

RDRS Bulletin 2026-01

Subject: How to report organic material sent to composting facilities for processing

Summary

Pursuant to the RDRS Regulations (Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Article 9.25, Sections 18815.1 *et seq.*), organic material sent to a composting facility or operation (compostable material handling facility, in-vessel digestion facility, *etc.*) must be reported in RDRS. When doing so, reporting entities shall report materials at the level of segregation at the time they were sold or transferred. RDRS staff have encountered several instances in which reporting entities have likely misclassified material type in organic outflows. For example, reporting entities have sent outflows of “compost” to composting facilities (which should be *producing* compost, not receiving it). Reporting entities have also often reported outflows with a heterogeneous material type, such as “mixed organics,” without providing the constituent materials of that outflow. RDRS staff remind reporting entities that constituent materials are required unless a reporting entity has no information on the constituents (RDRS Regulations, section 18815.9(a)(2)(D)).

This Bulletin describes how to report organic material sent to composting facilities. To assist reporting entities with understanding and completing this portion of their reporting obligations, a simplified stepwise process is provided below.

Additionally, this Bulletin provides two examples, which include images, of how the required reporting should be completed. Example 1 illustrates how to complete the required reporting when a transfer/processor sends “mixed organics” to a composting facility. Example 2 outlines the steps required to complete reporting when green bin materials are separated by the sending transfer/processing facility into discrete green waste and food waste streams prior to being sent to a composting facility. Short summaries of the examples are provided alongside step-by-step instructions.

Reporting Organic Material Sent to Composting Facilities: Simplified Stepwise Process

Step 1 – Enable the Recycling/Composting Outflow Material Stream

If your facility sends organic material to a composting facility for processing, and if that composting facility has a different RDRS number than your facility, then the outflow should be reported in the recycling/composting stream. Add the Recycling/Composting outflow stream in the Outflows tab of RDRS by clicking the “Edit” button and checking the Recycling/Composting checkbox (below the Methods questions). Then click the “Save” button.

Step 2 – Create a Recycling/Composting Outflow for Each Destination

After enabling the Recycling/Composting outflow stream, add a Recycling/Composting outflow for each composting destination to which your facility sent organic material in a given reporting period. If you sent organics to multiple composting facilities, repeat this step for each facility.

Step 3 – Enter Tons for the Outflow

For each recycling/composting outflow (*i.e.*, each destination), you will be required to choose at least one material type and enter the tonnage for that outflow. When entering tons, if your facility sent multiple outflows to the same composter, the tonnage of those outflows should be summed and reported as one **ONLY** if the material type(s) of those outflows were all the same. If the material type(s) differed among the outflows, then you will need to report the tons separately for each material type outflow group (see Example 1, Steps 4 and 5).

Step 4 – Choose an Initial Material Type for Each Destination

For each recycling/composting outflow (*i.e.*, each destination), you will be required to choose at least one material type. When choosing material type, keep in mind the following:

- The “compost” material type should not be chosen when sending material to a composting facility, since composting facilities generate rather than accept compost.
- Some material types are classified as heterogeneous, which requires reporting of constituent materials. Constituent material reporting is shown in Step 5.
- If your facility sent multiple outflows to the same composter, and if the material types of those outflows were not all the same, then you must report the outflows separately by adding multiple material types. After you add the first material type and save the tonnage, you will be able to add additional material types (Step 6).

Step 5 – Enter Constituent Materials, if Required

For heterogeneous material types, RDRS will require you to enter the constituents that were present in that mixed material. When completing the constituents section, note the following:

- If you do not know the constituents, indicate that in RDRS. Marking that you do not know the constituents means that you have absolutely no information about the constituents of the material. RDRS staff will investigate the use of this certification.
- If your facility sent multiple outflows of the same heterogeneous material type to the same composter, but the constituents of those outflows differed, then you must report separately the tons of each heterogeneous mixture with different constituent materials (see Step 6).

Step 6 – Enter Additional Material Types, if Necessary

Multiple outflows sent to the same composter with different material types should be reported separately. After adding the initial material type (Step 4) and saving the tons, add additional material types if necessary. After you have added all necessary material types, go back to the Outflows tab and add additional recycling/composting outflows as needed.

