

# Connecting Communities



**To CalRecycle (C<sup>3</sup>)**  
2019 Third Edition



**“One individual cannot possibly make a difference, alone. It is individual efforts, collectively, that makes a noticeable difference—all the difference in the world!”**

*Dr. Jane Goodall*

## What's New?

- **Environmental justice webpage launched.** Visit <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/EnvJustice/> to read about CalRecycle's Environmental Justice Program and to access new resources including an Environmental Justice Listserv. See Page 32.
- **New CalEPA environmental complaint system launched.** The California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) launched an online tool that makes it easier to report environmental problems anywhere in the state from smart-phones, tablets, and computers. See Page 35. Access the online complaint system here: <https://calepacomplaints.secure.force.com/complaints/>.
- **Reducing methane emissions from organic waste.** In 2016, the Legislature passed SB 1383, establishing a target that the state reduce its disposal of organic waste by 75 percent by 2025 and reduce the amount of edible food disposed in landfills by 20 percent by 2025. Find out how CalRecycle is implementing the new law and how you can provide input on the rulemaking process on Page 10.
- **Food waste prevention and rescue grant program.** CalRecycle established a grant program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by establishing new or expanding existing food waste prevention and rescue programs that divert edible food away from landfills and distribute it to those in need. Learn more about the program on Page 24.
- **Frequently asked questions about solid waste facility permits.** CalRecycle has answered the most frequently asked questions about the permitting of solid waste facilities, including landfills. See Page 30.
- **Have questions about where to recycle miscellaneous materials?** See Page 13 to find out how to recycle odds and ends that shouldn't end up in the trash.

# CalRecycle Quick References

## Where to Recycle Materials You No Longer Use

### All Material Types

#### General Materials Information Webpage

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/recycle/>  
1-800-RECYCLE

#### Earth911, Inc. Recycling Center Search

<http://earth911.com/>  
1-800-CLEANUP

### “Where to Recycle” Map

#### Public Locations for Where to Recycle

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Recycle/Maps/>

### Beverage Containers

#### CalRecycle Certified Recycling Centers Directory

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/BevContainer/Recyclers/Directory/Default.aspx?lang=en-US>

### Household Hazardous Waste

#### CalRecycle Household Hazardous Waste Facilities Directory

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/HomeHazWaste/Directory/>

### Electronic Waste

#### E-Waste Collection Facilities Directory

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Electronics/Collection/>

### Sharps and Medication

#### Sharps and Medication Facilities Directory

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/FacIT/Facility/Search.aspx>

### Used Oil

#### Certified Used Oil Recycling Facilities Directory

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/UsedOil/Reports/Center-Search/Default.aspx?lang=en-US>

### Used/Waste Tires

#### CalRecycle Tire Management Hotline

(866) 896-0600

### Carpet

#### Carpet Recycling Facilities

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/ConDemo/Carpet/Facilities.htm>

### Paint

#### PaintCare Inc.: Paint Drop-Off Sites

<https://www.paintcare.org/drop-off-locations/#/find-a-drop-off-site>

See pages 12-17 for more information about how to recycle these materials.

*Protect yourself, others, and the environment from harm.*

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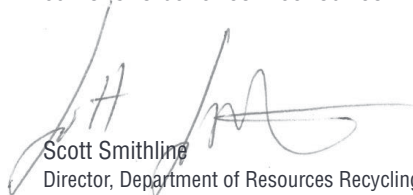
# Foreword



In 2015, CalRecycle published the first edition of Connecting Communities to CalRecycle (C3) as one of many ongoing environmental justice efforts to provide information to all Californians about how to access CalRecycle’s programs, services, and decision-making process. CalRecycle’s work is rooted in the belief that all of us—regardless of age, culture, ethnicity, gender, race, income, or location—deserve a clean and healthy place to work, live and play.

California has established ambitious recycling targets in the waste sector, aimed at preserving our natural resources and combating climate change. As CalRecycle develops policies and programs to achieve the state’s recycling targets, it is all the more important that you are able to be an active participant in this process, and know what you can do to help California achieve our recycling goals.

Thank you for picking up C3 and be sure to let us know what additional resources or information we can include in future editions to better connect our communities to CalRecycle.



Scott Smithline  
Director, Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery

# Introduction to C<sup>3</sup>

The California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, referred to as CalRecycle or the Department throughout this guidebook, protects California's precious natural resources by encouraging you, as Californians, to reduce, reuse, and recycle. The Department creates, implements, and enforces public policies to decrease the amount of material that is sent to landfills and to increase reuse and recycling in the state.

This guidebook aims to educate you about CalRecycle's role within state government by providing an overview of the Department and the waste management policies and programs it implements and enforces.

This guidebook also intends to provide you with the resources you need to stay updated and informed about CalRecycle's activities and to be involved with the Department in meaningful ways that benefit individuals and communities. We at CalRecycle encourage you to engage with us by participating in state and local governmental decision-making processes and solid waste management and recycling programs. Opportunities for public involvement and participation are highlighted throughout this guidebook.

Relevant contact information and websites are provided for the convenience and ease of those wanting to actively engage with CalRecycle. This guidebook will be updated periodically in hard copy and on the Department's website to provide current information about CalRecycle's activities.

We want to emphasize the importance of your involvement and participation with CalRecycle in our programs and decision-making processes. We could not achieve our statewide goals of waste reduction without you.

*Recology San Francisco, Artist in Residence Program. Artwork made from diverted waste.*



# Definitions

**Anaerobic Digestion:** The process of biologically decomposing organic matter (such as food and yard waste) with little or no oxygen in an enclosed structure to produce biogas, liquid fertilizer, and compost. Often used from food waste and at wastewater treatment facilities or dairies. (Biogas is a renewable energy source created from the breakdown of organic matter with the absence of oxygen through anaerobic digestion).

**Commercial Solid Waste:** Includes all types of solid waste generated by a store, office, or other commercial or public entity source, including a business or a multifamily dwelling of five or more units.

**Composting:** The process of taking organic waste materials such as green waste (yard waste), manure, food waste, and other organics and transforming them through biological decomposition as an end product, usually in the form of home or farm soil amendments.

**Digestion:** The controlled biological decomposition of organic solid waste. Digestion includes: aerobic digestion, anaerobic digestion, and other controlled biological decomposition processes.

**Disposal:** The process of collecting municipal solid waste and transferring it to a transfer station, landfill, or transformation facility. In other words, the burying or burning of generated waste, or trash, at a solid waste disposal facility.

**Disposal Facility:** Facilities that provide a legal site for the final disposal of materials including mixed solid waste, beneficial materials used from landfill construction, alternative daily cover, and specialized material sites such as construction and demolition, and waste tires.

**Disposed Waste:** Trash. Anything that is thrown away and ends up in a solid waste facility such as a landfill.

**Diversion:** The process of managing waste in some way other than disposal at a landfill or transformation (incineration) facility, so that it is reused or recycled to create new products.

**Extended Producer Responsibility:** The extension of the responsibility of producers, and all entities involved in the product chain, to reduce the cradle-to-cradle impacts of a product and its packaging; the primary responsibility lies with the producer, or brand owner,

who makes design and marketing decisions. Also known as Product Stewardship.

**Facility:** The physical location where a recycling or waste management activity occurs. More than one activity may be conducted at a single facility.

**Grasscycling:** The natural recycling of grass by leaving clippings on the lawn when mowing that returns valuable nutrients back to the soil.

**In-Vessel Digestion Facility or Operation:** A site that receives solid wastes for the purpose of digestion in an in-vessel digester.

**Landfill:** A large plot of land where waste is taken to be buried. \*See also Solid Waste Disposal.

**Local Enforcement Agency (LEA):** Local government agencies certified by CalRecycle that have interactions with, information about, and potentially some authority over waste and recycling facilities.

**Material Recovery Facility (MRF):** An intermediate processing facility that accepts source-separated recyclables from an initial collector and processes them for wholesale distribution. The recyclable material is accumulated for shipment to recycled content manufacturers or brokers, or for export out of state. Some facilities take in municipal solid waste that is not source separated and sort the mixed waste through manual and automated sorting technologies. Recyclable materials are typically recovered while non-recyclable materials are sent to landfills. A “clean MRF” accepts recyclable commingled materials that have already been separated at the source. A “dirty MRF” accepts a mixed solid waste stream and proceeds to separate out designated recyclable materials through a combination of manual and mechanical sorting.

**Mixed Waste Processing Facility:** A facility that removes one or more recyclable materials from municipal solid waste (MSW) streams. Sometimes called a “dirty MRF.”

**Municipal Solid Waste (MSW):** Refuse that may be mixed with or contain nonorganic, processed industrial materials, plastics, or other recyclables with the potential for recovery. It includes residential, commercial, and institutional wastes. Trash.



# Definitions

**Recycling:** Using waste as material to manufacture a new product. Recycling involves altering the physical form of an object or material and making a new object from the altered material.

**Reuse:** Using an object or material again, either for its original purpose or for a similar purpose, without significantly altering the physical form of the object or material.

**Solid Waste:** In general terms, solid waste refers to trash, refuse, sludges, and other discarded solid materials resulting from residential activities, and industrial and commercial operations. For regulatory purposes, hazardous waste is a subset of solid waste. \*Also see municipal (or mixed) solid waste.

**Solid Waste Disposal Facilities:** Landfills, materials recovery facility (MRFs), transformation facilities, transfer stations, waste tire facilities, and engineering municipal solid waste conversion facilities are solid waste disposal facilities.

**Sustainability:** Meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

**Transfer Station:** Receives, temporarily stores, and ships unprocessed waste to landfills or transformation facilities for disposal.

**Waste Generator:** Any person or site whose processes and actions create waste.

**Waste Hauler:** A company or business employed to collect and dispose of refuse, or an individual who collects waste and transports it to a solid waste facility.

