



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
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CA MANDATORY COMMERCIAL ORGANICS RECYCLING LAW – ASSEMBLY BILL 1826

What is Assembly Bill 1826 (AB 1826)?

AB 1826 is a California Assembly Bill and is commonly referred to as the Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling Law. It complements AB 341 (Mandatory Commercial Recycling) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by diverting commercial organic waste from landfills and helps the State of California meet its 75% recycling goal by 2020.

What is Organic Waste?

Organic waste includes food waste, green waste, landscape and pruning waste, non-hazardous wood waste, and food-soiled paper waste that is mixed with food waste.

When does it go into effect?

AB 1826 was effective on January 1, 2016 for the City. For “Businesses” including multi-family complexes of 5 units or more, the requirement phases in over several years:

- **April 1, 2016:** *Businesses generating 8 cubic yards or more of organic waste per week.*
- **January 1, 2017:** *Businesses generating 4 cubic yards or more of organic waste per week.*
- **January 1, 2019:** *Businesses generating 4 cubic yards or more of solid waste per week.*
- **Summer/Fall 2021:** *Businesses generating 2 or more cubic yards of solid waste per week, if statewide disposal of organic waste is not reduced to 50% of 2014 disposal by 2020.*

What are the requirements?

- **Vernon “Business” including Multifamily Complexes:**
Businesses are required to divert their organics waste from disposal via one or any combination of:
 - *Source-separate organic waste from other waste and subscribe to an organic waste recycling service that specifically includes collection and recycling of organic waste.*
 - *Recycle organic waste onsite such as composting, anaerobic digestion, vermicomposting, or self-haul for organics recycling.*
 - *Subscribe to an organic waste recycling service that includes mixed-waste processing that specifically recycles organic waste.*
 - *Sell or donate the generated organic waste.*

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- **City of Vernon:**

The City is required to implement a Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling Program that consists of education, outreach, and monitoring of organics recycling efforts within the City of Vernon.

Where to go for additional Information:

- Contact your hauler/recyclers to learn more about their organic waste diversion programs and services.

For more general information:

- Visit California Resources, Recycling, and Recovery (CalRecycle) website: <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/>
- Bill: http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201320140AB1826
- Introduction/background: <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/recycle/commercial/organics/>
- Frequently asked questions: <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/recycle/commercial/organics/FAQ.htm>
- California Climate Change: <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Climate/>