Example 1 Summary

A transfer/processing facility or operation reports sending unprocessed material from residential curbside organics bins to a composting facility with a different RDRS number inside California, for processing. The information is reported in the Recycling/Composting table of the Outflows tab (Title 14, CCR, Section 18815.5(a)(2)(A)) as laid out below:

Recycling/Composting					
+ Add Recycling/Composting Outflow Export to Excel					
	Organization/Site ↑	Reporting Entity Name (RDRS#)	Region (Country, State, Tribal Land)	Tons Sent	Material(s)
→ Select	Chunk-e Friend Compost	Chunk-e Friend Compost - Recycler/Composter (RD13893)		234.70	Mixed Organics
		Total		234.70	
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In this example, 234.70 tons of “Mixed Organics” are reported, which is a heterogeneous material type. Therefore, the reporting entity is required to report the constituent materials (Title 14, CCR, Section 18815.9(a)(2)(D)).

Clicking the “→Select” button reveals that the Constituent Materials reported were “Branches and/or Stumps,” “Leaves and/or Grass,” and “Post-Consumer Food Waste.”

Materials

+ Add Material Export to Excel			
	Material ↑	Constituent Materials	Tons Sent
→ Select	Organics - Mixed Organics - Mixed Organics	Branches and/or Stumps, Leaves and/or Grass, Post-Consumer Food Waste	234.70
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Completing the Reporting for Example 1

1. Complete Collection Methods and Inflows tabs prior to adding Outflows.
2. Click on the Outflows tab to navigate to Outflows.

3. Click the “Edit” button and answer the questions.

Outflows

Reporting Entity Name: [REDACTED] Transfer Station - Activity: Transfer/Processor

Instructions Collection Methods Inflows **Outflows** Disposal Allocations Green Material Allocations Disposal Origins Green Material

Review & Submit

Method(s) used to determine tons sent (Check all that apply). Title 14, CCR, 18815.9(g)
Not Answered Yet.
Method(s) used to determine jurisdiction of origin for direct haul material (MSW), green material potential beneficial reuse from direct haul, or mixed plastic waste export. Title 14, CCR, 18815.9(b)
Not Answered Yet.
Outflow Stream (Note: Outflows must be selected to add outflows)
Not Answered Yet.
[Outflows Help](#)

Created by [REDACTED]



4. Answer the Methods questions.

Method(s) used to determine tons sent (Check all that apply). Title 14, CCR, 18815.9(g)

- ☐ Track outflow amounts based on my own measurements of the following (Check all that apply): (multi-select)
- ☐ Track material weight using certified scales. 18815.9(g)(1)
 - ☐ Track material weight using non-certified scales. 18815.9(g)(2)
 - ☐ For material other than solid waste, use material-specific volume to weight conversion factors to estimate tons. 18815.9(g)(3)(D)
 - ☐ For material sent to another reporting entity with a different RDRS number located at the same site using a conveyance system without scales, used volume to weight conversion factors, flow rates, or belt scales. 18815.9(g)(3)(E)
- ☐ Rely on the receiving facility to provide outflow amounts based on the recipient's measurement of tons using the following methods (Check all that apply): (multi-select)
- ☐ Track material weight using certified scales. 18815.9(g)(1)
 - ☐ Track material weight using non-certified scales. 18815.9(g)(2)
 - ☐ For material other than solid waste, use material-specific volume to weight conversion factors to estimate tons. 18815.9(g)(3)(D)
 - ☐ For material sent to another reporting entity with a different RDRS number located at the same site using a conveyance system without scales, used volume to weight conversion factors, flow rates, or belt scales. 18815.9(g)(3)(E)

Method(s) used to determine jurisdiction of origin for direct haul material (MSW), green material potential beneficial reuse from direct haul, or mixed plastic waste export. Title 14, CCR, 18815.9(b)

Standard methods for each load of material accepted (check all that apply). (multi-select)

- ☐ Ask jurisdiction of origin at the gate at the time of delivery for each hauler/person bringing materials. 18815.9(b)(2)
- ☐ If a gatehouse attendant was not present for some business hours, but was present during all business hours for at least one week during the quarter, for the hours a gatehouse attendant was present, asked jurisdiction of origin at the gate at the time of delivery for each hauler/person bringing materials. 18815.9(b)(2)(A)
- ☐ Use periodic reports from the reporting entities delivering materials. 18815.9(b)(2)

Special exemptions if gatehouse attendant is not available and facility meets the requirements in 18815.9(b)(2)(A), (B), or (C) (check all that apply). (multi-select)