# Commonly Used Acronyms



<b>AB:</b>	Assembly Bill
<b>BCRP:</b>	Beverage Container Recycling Program
<b>CalEPA:</b>	California Environmental Protection Agency
<b>C3:</b>	Connecting Communities to CalRecycle
<b>CalRecycle:</b>	California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery
<b>CRV:</b>	California Redemption Value or California Refund Value
<b>E-Waste:</b>	Electronic Waste
<b>GHG:</b>	Greenhouse Gas
<b>HHW:</b>	Household Hazardous Waste
<b>LEA:</b>	Local Enforcement Agency
<b>MRF:</b>	Material Recovery Facility
<b>RMDZ:</b>	Recycling Market Development Zone
<b>SB:</b>	Senate Bill
<b>U.S. EPA:</b>	United States Environmental Protection Agency

# Overview of CalRecycle

The mission of the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment to ensure public health, environmental quality, and economic vitality. As a department under the CalEPA umbrella, CalRecycle supports the agency's mission through the development, implementation, and enforcement of statewide solid waste management and recycling policies and programs.

CalRecycle administers and provides oversight for California's state-regulated waste handling and recycling programs, which are managed at the local level by cities and counties (referred to as jurisdictions). The Department also administers many statewide programs that you may be familiar with, including the Beverage Container Recycling Program, household hazardous waste and used oil grants, electronic waste payments, and organics management.

One of CalRecycle's roles is to provide assistance and guidance to jurisdictions on implementing waste management and recycling programs to meet statewide goals and mandates. This includes providing support to jurisdictions to help them promote the development of local and regional recycling markets and to become more sustainable through increased waste reduction, diversion, recycling manufacturing, and the purchasing of recycled-content products. The Department awards loans and grants to jurisdictions and local businesses that develop and carry out projects to decrease the amount of material that is sent to landfills through increased recycling and composting.

CalRecycle is responsible for regulating the operation of solid waste facilities throughout the state. These help control the impacts of solid waste on public health and the environment. The Department trains, certifies, evaluates, and oversees local enforcement agencies (LEAs), which are organizations designated by cities and counties to work with the Department at the local level. LEAs make sure jurisdictions are in compliance with the state's regulatory requirements for the proper management of solid waste. This is done through facility permitting and inspections. CalRecycle also conducts oversight inspections at landfills every 18 months to ensure state standards and permits are effectively implemented, and takes enforcement action when necessary.

California has some of the nation's most successful recycling and product-reuse programs and is continually working toward a society that uses less, recycles more, and takes resource conservation to higher and higher levels. Currently, we are working toward a statewide goal of reducing the amount of solid waste sent to landfills by 75 percent and reducing the amount of organic material sent to landfills by 50 percent by 2020. We are also working with local jurisdictions to implement new commercial organic recycling programs mandated by Assembly Bill 1826. CalRecycle is committed to protecting the environment and preserving natural resources by inspiring and challenging Californians to achieve the highest waste reduction, recycling, and reuse goals in the nation.



# A Brief History of CalRecycle

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## CalRecycle Headquarters

1001 I Street P.O. Box 4025  
Sacramento, CA 95812-4025  
(916) 322-4027

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## Beverage Container

### Recycling Program

801 K Street, MS 19-01  
Sacramento, CA 95814-3520  
1-800-RECYCLE  
(1-800-732-9253)

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## Home Webpage

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/>

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## General Contact

1-800-RECYCLE  
(1-800-732-9253)

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## Program and Office Contacts

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/ContactUs/>

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## Office Locations

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/AboutUs/Location/>

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CalRecycle's predecessor organization, the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB), was established through the Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939), which also created the state's first general recycling program. The bill mandated local jurisdictions to reduce their disposal of solid waste 25 percent by 1995 and 50 percent by 2000 through source reduction, recycling, and composting. By 2007, the state had diverted 58 percent of its solid waste. That percentage rose to 65 percent in 2008, and Californians maintained that rate through 2013.

Just prior to AB 939, the Legislature passed AB 2020 in 1986, often referred to as the state's Bottle Bill. This bill incentivized the collection and recycling of aluminum, plastic, and glass beverage containers through the collection and payment of the California Refund Value (CRV). CRV is a fee paid at the point of purchase and refundable when empty containers are taken to one of approximately 1,600 CalRecycle-certified redemption centers statewide. The purpose of the beverage container recycling program is to reduce beverage container litter in the state, to ensure that every container type proves its own recyclability, to make redemption and recycling convenient to consumers, and to create and maintain a marketplace where it is profitable to establish recycling centers. This program was originally managed by the Division of Recycling within the California Department of Conservation.

CalRecycle was established on Jan. 1, 2010, through legislation that merged the California Integrated Waste Management Board with the Division of Recycling.

See Appendix A for a summary of significant legislation that affects CalRecycle.



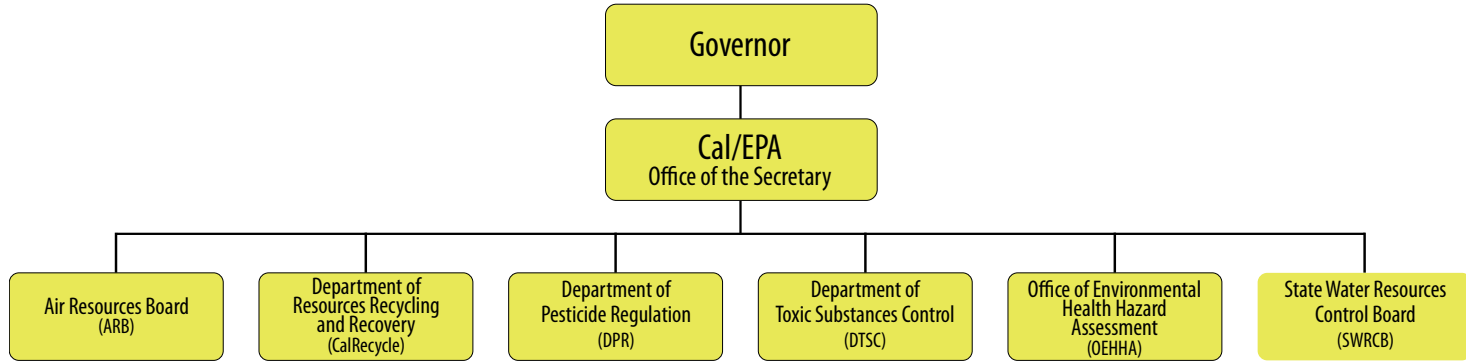
## Contact CalRecycle

You are welcome and encouraged to contact CalRecycle with questions about Department policies, solid waste management and recycling programs, and public participation opportunities, or for any other issues. We will provide what answers and assistance we can.

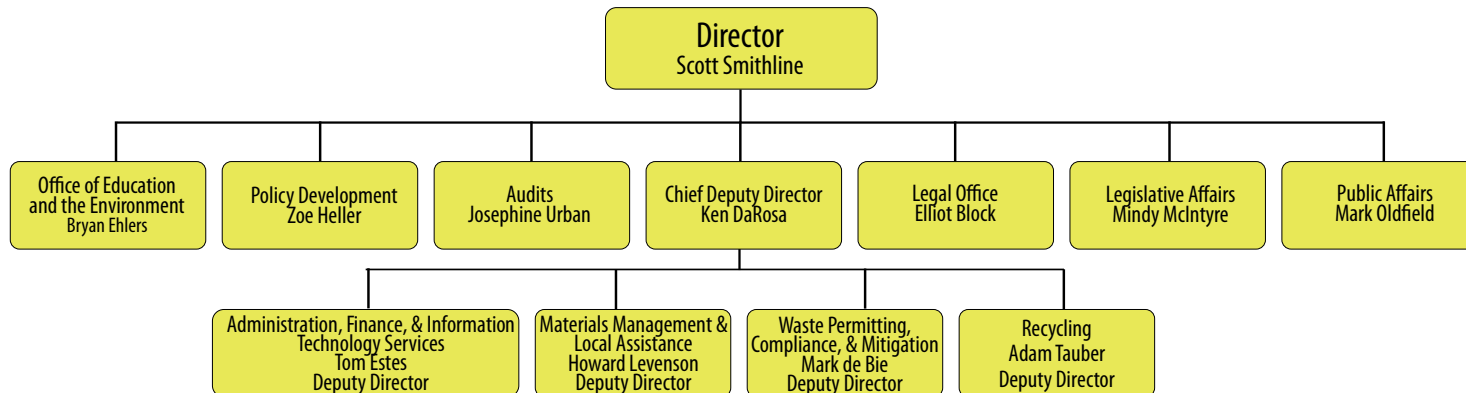
# Organization Charts



## California Environmental Protection Agency



## Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery



# Public Participation in Recycling and Composting Programs

## *Understanding Recycling*



### ***Fun Facts about Recycling!***

#### **Did you know?**

- Unlike landfills (which simply bury trash), recycling turns waste into useful products. Recycling can save money and reduces the amount of trash going to landfills.
- In California, 140,000 jobs are supported by recycling.
- The “chasing arrows” logo with a number inside denotes the kind of plastic something is made of. It does not necessarily indicate the material is recyclable in your area.
- You can redeem CRV based on the weight or number of beverage containers you recycle.
- It takes three times the amount of water in a bottle to produce a bottle of water.
- If you recycle just one aluminum can every day for a year, it saves the energy needed to run a television for 711 hours—roughly four hours a day for six months.
- There is no limit to the number of times aluminum containers can be recycled.
- There is no limit to the number of times glass containers can be recycled but it takes one million years for a glass bottle to break down.
- Producing recycled white paper creates 74 percent less air pollution, 35 percent less water pollution, and 75 percent less processed energy than producing paper from virgin fibers.
- Motor oil never wears out—it can be recycled and reused forever. There are approximately 4,000 certified used oil collection centers in California.
- A single quart of motor oil, if disposed of improperly, can contaminate up to one million gallons of fresh water.
- Eighty-five to 90 percent of a mattress is recyclable.
- Food waste is 18 percent of the waste stream and the most commonly disposed material in California.
- The best thing you can do to reduce food waste in your household is to try to avoid waste. If you want to go further, cook from scratch and incorporate leftovers into new meals.
- There is no standardized date label on food packaging in the U.S. Confusing labels result in the average American household wasting over \$2,000 annually. Labels such as “Sell By” and “Best If Used By” typically indicate the decline in food quality over time, while “Use By” is an indicator of food safety.

## Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: The Waste Management Hierarchy

Reduce. Reuse. Recycle. Dispose. This is what is referred to as the waste management hierarchy, which, according to California law, is the order of preference in managing the state's solid waste. Key ideas of the waste management hierarchy are:

- Reduce needless consumption and the generation of waste.
- Reuse any item that can be reused, or give it to a person or charity that can reuse it.
- Recycle what you can and only dispose of what you must.

