

Recycling and Organics Guide for Businesses

You have been identified as a business subject to California's mandatory recycling laws

City of Modesto 3-Container System

As of January 1, 2023, your business is required to have a garbage, organics, and recycling containers.

What goes in every container

Garbage: Non-organic garbage, plastic bags, diapers, animal waste, polystyrene items, masks, gloves, wipes, & Styrofoam

Organics: Food waste, green & landscape waste, food soiled paper & cardboard, paper products, cardboard, napkins & paper towels. Coffee grounds & filters

Recycling: Clean cardboard, glass bottles & containers, metal cans, & plastic

Mandatory Recycling and Organics Recycling (AB 341, AB 1826 and SB 1383)

Businesses, including multi-family apartments with 5 or more units, are required to provide, label, and periodically inspect containers for contamination and are required to educate employees and tenants on proper disposal of waste.

AB 341: Mandatory Commercial Recycling Law

All businesses and multi-family apartments in California generating 4 or more cubic yards of waste are required to recycle

AB1826 and SB1383: Organic Waste

These two laws regulate organics in the State of California. All businesses and multi-family apartments are required to have organic containers, properly separate and dispose of organic materials as required by State of CA law SB1383.

SB 1383 Food Recovery

SB1383 requires commercial edible food generators to donate all leftover or unsold food that would otherwise be disposed of to a food recovery organizations or services such as food banks or soup kitchens.

SB 1383 require that mandated food donors establish contracts or written agreements with food recovery organizations and services. Food donors are typically larger supermarkets & restaurants, food distributors/wholesale vendors.

AB 827: Educating and Involving Customers to Achieve California's Recycling Goals

Businesses must provide recycling and organics containers at front-of-house to collect waste generated by customers from products they purchase and consume on the premises. These containers must be placed adjacent to trash containers.

AB 827 requires collection containers at front-of-house to be visible, easily accessible, and clearly marked and labeled. This law targets businesses that sell products meant for immediate consumption.

For more information, please contact the Solid Waste Division at 209-577-5494 or swm@modestogov.com