- ☐ Gatehouse attendant was not present at minimum for all business hours for at least one week per quarter. Conducted origin surveys at least once per reporting period and for at least one week in duration. 18815.9(b)(2)(A)
- ☐ Gatehouse attendant was not present during any business hours and my facility only accepts waste from specified jurisdictions. Assigned the origin of solid waste based on facility usage agreements and restrictions, property records, or other records that are representative of the jurisdictional breakdown of the material received. 18815.9(b)(2)(B)
- ☐ Gatehouse attendant was not present during any business hours and there was no representative basis for determining jurisdiction of origin. Assigned jurisdiction of origin to the jurisdiction in which the facility is located. 18815.9(b)(2)(C)
- ☐ Alternative methods approved by the Department. 18815.9(b)(2)

5. Under “Outflow Stream,” ensure “Recycling/Composting” is checked (in addition to any other outflow streams required to be reported. Since the Transfer/Processor in the image below also has material sent to solid waste disposal and for brokering/transporting, those boxes are checked in the example as well). Click the “Save” button when you are finished. This will take you back to the main Outflows

page.

Outflow Stream (Note: Outflows must be selected to add outflows)

- ☒ Recycling/Composting
- ☒ Solid Waste
- ☐ Disaster Debris for Disposal
- ☐ Designated Waste for Disposal
- ☐ Green Material for Potential Beneficial Reuse
- ☐ Non-Green Material for Potential Beneficial Reuse
- ☐ End Use
- ☒ Brokering/Transporting
- ☐ Mixed Plastic Waste Export

Important: When adding outflows, the material streams "Green Material for Potential Beneficial Reuse" and "Non-Green Material for Potential Beneficial Reuse" do NOT refer to material sent for recycling, composting, brokering/transporting, or end use. The beneficial reuse material streams are to be used for materials that are, or may potentially be, used by a landfill for beneficial reuse as defined in [Title 14, CCR, § 18815.2\(a\)\(5\)](#), such as alternative daily cover (ADC). Do not report outflows of recycling, composting, brokering/transporting, or end use using the beneficial reuse streams.

Created by:

Save

Cancel

6. Click the "+ Add Recycling/Composting Outflow" button on the top-left of the Recycling/Composting Outflow table.

Recycling/Composting

+ Add Recycling/Composting Outflow Export to Excel					
	Organization/Site ↑	Reporting Entity Name (RDRS#)	Region (Country, State, Tribal Land)	Tons Sent	Material(s)
There are no recycling/composting outflows.					
		Total		0.00	
◀	◀	0	▶	▶	5 items per page
No items to display					↻

7. This takes you to the Add Outflow screen. Click the "RDRS ID or Facility Name*" drop-down and begin typing the name to add the composting facility or operation. The drop-down list will filter in real-time based on your input. Click the facility once it appears to select it or add it if the facility is not listed. In this example, the destination facility is located inside California. If the composting destination is outside California, only the Region is required (State, Country, Tribal Land).

Add Outflow

Reporting Entity Name: [REDACTED]

Instructions	Collection Methods	Inflows	Outflows	Disposal Allocations	Green Material
Mixed Plastic Waste Export Origins	Source Sectors	Organics Measurement	Documents	Rev	

Outflow

Material Sent For
Recycling/Composting

Destination Information ?

Receiving Facility Location * ?

☒ In CA ☐ Out of State ☐ Out of Country ☐ Tribal Land

RDRS ID or Facility Name* ☐ Facility not listed

Outflow

Material Sent For
Recycling/Composting

Destination Information ?

Receiving Facility Location * ?

☒ In CA ☐ Out of State ☐ Out of Country ☐ Tribal Land

RDRS ID or Facility Name* ☐ Facility not listed

Chunk-e Friend Compost (RD13893, Chunk-e Friend Compost - Recycler/Composter)

Material Type * ?

Tons Sent *

0

Outflow

Material Sent For

Recycling/Composting

Destination Information ?

Receiving Facility Location * ?

☒ In CA ☐ Out of State ☐ Out of Country ☐ Tribal Land

RDRS ID or Facility Name* ☐ Facility not listed

Chunk-e Friend Compost (RD13893, Chunk-e Friend Compost - Recycl... ▼

Contact

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Physical Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
California 9[REDACTED]

Mailing Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
California 9[REDACTED]

- Click the “Material Type” drop-down under “Material” and type “mixed organics.” Select “Organics – Mixed Organics – Mixed Organics.”