As a consumer, the most important thing you can do to reduce the amount of waste that is disposed of and sent to landfills is to decrease the amount of waste you generate in the first place. This is known as source reduction—you are the source! The second most important thing you can do to reduce waste is to reuse consumer products, which prevents or at least delays the disposal of those materials. The third most important thing you can do to reduce waste is to recycle. Recycling is critical in sustainably managing the state's solid waste.

We can all take action by following the ideals of the waste management hierarchy: by reducing the amount of waste we produce, by reusing consumer products we use, by recycling, and by composting. The spirit of the waste management hierarchy also includes purchasing consumer products made from recycled materials, avoiding products with excessive packaging, shopping with reusable bags, replacing disposable items with reusable ones, and donating items you no longer use. As a Californian, it is your responsibility to make decisions that protect the environment and help us live more sustainably.

## Solid Waste Management Infrastructure

It is important to understand California's solid waste infrastructure and how disposed and recycled materials should flow from their initial use by consumers to end up at a recycled content manufacturing facility or in a landfill or other disposal facility.

The infrastructure for solid waste disposal and recycling varies by jurisdiction. This includes what materials are collected for recycling in a curbside bin. Some jurisdictions have single stream, also referred to as commingled, waste collection programs, in which recyclable materials and waste are collected in the same bin and then sorted for you at a mixed-waste processing facility. In contrast, some jurisdictions require source separation, or the separation of recyclable materials from waste materials into separate collection bins. Other jurisdictions require the separation of recyclables, food waste, green waste (yard waste), and trash. In San Francisco, for example, residents are required to separate their waste into three separate bins: organics in the green bin, recyclables in the blue bin, and trash in the black bin.

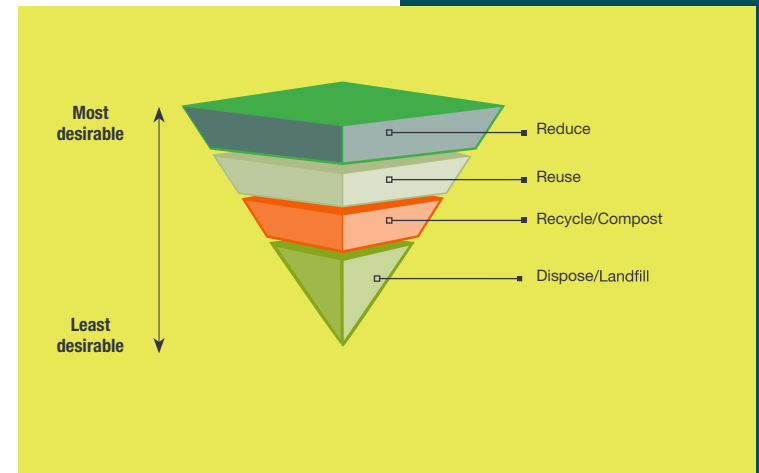
To find out how to manage waste and recyclables in your community, check with your city or county, or the contracted waste hauler for your jurisdiction. If you are still unable to access the information you need, use the jurisdiction contact search to contact a CalRecycle staff member who can assist you.

### Waste Prevention and Recycling Information

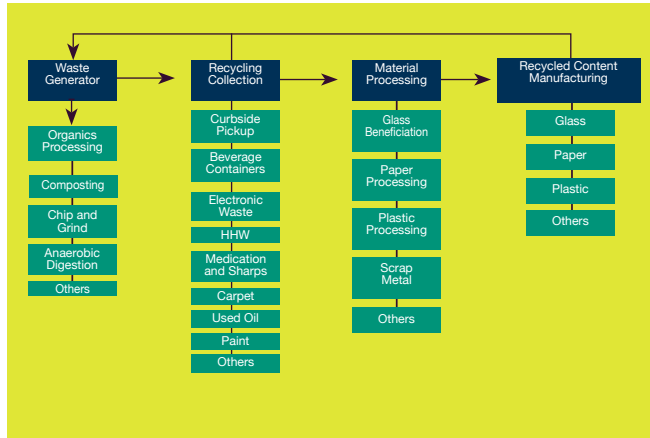
<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Reduce-Waste/Home/>

### Jurisdiction Contact Search

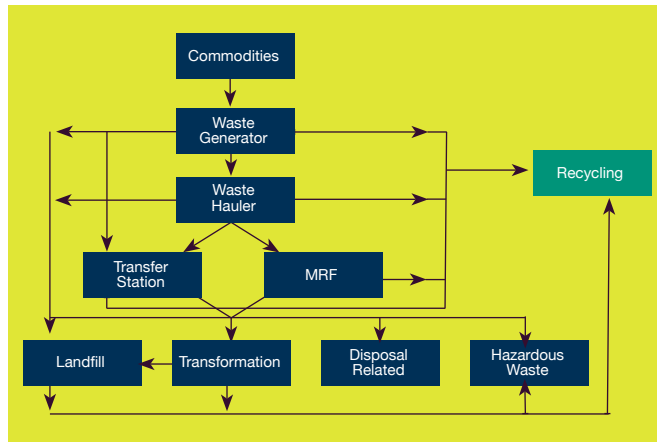
<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/LGCentral/Reports/Contacts.aspx>



### Recycling Infrastructure Overview



### Disposed Solid Waste Infrastructure Overview



Materials flow through the state’s solid waste infrastructure in a number of ways and end up in a variety of different facility types (or may, unfortunately, be illegally disposed). All too often, compostable and recyclable materials end up in landfills rather than in facilities where they can be remanufactured, reused, or recycled.

To begin, there are several different ways that waste and recyclables are collected.<sup>1</sup> Some recyclables are collected through residential and commercial curbside pickup waste services by waste haulers and are taken to a solid waste facility. Solid waste facilities include transfer stations, material recovery facilities (MRFs), composting facilities, and recycling facilities. Materials can also be taken directly by individuals to local waste collection sites, a process known as self-hauling. Refer to the definitions on page 3 for a description of each of these facilities. Recyclables from commercial businesses can also be picked up at no charge by independent recyclers.

Some recyclables, such as empty beverage containers, can be donated to community collection programs, such as local nonprofits and charity organizations. Consumers can also take most empty beverage containers to CalRecycle-certified recycling centers to redeem them for CRV or to sell for the scrap value of the material. Some waste, such as electronic waste (e-waste) and household hazardous waste (HHW), must be taken to special collection sites or facilities because they can’t be thrown away in the trash or put into the normal recyclables stream.

Things that cannot be readily recycled are typically taken to a transfer station and then to a landfill. Check with your city or county or the contracted waste hauler to see if you can tour a local solid waste facility to see how solid waste and recycling is managed in your community.

The following charts show a simplified version of the recycling and disposed solid waste infrastructure, but they do not account for how every type of material is disposed of or recycled.

<sup>1</sup>The descriptions of the disposed waste and recycling infrastructure that follow are simplified for a general understanding of how waste materials flow through the system.





# SPOTLIGHT

## Organic Waste

Organic waste, which consists of food scraps, food-soiled paper and cardboard, green waste, landscape and pruning waste, and nonhazardous wood waste, comprises approximately 66 percent of California's solid waste stream. With the passage of AB 1826, California is engaged in an aggressive effort to reduce the amount of organic material going to landfills. The bill requires CalRecycle to develop regulations to achieve a 75 percent reduction in the amount of disposed organics by 2025 and to reduce the disposal of edible food by 20 percent by 2025.

Organic material can be recycled through composting, mulching, and anaerobic digestion. Compost helps build soil structure and enhances water retention, mulch helps reduce erosion and enhances water retention, and anaerobic digestion produces renewable biofuels and bioenergy. Reducing the amount of organic material that the state sends to landfills is an important factor in reaching the state's 75 percent recycling goal. It is also essential in reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that result from the decomposition of organics in landfills and contribute to global climate change, as landfills release 21 percent of the state's methane emissions.

## Introduction to Recycling and Proper Disposal

Knowing how and where to recycle and properly dispose of different material types can be confusing, but as a Californian, you have the responsibility to properly recycle or dispose of the products you buy in order to protect the environment and human health. Putting hazardous materials in the trash can cause injury to the people who handle your trash. It can also damage the environment and wildlife by contaminating soil, air, and water resources, which further threatens human health. We encourage you to educate yourself on how to properly recycle or dispose of the products you use. This section aims to support you by providing information about how to properly recycle and dispose of various products and materials.

CalRecycle maintains a toll-free consumer hotline, 1-800-RECYCLE, for anyone who has questions about recycling. When you call the hotline, you have the choice of English or Spanish. The main menu has options for information on beverage containers, electronic waste, used oil, waste tires, and an operator for complaints or other information. Each of these menu options will direct you to the proper CalRecycle webpage for more information, or they will connect you to another hotline to speak with a CalRecycle staff member directly.

The Department also maintains a database, called the Facility Information Toolbox (FacIT), which provides information on the location of disposal facilities, organics management facilities, processing facilities, and manufacturing facilities. All of these facilities are mapped.

As a complement to the FacIT detailed facility search, CalRecycle created a simplified web-based map, titled Where to Recycle, that shows the locations of recycling facilities for 14 different material types. This map is easy to use and is extremely useful in locating recycling facilities near you. The tool is discussed in the next section.

CalRecycle Partners with Earth911 Inc., to host a national recycling directory. Their website can be used to locate recycling and disposal facilities nationwide for various products and material types.

Don't forget that you can also check with your local city or county recycling coordinator or your local waste hauler for information on how to properly recycle or dispose of specific materials!

## Achieving the State's 75 Percent Recycling Goal

With AB 341, Governor Brown and the Legislature set a statewide 75 percent recycling goal. Achieving this goal will require California to decrease its reliance on landfills and increase its recycling and composting efforts. In 2015, the state recycled approximately 50 percent of its generated solid waste. Organics is the largest waste stream in California, accounting for approximately 66 percent of the state's total disposed waste. To achieve the 75 percent recycling goal, reducing the amount of organics that goes to landfills, including food waste, is essential.

Achieving the 75 percent goal will benefit Californians by: creating an estimated 100,000 green jobs; reducing reliance on petroleum through the creation of renewable energy from organics, including biofuels and biogas; reducing greenhouse gas emissions from landfills, including methane; and improving the state's soils through the use of compost, which removes carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and helps conserve water. Meeting this goal will help the state reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 and 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050, both of which are mandated by Governor Brown's Executive Order B-30-15, issued on April 29, 2015.

