jurisdictions to provide organic waste collection services (including food and landscape waste) to all single-family and multi-family residences (defined in the legislation as those with five or more units) and businesses that generate organic waste beginning January 1, 2022.

Q: Are multi-family dwellings required to provide a organics cart for residents at all enclosures on the property?

The regulations require commercial businesses, including multi-family residential dwellings of five units or more, to provide or arrange for organic waste collection services (see Article 3, Section 18984.10). These requirements include supplying and providing access to an adequate number of carts in sufficient sizes and locations with correct cart colors and labels. Ideally, organics, recycling, and landfill carts are located together in the same enclosure, as this assists in convenience for residents. However, multi-family property managers can place organic carts in a nearby enclosure when locating all carts at every enclosure is impossible or impractical. If the location is not adequate and residents are disposing of their organics in a trash cart that is closer to their residence, then the complex would be in violation. Facility managers will need to monitor the program to ensure that the carts are in adequate locations. If the waste hauler identifies a contamination issue, the hauler or jurisdiction will inform the listed account contact to address the situation.

Q: Who would residential customers contact in regards to questions about organic waste?

A: Waste Management customers may visit home.wm.com/san-dimas or contact Waste Management at (800) 266-7551

City of San Dimas customers may visit the website at <https://sandimasca.gov> or call the Public Works Department at (909) 394-6240.

Please visit <https://calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/slcp/faq/collections> for more information.



For more information about SB 1383 in your community, contact the City of San Dimas Public Works Department at (909) 394-6240 or <https://sandimasca.gov>.