Material

Material List

Material Type * ?

▼

mixed organics 🔍

Organics - Mixed Organics - Mixed Organics

- This Material Type is considered heterogeneous. Another box will appear below, titled “Constituent Materials for Heterogeneous Material Type.” Click the “+ Add Constituent Material” button. In the instance that a reporting entity does not know the constituent materials, there is a checkbox above the table “Constituent Materials for Heterogeneous Material Type” to certify that you cannot determine the list of

constituent materials.

Constituent Materials for Heterogeneous Material Type

+ Add Constituent Material

Constituent Material	
Please add constituent material.	

◀◀

0

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10. Enter the Constituent Materials. In this instance, Branches and/or Stumps, Leaves and/or Grass, and Post-Consumer Food Waste were the constituent materials in the municipal curbside organics bin. Click the drop-down under Constituent Material and search for appropriate materials by typing to filter the list, locating the appropriate material type, and adding them sequentially using the “+ Add Constituent Material” button.

Constituent Materials for Heterogeneous Material Type

+ Add Constituent Material

Constituent Material	
leaves	Delete

Organics - Green Waste - Leaves and/or Grass

↺

Constituent Materials for Heterogeneous Material Type

+ Add Constituent Material

Constituent Material	
Organics - Green Waste - Leaves and/or Grass	Delete
Organics - Food Waste - Post-Consumer Food Waste	Delete
Organics - Green Waste - Branches and/or Stumps	Delete

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11. Enter the total tons sent to that facility over the course of the quarter for this group of constituents. Click the “Save” button to return to the Outflow Details page.

Tons Sent *

234.70

Created by

Save Cancel

12. If you sent any other Material Types (or the same Material Type with different constituent materials) to this composting facility, click the “+ Add Material” button to repeat the process from Step 8. Otherwise, click the “Back” button to return to the

Outflows tab.

Outflow

Material Sent For
Recycling/Composting

Destination Information ?

RDRS ID or Facility Name
Chunk-e Friend Compost (RD13893, Chunk-e Friend
Compost - Recycler/Composter)

Contact
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Physical Address
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Mailing Address
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Created by [REDACTED]

Edit

Back

Delete

Materials

+ Add Material Export to Excel			
	Material ↑	Constituent Materials	Tons Sent
→ Select	Organics - Mixed Organics - Mixed Organics	Branches and/or Stumps, Leaves and/or Grass, Post-Consumer Food Waste	234.70
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13. Complete the rest of the required reporting and submit.

Example 2 Summary

A transfer/processing facility or operation processes inbound organics into food waste and green waste streams prior to sending them to two different compostable material handling facilities (a composting facility and an in-vessel digestion facility) inside California for further processing. The information is reported in the Recycling/Composting table of the Outflows tab (Title 14, CCR, Section 18815.5(a)(2)(A)) as laid out below:

Recycling/Composting

+ Add Recycling/Composting Outflow Export to Excel					
	Organization/Site ↑	Reporting Entity Name (RDRS#)	Region (Country, State, Tribal Land)	Tons Sent	Material(s)
→ Select	Chunk-e Friend Compost	Chunk-e Friend Compost - Recycler/Composter (RD13893)		81.24	Green Waste
→ Select	Down the Hatch Digestion Company	Down the Hatch Digestion Company - Recycler/Composter (RD13895)		54.32	Post-Consumer Food Waste
		Total		135.56	

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In this example, 81.24 tons of “Green Waste” were reported, which is a heterogeneous material type. Therefore, the reporting entity is required to report the constituent materials (Title 14, CCR, Section 18815.9(a)(2)(D)).

In addition, 54.32 tons of “Post-Consumer Food Waste” were reported, which is a homogeneous material type.

Clicking the “→Select” button next to that row reveals that the Constituent Materials of Green Waste were “Branches and/or Stumps” and “Leaves and/or Grass.”

Materials

+ Add Material Export to Excel			
	Material ↑	Constituent Materials	Tons Sent
→ Select	Organics - Green Waste - Green Waste	Branches and/or Stumps, Leaves and/or Grass	81.24

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Completing the Reporting for Example 2

1. Complete Steps 1-7 from Example 1 to add an outflow to the composting facility.
2. Click the “Material Type” drop-down and type “green waste.” Then, select it from the drop-down.