For more information about the 75 percent goal, see CalRecycle's AB 341: Report to the Legislature.

## Reducing Methane Emissions from Organic Waste

In 2016, the Legislature passed SB 1383 to help the state meet our 75 percent recycling goal and to reduce the harmful emissions of short-lived climate pollutants, including methane. This bill established a statewide goal to reduce the amount of organic waste



disposed in landfills by 75 percent by 2025. The bill also established a target that no less than 20 percent of disposed edible food must be recovered for human consumption by 2025. Diverting edible food from landfills and distributing it to food banks and pantries will assist Californians who are unable to secure adequate, healthy food. Actions to reduce short-lived climate pollutants are essential to address the impacts of climate change on human health, especially in California's most at-risk communities, and on the environment.

For more information on SB 1383, please see our Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCP): Organic Waste Methane Emissions Reductions webpage at <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Climate/SLCP/>. To receive regular updates about the rulemaking process and opportunities to participate, you can also subscribe to the **SLCP listserv** at <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Listservs/Subscribe.aspx?ListID=152>.

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**AB 341: Report to the Legislature**  
<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/75Percent/>

**Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCP): Organic Waste Methane Emissions Reductions**  
<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Climate/SLCP/>

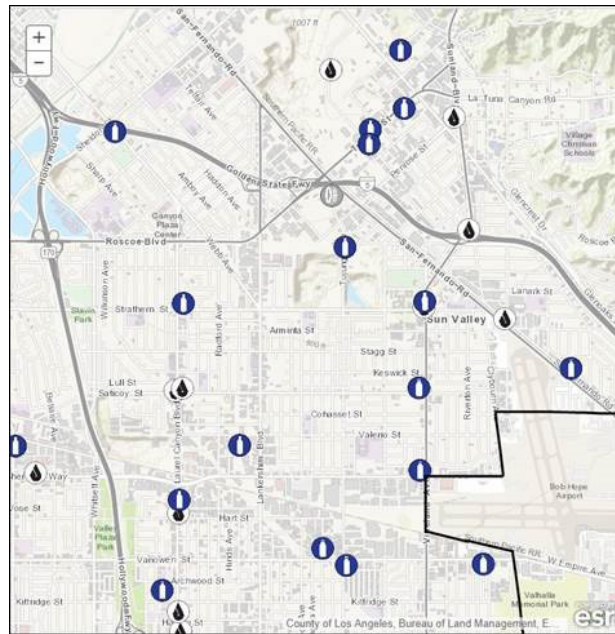
**SLCP listserv**  
<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Listservs/Subscribe.aspx?ListID=152>

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## Where to Recycle Map

In order to make recycling easy and convenient, CalRecycle developed a comprehensive map that shows where recycling facilities for 8 material types are located throughout California. The material types include carpet, sharps, electronics, household hazardous waste, medication, used oil, tires, and beverage containers. The map shows recycling facilities for different material types, located near you, where you can drop off materials and products you no longer use. You can search for facilities by city, county, ZIP code, Assembly district, Senate district, or facility name.

It is important to contact the facilities listed on the map before attempting to drop off any materials to ensure that they are open to the public and take the materials you need to dispose of or recycle. For additional information on how to use the mapping tool, please refer to the FAQs webpage at <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Recycle/Maps/FAQs.htm>. For any materials not incorporated into the Where to Recycle map, please refer to the Earth 911 Inc. directory or the CalRecycle facility directories already mentioned in this guidebook, or contact your jurisdiction's contracted waste management company.



The City of Los Angeles: Locations of beverage container recycling centers, used waste tire collection centers, and used oil collection centers.

*CalRecycle maintains a toll-free consumer hotline, 1-800-RECYCLE, for anyone who has questions about recycling.*

### CalRecycle Directory: Where to Recycle All Materials

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/recycle/>  
1-800-RECYCLE

### CalRecycle FacIT Detailed Facility Search

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/recycle/>

### 1-800-RECYCLE

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/FacIT/Facility/Search.aspx>

### Earth911, Inc.: Recycling Center Search for All Material Types

<http://search.earth911.com>  
1-800-CLEANUP

### UPDATED! Where to Recycle Map

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/recycle/#WhereRecycle>

### Frequently Asked Questions

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Recycle/Maps/FAQs.htm>

### General Program Information

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/bevcontainer/programinfo/>

### Program FAQs

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/BevContainer/ProgramInfo/FAQ.htm>  
1-800-RECYCLE

### Find a Recycling Center

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/BevContainer/Recyclers/Directory/Default.aspx?lang=en-US>



## What and Where to Recycle

### Don't Throw Us Away!

Did you know these items should never be thrown away in the trash or the recycling bin?

1. Batteries and other electronics because the chemicals they contain, such as lead, can leach out of landfills into waterways, soil, and crops, and can cause cancer, birth defects, and other human harm.
2. Medications can escape from landfills into waterways and the ocean where they are absorbed by fish and end up in the food chain. For the same reason, it is not safe to flush medications down a sink or toilet.
3. Sharps (hypodermic needles) not disposed of properly pose serious health risks. Your local waste handlers are at the highest risk, but small children and pets are also at risk.
4. CFL lightbulbs contain mercury which are potentially toxic if the bulb breaks in a landfill and enters the water stream.

**Keep reading to find out how to protect yourself, others, and the environment from harm by properly disposing of your waste.**

### Tips for Recycling

**Are you confused about how to recycle or dispose odds and ends that don't work or that you no longer need?**

1. Continue reading this section.
2. Give away items still in good use.
3. Use the Public Locations for Where to Recycle Map to locate facilities near you. Use the FAQ page for materials that aren't listed.
4. Search CalRecycle's Facility Information Toolbox (FacIT).
5. Search Earth911 online.
6. Call 1-800-RECYCLE (1-800-732-9253) to speak to a CalRecycle staff member.
7. Call your local government (city or county) or your jurisdiction's local waste management company (hauler).
8. Find out which wastes are banned from the trash: <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/HomeHazWaste/Info/default.htm>.



## Beverage Containers: Beverage Container Recycling Program and California Redemption Value (CRV)

Many of you may have taken empty beverage containers to certified recycling centers to be paid the California Refund Value (CRV). This is an easy and rewarding way to recycle in California. This service is provided through CalRecycle's Beverage Container Recycling Program (BCRP) and state-certified recycling centers. The program has a goal of recycling 80 percent of the beverage containers sold in California to reduce litter and reduce disposal.

The program makes your participation easy: just find the closest certified recycling center near you and redeem the appropriate bottles and cans for CRV. If paid by count, CRV is 5 cents for each container under 24 ounces in volume and 10 cents for each container that holds 24 ounces or more. Beverage containers are eligible for redemption if they were purchased in California and can be identified by the CRV message on the container label: "CA CRV," "CA Redemption Value," "California Redemption Value," "CA Cash Refund," or "California Cash Refund." Customers pay the CRV deposit upon purchase, and the empty beverage container can be redeemed for the CRV when taken to a recycling center. Beverage containers without the CRV label are not redeemable for CRV but may be recycled for the scrap value of the container material. Businesses and people interested in collecting beverage containers at home to collect CRV can order a free recycling starter kit from CalRecycle. If you are not interested in taking beverage containers to certified recycling centers to collect CRV but still wish to recycle the containers, you can put recyclable beverage containers into a recycling bin or donate them to a community service program, such as a local nonprofit, Boy Scout or Girl Scout troop, church, or other local charity organization.

For more information on the Beverage Container Recycling Program, refer to the General Program Information and Program FAQs web links. See Appendix C for information about CRV refund rates, material and beverage types that can be redeemed, and daily redemption limits.

## Plastic, Glass, Aluminum, and Paper

Materials that can typically be recycled include clean and dry paper and cardboard, glass jars and bottles, rinsed aluminum cans, plastic containers numbered 1 through 7, and plastic "clamshell" trays and deli containers. As previously mentioned, beverage containers can also be redeemed for CRV. If you are not participating in a recycling program, contact your city or county to find out if curbside services are available in your location. Otherwise, recyclables can be taken to certified recycling centers or donated to community service programs.

## Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)

Household hazardous wastes are commonly used household products that can't be thrown in the trash or the recycling bin because they create a public health and safety hazard and are a threat to the environment. These materials can't be recycled and must be disposed of with special care. Many local government agencies run permanent facilities or hold temporary collection events that help households properly dispose of hazardous wastes. CalRecycle maintains a list of local government HHW websites that can be used to locate the HHW disposal facility closest to you. The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), a department within CalEPA, also has HHW disposal facility information.

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### Start a Recycling Program for Beverage Containers

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/BevContainer/Consumers/StartProgram.htm>

### Recycling Starter Kit

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/BevContainer/Consumers/RSKOrder.htm>

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### Certified Recycling Centers Directory

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/BevContainer/Recyclers/Directory/Default.aspx?lang=en-US>

### Recycling 101

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/BevContainer/Consumers/Recycle101.htm>

### Recycling FAQs

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/BevContainer/Consumers/FAQ.htm>

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### CalRecycle HHW Facilities Directory

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Home-HazWaste/Directory/>

### HHW Collection Facilities List

<http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/UniversalWaste/HHW.cfm>

### E-Waste Collection Facilities Directory

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Electronics/Collection/>

### Sharps and Medication Facilities Directory

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/FacIT/Facility/Search.aspx>

### Sharps Disposal Information

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Home-HazWaste/Sharps/>

### Medication Disposal Information

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Home-HazWaste/Medications/Household.htm>

**New!** SB 212 (2018) establishes the nation's first extended producer responsibility program for sharps and pharmaceuticals. CalRecycle is required to adopt regulations to implement the law by January 1, 2021. Stay tuned.

<https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Blogs/in-the-loop/in-the-loop/2018/12/31/new-state-laws>



## Examples of HHW

- Antifreeze
- Batteries
- Drain cleaners
- Electronic waste
- Glue and adhesives
- Household cleaners
- Oven cleaners
- Paint
- Pesticides and herbicides
- Pool cleaners
- Solvents
- Waste containing asbestos
- Waste containing mercury (thermometers and Fluorescent lights)
- Flammables
- Motor oil

## Electronic Waste (E-Waste)

Electronic waste is comprised of a wide range of commonly used household and commercial products that should not be thrown in the trash or a recycling bin because they present a threat to human health and the environment. Examples of e-waste include the cathode ray tubes in old computers and televisions, printers, cell phones, and other electronic equipment. E-waste must be managed by authorized operations that can properly handle and recycle the material. Remember that personal information should be erased from electronic devices before recycling. The e-waste collection directory can be used to locate facilities that accept e-waste.

## Examples of E-Waste

- Cathode ray tubes in old computer monitors and televisions
- Printers
- Cell phones
- Electronic equipment

**General rule of thumb: If it has a plug, it is e-waste.**

## Medication and Sharps Waste

Home-generated sharps waste (needles) are banned from household disposal. The improper disposal of sharps can affect janitors, housekeepers, pest control workers, groundskeepers, waste management workers, children, and household pets, among others. Sharps can be collected for proper disposal at doctor's offices, hospitals, and pharmacies, or through local HHW programs.

Medication should not be thrown away in the trash, flushed down a toilet, or washed down a drain. This includes any prescription or nonprescription substance. Wastewater treatment plants are not designed to remove pharmaceuticals from water, so dissolved medications escape into the environment and end up in our waterways and in our drinking water. This causes harm to fish and other aquatic species and may also negatively affect human health. Medication can be dropped off for proper disposal at pharmacies and local HHW programs. Many law enforcement agencies, including sheriff's offices, police stations, and fire stations, collect controlled substances for proper disposal. Please refer to the sharps and medication facilities directory and the HHW facilities directory webpages to locate facilities near you that collect sharps and medication for proper disposal.



## Used Motor Oil

Used motor oil never wears out and can be recycled, cleaned, and used again. Used motor oil is a type of HHW that can't be poured onto the ground, into storm drains, or tossed into trash cans (even in sealed containers—they eventually leak!). Used motor oil can contaminate and pollute the soil, groundwater, streams, and rivers. It can cause harm to wildlife and human health. Recycling your used motor oil and oil filters reduces this pollution threat. Certified used oil collection centers will recycle your oil filters and purchase up to 5 gallons of used motor oil at a time from the public at 40 cents per gallon. The used oil recycling facilities directory web page can help you find a certified used oil collection center.

## Used and Waste Tires

More than 40 million waste tires are generated in the state each year. CalRecycle enforces the proper management of tires at waste tire facilities to mitigate the illegal dumping and stockpiling of tires and to prevent pollution and fires. Major tire fires, as seen in Tracy in 1998 and Panoche in 1996, have negative effects on public health and the environment through the contamination of surface water, groundwater, air and soil. Used tires can be recycled to produce crumb rubber for new products such as rubberized asphalt concrete, and they can be used in civil engineering applications. Used tires are generally collected when purchasing new tires.

## Paint, Carpet, and Mattresses

CalRecycle works with paint, carpet, and mattress manufacturers to encourage the proper disposal and management of these products at the end of their useful life. Through laws mandating extended producer responsibility (EPR), also known as product stewardship, the responsibility for the proper management of paint, carpet, and mattresses is placed on producers instead of consumers. The costs for the proper management of these products are incorporated into the final cost of the product, which encourages manufacturers to make more environmentally friendly products. It is important to keep these products out of landfills: because paint is a hazardous waste, and both carpet and mattresses take up large amounts of space in landfills and can be partially recycled. Please use the paint drop-off sites and the carpet recycling facilities webpages to find paint and carpet recycling facilities near you. Mattress retailers are required to offer a consumer the option to have a used mattress picked up for recovery when a new mattress is delivered to the customer at no additional cost. You can also use the Earth 911 Inc. directory to find out which recycling facilities near you take used mattresses.

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### Certified Used Oil Collection Centers

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/UsedOil/ReportsCenterSearch/Default.aspx?lang=en-US>

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### CalRecycle Tire Management Hotline (866) 896-0600

### Facilities that Accept Waste Tires

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Tires/Data/Organization/Search.aspx>

### Tire Management Overview

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/tiresOverview.htm>

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***Certified Used Oil Collection Centers will purchase up to 5 gallons of used motor oil at a time from the public at 40 cents a gallon.***



## Recycling and Composting at Home

Reducing, reusing, and recycling contribute to California's goals of reducing disposed waste and decreasing greenhouse gas emissions. There are many easy and convenient ways to incorporate the reduction, reuse, and recycling of consumer products in your daily life. For example, waste can be reduced by avoiding excessive packaging when you shop and by using reusable shopping and grocery bags instead of plastic or paper bags. You can recycle through community curbside programs, take recyclables to collection and drop-off sites, return empty beverage containers to certified recycling centers to collect CRV, and compost at home or find a location that accepts food scraps and green waste. Meal planning can help prevent food waste. In addition, backyard composting is a fun way to get outside and turn food scraps into nutrients for your garden. Get tips for meal planning, reducing and reusing consumer products, reducing food waste at home, backyard composting, gardening, and grasscycling in the web links provided.

## Recycling at California State Agencies

As part of California's continued commitment to reduce the amount of solid waste entering landfills, state agencies and large state facilities are required to implement waste management programs—including mandatory commercial recycling and mandatory organics recycling—and must divert at least 50 percent of generated solid waste from landfills. State agencies are also required to buy postconsumer recycled content products when making purchases in 11 different categories. Buying recycled content products helps create market demand for recycled materials, creates jobs, reduces greenhouse gas emissions, and preserves precious natural resources.

In 2016, Governor Brown signed **AB 2812 (Gordon, Chapter 530, Statutes of 2016)** which requires state agencies to provide adequate receptacles, signage, education, staffing, and to arrange for recycling services. This bill will help reinforce key components of a strong recycling program to support state agencies' continued participation in achieving the state's 75 percent recycling goal and other greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals.

Learn more about the recycling requirements for state agencies here: <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/stateagency/>.

Recycle at home, work, and school. Order a free recycling starter kit perfect for collecting CRV-eligible bottles and cans. Want cash for the office coffee supply? Take the bottles and cans to a recycling center and collect the CRV. To get a bin to start recycling, visit: <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/BevContainer/Consumers/RSKOrder.htm>.

*Reduce your carbon input by reducing food waste in your household through meal planning, cooking from scratch, incorporating leftovers into new meals, and composting.*

### Mattresses

<http://byebyemattress.com/recycling-locator/>

### Paint

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/paint/>

### Paint Drop-Off Sites

<http://www.paintcare.org/drop-off-locations/>

### Carpet Materials Management

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/carpet/>

### Carpet Recycling Information

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Carpet/>

### Carpet Recycling Facilities

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/ConDemo/Carpet/Facilities.htm>

### Home Composting

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Organics/HomeCompost/default.htm>

### Home Gardening

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Organics/Gardening/>

### Waste Reduction and Recycling for Consumers

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/PublicEd/>

### Reuse Resources

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/reuse/>



## Recycling and Composting at School

Students can learn about the importance of the environment and waste reduction in a fun and exciting way by recycling and composting at school. CalRecycle provides information on how to recycle and compost at school that is engaging for both teachers and students. Classroom composting can set the stage for a variety of fun, interdisciplinary activities. Vermicomposting uses red worms that live in dark bins to turn food scraps into solid and liquid nutrient-rich compost material. This process can provide a variety of interesting experiments for students, and the vermicompost can be used in a classroom or school garden. School gardens provide an excellent opportunity for teachers to bring environmental lessons to life outside the classroom to reinforce concepts about nutrient cycles, food production, decomposition, water conservation, and more. Not only is recycling and composting a great educational opportunity for students, but it is also mandatory in many public schools since, as of 2012, California schools that generate 4 or more cubic yards of waste a week are required to recycle. See the links provided on page 19 for detailed information.

*“If a child is to keep alive his inborn sense of wonder, he needs the companionship of at least one adult who can share it, rediscovering with him the joy, excitement, and mystery of the world we live in.”*

*-Rachel Carson*



# SPOTLIGHT

## Christa McAuliffe Elementary, Oceanside

Many public schools in California have implemented creative and successful recycling and composting programs. One such school is the Christa McAuliffe Elementary School in Oceanside. The school is part of the City of Oceanside's Zero Waste School Program. Under the program, students join the "Green Team" and spend part of their lunch break once a week sorting trash generated at the school into separate recycling, compost, and landfill bins. In addition to the Green Team, each classroom has recycling bins where mixed recycling and CRV materials are collected. Once a month, students bring CRV-eligible beverage containers to school from home for a school-sponsored recycling collection day. Urban Corps, a local conservation corps based in San Diego County, collects the material, and all the CRV that is collected goes directly back to the school. The school also creates vermicompost with its food waste and uses the compost in its gardens.

**Information for Schools**

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Education/>

**School Gardens**

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Education/Gardens/>

**Beverage Container Recycling at School**

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Publications/Detail.aspx?PublicationID=1517>

**The Worm Guide, for Teachers**

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Publications/Detail.aspx?PublicationID=912>

**Instructional Materials for Teachers**

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Education/Curriculum/>

**Recycle Rex**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gLbiwZi1t7w>

**Fun for Kids**

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Kids/>

**CalRecycle EEI Contact**

[eei@calrecycle.ca.gov](mailto:eei@calrecycle.ca.gov)  
(916) 341-6769

**Office of Education and the Environment**

[www.CaliforniaEEI.org](http://www.CaliforniaEEI.org)

**EEI Curriculum**

<http://info.californiaeei.org/access-eei.html>

**EEI Training**

<http://californiaeei.org/training/>

**Student Time-Lapse Video  
Foulks Ranch Elementary School**

<https://vimeo.com/82924310>



## Education and the Environment Initiative (EEI)

CalRecycle's Education and the Environment Initiative (EEI) is part of a statewide effort to ensure Californians have the knowledge and know-how to successfully confront the environmental challenges of the 21st century. At the core of the initiative is the EEI curriculum—a free, K-12 curriculum that uses the environment as a relevant and engaging context for teaching the traditional science and history-social science material that educators are required to cover. Here are a few examples of how it works.