Material

Material List

Material Type * [?](#)

Organics - Green Waste - Green Waste

3. This Material Type is considered heterogeneous. Another box will appear below, titled “Constituent Materials for Heterogeneous Material Type.” Click the “+ Add Constituent Material” button. In the instance that a reporting entity does not know the constituent materials, there is a checkbox above the table “Constituent Materials for Heterogeneous Material Type” to certify that you cannot determine the list of constituent materials.

Constituent Materials for Heterogeneous Material Type

+ Add Constituent Material

Constituent Material	
Please add constituent material.	
◀◀ 0 ▶▶ ↻	

4. Enter the Constituent Materials. In this instance, Branches and/or Stumps and Leaves and/or Grass were the constituent materials resulting from initial processing of the municipal curbside organics bin. Click the drop-down under Constituent Material and search for appropriate materials by typing to filter the list, locating the appropriate material type and adding them sequentially using the “+ Add Constituent Material” button.

Constituent Materials for Heterogeneous Material Type

+ Add Constituent Material

Constituent Material	
leaves	Delete
Organics - Green Waste - Leaves and/or Grass	

↻

Constituent Materials for Heterogeneous Material Type

+ Add Constituent Material

Organics - Green Waste - Leaves and/or Grass	Delete
Organics - Green Waste - Branches and/or Stumps	Delete

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1

▶▶

10

▼

items per page

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5. Enter the total tons sent to that facility over the course of the quarter for this group of constituents. Click the “Save” button to return to the Outflow Details page.

Tons Sent *

81.24

Created by

Save

Cancel

6. If you sent any other Material Types (or the same Material Type with different constituent materials) to this composting facility, click the “+ Add Material” button to repeat the process from Step 2. Otherwise, click the “Back” button to return to the Outflows tab.

Outflow

Material Sent For

Recycling/Composting

Destination Information ?

RDRS ID or Facility Name

Chunk-e Friend Compost (RD13893, Chunk-e Friend
Compost - Recycler/Composter)

Contact

Physical Address

Mailing Address

Created by

Edit

Back

Delete

Materials

+ Add Material

Export to Excel

	Material ↑	Constituent Materials	Tons Sent
→ Select	Organics - Green Waste - Green Waste	Branches and/or Stumps, Leaves and/or Grass	81.24

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1

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▶

5

items per page



7. Click the “+ Add Recycling/Composting Outflow” to add another Outflow destination.

Recycling/Composting

+ Add Recycling/Composting Outflow Export to Excel					
	Organization/Site ↑	Reporting Entity Name (RDRS#)	Region (Country, State, Tribal Land)	Tons Sent	Material
→ Select	Chunk-e Friend Compost	Chunk-e Friend Compost - Recycler/Composter (RD13893)		81.24	Green V
		Total		81.24	

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1

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5

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items per page

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8. Repeat Step 1 to add an outflow to the in-vessel digestion facility.
9. Click the “Material Type” drop-down and type “post-consumer.” Then, select the post-consumer food waste type from the drop-down.

Material

Material List

Material Type * ?

post-consumer

Organics - Food Waste - Post-Consumer Food Waste

10. Enter the tons and click “Save.” Since this is a homogeneous material type, constituent materials are not required to be entered.

Material

[Material List](#)

Material Type * ?

Organics - Food Waste - Post-Consumer Food Waste ▼

Tons Sent *

54.32|

Created by

Save

Cancel

11. If you sent any other Material Types (or the same Material Type with different constituent materials) to this composting facility, click the “+ Add Material” button to repeat the process from Step 9. Otherwise, click the “Back” button to return to the

Outflows tab.

Outflow

Material Sent For
Recycling/Composting

Destination Information ?

RDRS ID or Facility Name
Down the Hatch Digestion Company (RD13895, Down the Hatch Digestion Company - Recycler/Composter)

Contact John Smith 5621234567	Physical Address 323 Fake St, Claremont, California 91711	Mailing Address 323 Fake St, Claremont, California 91711
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Created by [REDACTED]

[Edit](#) [Back](#) [Delete](#)

Materials

+ Add Material Export to Excel			
	Material ↑	Constituent Materials	Tons Sent
→ Select	Organics - Food Waste - Post-Consumer Food Waste		54.32
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12. Complete the rest of the required reporting and submit.