Kindergartners learn that the Earth is composed of land, air and water, and as they explore the EEI “A Day in My Life” unit, they sing “The Faucet Song” and discover that water does not just come from the faucet and that it goes somewhere after it “disappears” down the drain. Similarly, fourth-graders studying California history in the “Witnessing the Gold Rush” unit learn about hydraulic mining and participate in a simulated court case focused on how that mining technique affected communities and businesses near Gold Country. As students enter the secondary grades, they are able to take on increasingly complex issues. High school economics students, for example, explore the power of supply and demand as they investigate the relationship between the health of ocean ecosystems and worldwide human demand for seafood.

*At the core of the initiative is the EEI curriculum—a free, K-12 curriculum that uses the environment as a relevant and engaging context for teaching the traditional science and history-social science material educators are required to cover.*

In total, the EEI curriculum is comprised of 85 teaching units that address 15 environmental topics. It supports the Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards and encourages students to think critically about issues they encounter in their daily lives and communities. The EEI program provides flexible, free training in person or online to educators interested in using the curriculum. Once trained, teachers receive free printed classroom materials (while supplies last). The entire K-12 curriculum can also be viewed and downloaded online. Teachers, students, parents, and the general public interested in incorporating environment-based education into local schools should use the webpages and contact information provided. As of December 2018, CalRecycle had distributed more than 40,000 EEI teacher kits and 1.7 million EEI student kits to more than 4,700 schools throughout California.



# SPOTLIGHT

## Foulks Ranch Elementary, Elk Grove

Jim Bentley, a teacher at Foulks Ranch Elementary in Elk Grove, provides an excellent example of how teachers can enjoy the freedom and flexibility of the EEI curriculum and how it integrates multiple subjects seamlessly through an environmental lens. After attending his first EEI training, Bentley recognized how the materials would mesh perfectly with his passion for civics, the environment, and project-based learning. “EEI is like an education solvent, able to bring together various disciplines into a cohesive cognitive solution for twenty-first-century kids,” said the fifth- and sixth-grade teacher. Bentley turned an EEI lesson about trees and paper waste into a class project involving the collection of holiday waste to determine how much was trash, and how much was recyclable and reusable. Student engagement was so high, Bentley had to get permission to use the gym as a sorting facility. The class created a time-lapse video that captured its waste-sorting effort. The video will be part of a documentary film on waste streams.



# Community-Based Recycling Programs and Opportunities



## Waste Management and Recycling Programs in Your Community

Waste management and recycling programs are managed and operated locally, by each city and county, so programs differ throughout the state. Not all cities and counties have recycling programs for every type of recyclable material. The best way to find out exactly which materials can and can't be recycled where you live is to contact your local recycling coordinator or waste hauler/recycling company. If you don't know which company collects your waste and recyclables, check with your city or county. Cities and counties generally post information on their websites or can tell you over the phone which materials are collected for recycling through the contracted waste management company or waste hauler. If you still need help figuring out what is and isn't recyclable in your community, use the jurisdiction contact search web link provided, and a CalRecycle staff member will assist you. CalRecycle staff can help answer your questions or connect you with the correct person to speak with locally.

### Jurisdiction Contact Search

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/LGCentral/Reports/Contacts.aspx>





### Grants, Payments, and Loan Programs

CalRecycle offers funding opportunities to public and private entities for projects and programs to safely and effectively manage California's solid waste.

CalRecycle's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Grant and Loan Programs provide financial incentives for investments in infrastructure for composting, in-vessel digestion, recycling, manufacturing facilities, and food waste prevention and rescue projects that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and divert waste from going to landfills. These programs were established through the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) also known as California Climate Investments (CCI). A priority of the program is to achieve environmental and economic benefits in disadvantaged communities. See the spotlight in this section for more information about the Food Waste Prevention and Rescue Grant Program.

In addition, other CalRecycle grant and payment programs help cleanup illegal dumpsites, divert tires from landfills, and encourage the appropriate disposal and recycling of used oil, among many others. To find out more information about these programs, see the Grant, Payment, and Loan Programs webpage at <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Funding/>.



*CalRecycle offers grant and loan funding opportunities to public and private entities that develop projects and programs to safely and effectively manage California's solid waste. The CR&R Anaerobic Digester (AD) Facility Expansion Project consists of an 83,000 ton per year addition to their facility in Perris, California. This project will use organic waste to produce renewable natural gas transportation fuel and soil amendments.*

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#### Grant, Payment, and Loan Programs

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Funding/>

#### RMDZ Information

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/RMDZ/default.htm>

#### RMDZ Zone Search

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/RMDZ/Reports/Zones/>

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***CalRecycle offers grant and loan funding opportunities to public and private entities that develop projects and programs to safely and effectively manage California's solid waste.***



# SPOTLIGHT

## Food Waste Prevention and Rescue Grant Program

The Food Waste Prevention and Rescue Grant Program was established in 2016. It is one of CalRecycle's four Greenhouse Gas Reduction Grant and Loan Programs that provides GGRF funding to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions statewide and improves public health and the environment, particularly in disadvantaged communities. The purpose of the program is to lower GHG emissions through the establishment of new or expansion of existing food waste prevention projects in California to reduce the amount of food being disposed of in landfills. Other benefits of the program include source reduction of food waste or edible food rescue for people facing food insecurity and hunger. This program is critical during a time when 1 in 8 Californians—and 1 in 5 Californian children—struggle with food insecurity and hunger, according to the California Association of Food Banks.

**For more information, see the [Food Waste Prevention and Rescue Grant Program Webpage](#).**

**For program updates sign up for the Listserv.**

## Certified Local Conservation Corps

CalRecycle provides grant funding to certified Local Conservation Corps (LCCs), which are 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable and governmental organizations. The mission of each LCC is to preserve and protect the environment and provide job skills training and educational opportunities to young men and women, primarily ages 18-25. The aim of the LCCs is for every corps member to graduate from the program with a high school diploma, a positive vision of public service, and the skills and experience they need to secure gainful employment. All LCCs are located within, or closely adjacent to, large urban areas that are often in need of additional environmental support services.

The LCCs receive grant funding from CalRecycle to initiate innovative recycling programs and community service projects through partnerships with schools, businesses, public agencies, and community organizations. Corps members are equipped, trained, and paid to help California achieve its statewide 75 percent recycling goal through material collection, public education, and recycling events. The primary goal of CalRecycle's LCC Grant Program is to implement a conservation-based model of youth development. Hundreds of corps members work hard year-round to improve the environment and to beautify and promote safe communities.





## Food Banks and Food Recovery Organizations

Many nonprofit and community assistance groups, including community centers, soup kitchens, food pantries, shelters, senior programs, and child care centers, receive food from food banks and food recovery/rescue organizations. Many of these groups visit the local food bank or food rescue organizations each week to select fresh produce and packaged products for their meal programs or food pantries.

Food banks are community-based organizations that collect non-perishable food from donors such as large manufacturers, supermarket chains, wholesalers, farmers, and organized community food drives, store the food in a warehouse, and distribute the food to those in need through local human service agencies. Food recovery organizations take excess perishable and prepared food that is collected from restaurants, caterers, corporate dining rooms, hotels, and other food establishments for prompt distribution to those in need.

Most food banks and recovery organizations are nonprofit organizations that support the community through a network of volunteers, donors, and food industry partners. These organizations often rely on community support by volunteers and donors. Check with your local food bank and food recovery organizations for opportunities to volunteer or to donate food.

New! California has a 20 percent edible food recovery goal by 2025. The department is developing regulations to help achieve this goal through the SB 1383 rulemaking process. For more information, please go to: <https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Climate/SLCP/>

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### List of Food Banks and Recovery (Rescue) Organizations

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Reuse/Links/FoodCounty.htm>

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## University of California

In order to decrease disposed waste and reduce GHG emissions, the University of California (UC) committed to diverting 75 percent of generated waste by 2012 and sending zero waste to landfills by 2020. In Fiscal Year 2013-2014, UC diverted 63 percent of its total waste through comprehensive composting and recycling programs at each campus. UC Irvine achieved an astonishing 93 percent waste diversion through its campus wide recycling and composting programs. Most campuses have also started implementing other innovative ideas and strategies to reduce waste. UC Berkeley and UC Davis football stadiums, for example, are zero waste facilities that only sell food items that are recyclable and compostable. UC Santa Cruz changed the way it charges contracted waste haulers for waste pickup (from volume and frequency to weight), which allows the campus to use resources more efficiently and incentivize waste reduction. In 2013, UC Santa Cruz won the Waste Reduction Best Practice Award at the California Higher Education Sustainability Conference. UC is an example of how large entities that produce great amounts of waste are putting forth efforts to reduce waste and increase recycling.

## Santa Cruz County Second Harvest Food Bank

The Santa Cruz County Second Harvest Food Bank was founded in 1972 as the first food bank in California and the second established food bank in the nation. Second Harvest aims to end malnutrition and hunger by educating and involving the community. The organization distributes more than 8 million pounds of food each year to working poor families, children, and seniors through an established network of more than 200 agencies, groups, and programs and more than 3,000 volunteers. Second Harvest has several food programs and hosts food drives and fundraising efforts throughout the community to help feed the hungry. The organization also advocates for policy change toward ending hunger and improving nutrition.





# Public Participation in the Permitting and Decision-Making Processes

## Monthly Public Meetings

CalRecycle wants you, as a California community member, to play a role in the Department's decision-making processes and to provide input in the development of statewide waste management and recycling programs. We encourage participation in these processes in part by attending CalRecycle's monthly public meetings. The meetings include a general report by the director of CalRecycle, presentations and discussions by the executive team, an overview of pending and recently made decisions, and updates about Department projects and activities, legislation, upcoming workshops, and grant and loan recipients. There is also an opportunity to comment on agenda items during the meeting.

Meetings are typically held the third Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. and are broadcast online for participants who would like to listen remotely. Information about upcoming meetings can be received by subscribing to the CalRecycle monthly public meetings email listserve, or they can be accessed on CalRecycle's website. The monthly public meeting agenda is posted on the provided webpage.

If you are interested in engaging with CalRecycle directly and providing public comment on an agenda item at a monthly public meeting, you are encouraged and welcome to attend, participate, and make your voice heard. This is a great opportunity for community members to participate in the public process and actively engage with CalRecycle.

## Public Comment and the Formal Rulemaking Process

When the State Legislature passes a bill and it is signed into law by the Governor, state agencies must put the bill into effect. Sometimes the bill text does not say exactly how the law should be implemented and enforced throughout the state, so it is up to state agencies to write regulations that explain how the law will be carried out. The process of writing and adopting regulations is called the rulemaking process.

The rulemaking process provides the public the opportunity to participate by attending hearings and workshops, and making comments on proposed regulations. If you are interested in participating with CalRecycle in the rulemaking process, you are welcome to attend public hearings and workshops hosted by the Department. Workshops are designed to provide a status update on the formal rulemaking process, discuss key issues, and answer questions about proposed regulations. Some workshops are online webinars, and most workshops and hearings are recorded live as audio webcasts that can be accessed on CalRecycle's website.

You can also provide oral or written comments on a proposed regulation to CalRecycle during the 45-day comment period. Information and updates on proposed regulations, scheduled hearings and workshops, and information on how to submit public comments can be found on CalRecycle's Proposed Regulations (Rulemaking) webpage. A detailed overview of the formal process for how to make a public comment on proposed regulations can be accessed from the Office of Administrative Law.

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### Meeting Location

Byron Sher Auditorium at CalEPA  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

### Dates and Agendas

[http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/  
PublicMeeting/](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/PublicMeeting/)

### Contact for General Inquiries

[publicmeetings@calrecycle.ca.gov](mailto:publicmeetings@calrecycle.ca.gov)  
(916) 341-6300

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### Email Listserv

[http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/  
Listservs/](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Listservs/)

### Webcasts

[http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Broad-  
cast/](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Broad-cast/)

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### Decisions and Public Participation

[http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Pub-  
licInfo/](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/PublicInfo/)

### Office of Public Affairs

[opa@calrecycle.ca.gov](mailto:opa@calrecycle.ca.gov)  
(916) 341-6300

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### Proposed Regulations

#### (Rulemaking)

[http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Laws/  
Rulemaking/](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Laws/Rulemaking/)

### How to Participate in the Rulemaking Process

[http://www.oal.ca.gov/files/2016/10/  
How-2-Participate-102016.pdf](http://www.oal.ca.gov/files/2016/10/How-2-Participate-102016.pdf)

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## Local Planning and Land Use Decision-Making

The planning and land use decision-making process takes place at the local government level. This process determines how the physical design of a community will be changed, developed, and altered to meet the current and future needs of the residents. It also determines which development projects, such as solid waste disposal facilities and recycling facilities, will be permitted within a community. The process involves collaboration between local government officials and residents, and the stakeholders of planning and land use decisions, who include property owners, project applicants, business owners, neighbors, and other members of the public.

### Key participants in the decision-making process:

- Mayor and City Council or County Board of Supervisors
- Planning Commission and Other Planning Advisory Bodies
- Planning Staff
- Agency Counsel (City Attorney or County Counsel)
- Other Local Planning Bodies and Officials: Board of Zoning Adjustment or Zoning Administrator; Zoning Appeals Board; Building Official; Design Review Commission or Architectural Review Board; Historic Preservation Commission or Architectural Heritage Commission

### Components of the Planning Process:

- The General Plan
- AB 939 Planning Documents (e.g., Source Reduction and Recycling Element, Countywide Siting Element, and others)
- Zoning
- Subdivisions
- Design Review
- Environmental Review
- Development Agreements
- Dedications and Fees

It is important that interested citizens get involved in the planning and land use decision-making process in order to provide input during local community planning. More detailed information about the planning and land use decision-making process can be accessed through the Institute for Local Government.





## California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), passed in 1970, requires state and local agencies in California to analyze and disclose the environmental impacts of a proposed project prior to its approval. The law requires agencies, when feasible, to avoid or reduce the significant environmental impacts of their decisions when planning projects in California communities.

The CEQA process must be conducted when a solid waste facility is sited, and it begins early in the siting process. There are opportunities for public participation throughout the CEQA process that can be accessed through posted notifications by the lead agency conducting the CEQA review. In the case of the siting of a solid waste facility, the lead agency would often be a local government entity, so public participation occurs within the community at the local government level. The full CEQA environmental review process is described in the State Clearinghouse Handbook published by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research.

## Get Involved Early and Locally

The most important way for interested members of the public to share their concerns and opinions about community development projects is to get involved early in the planning and land use decision-making process and in the CEQA process at the local level. For example, public participation may include attendance at planning commission or special district meetings. Generally, after a project has been developed in accordance with CEQA and adopted or certified locally, and a permit has been developed and processed at the local level, opportunities to change the project are limited. So, if you and your fellow community residents are unhappy about the siting of a solid waste disposal or recycling facility, the best course of action is to reach out to your local government agencies and officials. The most efficient way to help shape and develop a proposed project in your community is to provide input to the local agency leading the project and to local officials who can engage with you and address your comments, questions, and concerns.

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### CEQA Toolbox

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/SWFacilities/Permitting/CEQA/>

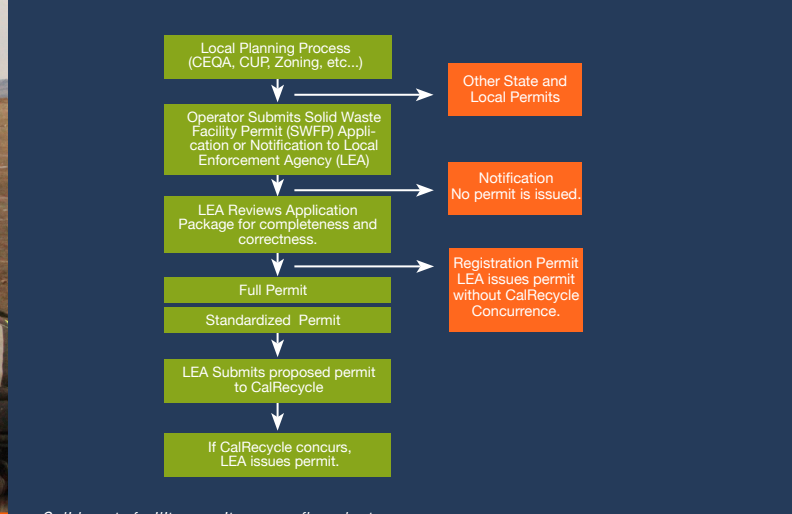
### CEQA FAQs

<http://resources.ca.gov/ceqa/more/faq.html>

### State Clearinghouse Handbook

Governor's Office of Planning and Research  
[https://www.opr.ca.gov/m\\_stateclearinghouse.php](https://www.opr.ca.gov/m_stateclearinghouse.php)

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*Solid waste facility permit process flow chart*

## Solid Waste Facility Permitting

The process for the siting and operation of solid waste facilities (including landfills, compost facilities, materials recovery facilities, transfer stations/processing facilities, and transformation facilities) in California is complex and includes the involvement of many local, regional, and state agencies. Local government agencies are the first entities that must approve of the siting and permitting of a solid waste disposal or recycling facility. Public participation in the process, whether in support of or in opposition to a project, must therefore take place within a community by engaging with the local government. Public participation at the local level, early in the process, can help shape the development of a project. Local agencies that may have a role in the siting and/or permitting of facilities include but are not limited to:

- County or City Planning Department
- Solid Waste Local Task Force
- California Coastal Commission

Other entities that may have authority over permitting requirements include but are not limited to:

- Local Enforcement Agencies

- Regional Water Quality Control Boards
- Air Quality Management Districts or Air Pollution Control Districts
- Certified Unified Program Agency

It is important to understand that CalRecycle only determines whether or not a solid waste facility permit meets all the requirements in the appropriate laws and regulations. The Department generally does not have the authority to make solid waste facility permitting decisions on issues regarding air quality, surface water, or ground water. These issues are taken up by other local and state agencies.

Inquiries about the role of each of these agencies should be directed to each specific agency. It is strongly recommended that interested members of the public stay informed and engaged with these agencies throughout the siting and permitting process, as well as the CEQA process.

For more information about the permitting process for solid waste facilities, please refer to the web links provided. A directory with contact information for LEAs is available if you have questions about the permitting of facilities in your community. For a more extensive flow chart and further permitting procedure descriptions, see Appendix B.

### Permit Toolbox

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/swfacilities/permitting/>

### Regulatory Agencies with Permitting Authority over Solid Waste Facilities

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/SWFacilities/Permitting/Permit-Type/OtherPermits.htm>

### LEA Directory

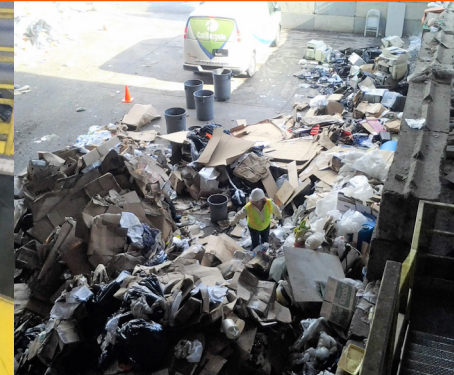
<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/LEA/Directory/>

## Frequently Asked Questions about Solid Waste Facility Permits (SWFP)

### What is the role of CalRecycle in addressing odor and air pollutant emissions at landfills?

CalRecycle and Local Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) are prohibited under state law from regulating or enforcing odor standards at landfills. State law does not allow CalRecycle's regulations to include requirements under the authority of the State Air Resources Board (ARB) for the prevention of air pollution. This includes air contaminants and odor, which are within the jurisdiction and authority of ARB and local air districts. The only exception is agricultural operations and compost facilities. However, while CalRecycle and LEAs can't address odor or other air contaminants at landfills, operators of solid waste facilities must comply with notices of violation or abatement orders issued by the local air district.

For more information on this topic, please see CalRecycle's Staff Report on Newby Island Sanitary Landfill at <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Actions/PublicNoticeDetail.aspx?id=1379&aiid=1253>.



### What is CalRecycle's role in the approval process for expanding a landfill?

Landfill siting and expansions begin at the local level and typically first requires an issuance or revision of a conditional use permit by a local authority (e.g., local planning department) and a review of potential environmental impacts under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). New, revised, or modified permits are initiated by an operator submitting an application package to the LEA, which reviews the application and then starts the process of developing the permit. Once the permit package is developed by the LEA, it is submitted to CalRecycle for concurrence. CalRecycle makes sure that permit packages meet basic state minimum standards and regulatory requirements to ensure standardized permitting throughout the state.

#### Newby Island Sanitary Landfill

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Actions/PublicNoticeDetail.aspx?id=1379&aiid=1253>

*The most efficient way to help shape and develop a proposed project in your community is to provide input to the local agency leading the project and to local officials who can engage with you and address your comments, questions, and concerns.*

# State Government and Department Policies for Engaging with Communities



## A Brief History of Environmental Justice in California

Environmental justice calls for fairness, regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, in the development of laws and regulations that affect every community's natural surroundings, and the places people live, work, play, and learn.

What is deemed the environmental justice movement grew from hundreds of local struggles, events, and social movements. The earliest environmental injustice to occur in California was the loss of Native American lands during Spanish colonization in the 18th century. Environmental injustice in California can also be traced to the farm workers' fight for the implementation of workplace protections, including protection from toxic pesticides, organized by Cesar Chavez in the 1960s. In California a major milestone for the environmental justice movement occurred in 1988 in Kettleman City, a predominately Latino, low-income farmworker community. The city, already host to one of the nation's largest hazardous waste landfills, became the proposed site for a toxic waste incinerator. However, after three years of protest, the project proponent withdrew its proposal.

The environmental justice movement brought to light the concept of "environmental racism" in which low-income and racial minority communities tend to be located closer in proximity to environmentally hazardous or degraded environments than the general population.

In 1999, California became the first state in the nation to put environmental justice considerations into law when Governor Gray Davis

signed SB 115 (Solis, Chapter 690, Statutes of 1999). The bill provided a procedural framework for environmental justice in California and directed CalEPA to conduct its programs, policies, and activities with consideration to environmental justice.

California continues to address environmental justice issues through legislation requiring state agencies to consider environmental justice in their policies, programs, and activities. This includes the passage of SB 1542 (Escutia, Chapter 1003, Statutes of 2002), requiring the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CalRecycle's predecessor) to assist jurisdictions and businesses with environmental justice considerations in the siting of solid waste facilities. This also includes AB 2312 (Chu, Chapter 994, Statutes of 2002), establishing CalEPA's Environmental Justice Small Grant Program, and SB 535 (de León, Chapter 830, Statutes of 2012), requiring revenue generated from California's Cap-and-Trade program to benefit California's disadvantaged communities. Most recently, Governor Brown signed AB 1071 (Atkins, Chapter 585, Statutes of 2015), which requires the boards, departments, and offices under CalEPA to develop a policy for supplemental environmental projects that provides environmental and public health benefits to disadvantaged communities.

## CalRecycle's Environmental Justice Program

Everyone deserves environmental protection. Everyone deserves a safe and healthy place in which to work, live, play, and learn. Historically, low-income communities of color—have not always been afforded fair and meaningful participation in the decision-making process.

CalRecycle's Environmental Justice program works to ensure every Californian enjoys equitable protection from environmental harm, regardless of age, culture, ethnicity, gender, race, income, or location. Through authentic and consistent engagement, CalRecycle is better able to understand community needs, provide equitable access to resources, confront barriers to progress, and incorporate diverse perspectives into department programs and policies.



**Top photo:** CalRecycle participates in EJ community cleanup in El Centro

**Bottom photo:** CalRecycle Environmental Justice Staff Training

*“EJ is something that affects everyone – not just the disadvantaged communities. Where toxic exposure is worse for some, it is worse for all.”*

*Dr. Manuel Pastor,  
University of Southern California*

### Environmental Justice Webpage Launched

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/EnvJustice/>

### Environmental Justice Listserv for Periodic Updates

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Listservs/Subscribe.aspx?ListID=148>

### CalRecycle Environmental Justice Email Address

[EnvironmentalJustice@calrecycle.ca.gov](mailto:EnvironmentalJustice@calrecycle.ca.gov)

### Environmental Justice Principles

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/EnvJustice/Principles.htm>

**Environmental Justice at CalEPA**

<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EnvJustice/>

**Fresno Initiative Report**

<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/Enforcement/WorkGroup/default.htm>

**CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Information, Publications, and Interactive Maps**

<http://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/report/calenviroscreen-30>

**CalEnviroScreen 2.0 Maps of Disadvantaged Communities**

<http://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/report/calenviroscreen-version-20>

**CalEPA General Contact**

(916) 323-2514  
[cepacomm@calepa.ca.gov](mailto:cepacomm@calepa.ca.gov)

**Los Angeles Initiative Report**

<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/files/2017/02/LSReport.pdf>

**NEW! For more information about how CalEPA is implementing environmental justice, see the CalEPA Environmental Justice Program Update:**

<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/Envjustice/Documents/2016/EJReport.pdf>



## Environmental Justice at CalEPA

Since 1999, CalEPA has incorporated environmental justice into its programs, policies, and activities. In 2013, CalEPA developed a tool called CalEnviroScreen to help identify communities in California that are disproportionately burdened by pollution. The tool helps the agency focus its efforts to reduce the negative environmental impacts in these communities. The tool was used to create several interactive maps that present visual information on California's disadvantaged communities. The interactive maps can be accessed and explored through the **CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Maps & Data** webpage at <https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/maps-data>.

## CalEPA Environmental Justice Task Force

In 2013, CalEPA created the **Environmental Justice Task Force** (formerly the Environmental Justice Compliance and Enforcement Working Group) to integrate environmental justice considerations throughout the agency. The Task Force focuses on the implementation and enforcement efforts of public health and environmental protection laws in California's most disadvantaged communities. The Task Force's first enforcement initiative took place in 2013-2014 in Fresno with the goal of reducing pollution and its impact on local communities. The Task Force completed its second initiative from 2015-2016 in the communities of Boyle Heights and Pacoima in Los Angeles, and its third initiative in Oakland in 2017. The reports on each initiative can be accessed through the web links provided.







# SPOTLIGHT

## Pacoima Beautiful

As an extension of CalEPA's 2016 **Enforcement Initiative** in Pacoima, and as part of a broader environmental justice effort, CalRecycle partnered with Antioch University Los Angeles and Pacoima Beautiful, an environmental justice non-profit organization, to engage Youth United Towards Environmental Protection (YUTEP). With this partnership, CalRecycle sought to increase environmental literacy among the community's youth by using the Education and the Environment Initiative (EEI) curriculum in conjunction with other resources.

CalRecycle supported a service learning project for youth to explore environmental justice issues they were concerned about in their community. Activities included a hands-on workshop of CalEnviroScreen, and the exploration of topics including illegal dumping, air pollution, cleanup sites, and the lack of green spaces in Pacoima. The youth created Pacoima Beautiful's First Annual Environmental Justice forum where they invited parents, teachers, community members, and elected officials to discuss environmental justice issues in their community and offer recommendations.

Pacoima Beautiful is gearing up for its Second Annual Youth Environmental Justice forum and is training youth and adults to report environmental violations to the appropriate local and state agencies. CalRecycle is continuing its work to engage youth in environmental justice communities across the state to increase environmental literacy and to foster equity and inclusion throughout our programs, policies, and practices.

## Identifying Violations Affecting Neighborhoods (IVAN)

### Environmental Justice Monitoring and Reporting Network

IVAN is an Environmental Monitoring System that connects communities with professionals who can help solve local environmental problems. IVAN is an online reporting tool that allows you to report and document environmental concerns in your community. There are currently seven reporting networks that community members in or near these communities can use to report environmental concerns: Bayview Hunters Point, Coachella, Fresno, Imperial Valley, Kern County, Kings, and Wilmington.

To access the IVAN Networks visit: <http://ivanonline.org/>.



**CalRecycle Tribal Liaison**

(916) 341-6531

**CalEPA Assistant Secretary for Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs**

(916) 323-0445

EnvJustice@calepa.ca.gov

**CalEPA BDO Tribal Liaisons**

<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/Tribal/Contacts.htm>

U.S. EPA Region 9

Contact

(415) 947-3561

**CalEPA Tribal Policy**

<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/Tribal/>

**CalEPA Tribal Advisory Committee**

<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/Tribal/Committee/default.htm>

**State Financial Assistance**

<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/Tribal/FinancialAst/default.htm>

**U.S. EPA Region 9**

<http://www.epa.gov/region9/tribal/>



*CalRecycle participates in CalEPA EJ Initiative in Oakland.*

## CalEPA and CalRecycle Tribal Policy

CalRecycle is committed to effective communication and strong working relationships with California Native American Tribes. CalEPA developed the CalEPA Tribal Policy for working with California Native American Tribes which describes how the Boards, Departments, and Offices (BDOs) within the agency, including CalRecycle, will maintain communication and collaboration with California Native American Tribes. CalRecycle is a member of the Tribal Advisory Committee, established by CalEPA, and meets quarterly to discuss environmental issues and projects involving Tribes. The committee includes representatives from federally recognized and non-federally recognized California Native American Tribes as well as members from CalEPA and each BDO. Each year CalRecycle attends the Annual U.S. EPA Region 9 Tribal Conference (covering the Pacific Southwest), which aims to maintain partnerships and ongoing collaboration between Tribes, the U.S. EPA, and other federal, state, and local agencies. For contacts and additional information about Tribal relations, please refer to the web links and contact information provided.

## Environmental Reports

The California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) launched an online tool that makes it easier to report environmental problems anywhere in the state with the use of smartphones, tablets and computers. If you observe suspected illegal activities that threaten the environment or public health, you can submit an environmental complaint to CalEPA by completing an Environmental Complaint Form through the website. As a member of the public, you are encouraged to take an active role in protecting individuals and communities as well as California's environment and natural resources by reporting destructive activities that may be causing harm to the environment and public health.

To access the Environmental Complaint System visit: <https://calepa-complaints.secure.force.com/complaints/>



*CalRecycle attends EJ Bus Tour in Northern California.*

## Illegal Dump Sites

Solid waste is sometimes illegally disposed at a location that is not a permitted solid waste disposal facility, such as an empty lot or the side of the road. Illegal dump sites, which can be found throughout the state, pose a threat to human health and the environment. If there are any illegal dump sites in your community, contact your city or county to report the issue so the site can be cleaned up. There is also grant funding available to help local governments and public agencies clean up illegal dump sites. More information about illegal dump sites and financial assistance for cleanup can be accessed in the illegal dumping cleanup resources web link.

## Accessibility Services

CalRecycle is committed to providing equal opportunities for public participation to all Californians by improving access to communication and to our programs. The CalRecycle website can be read in many different languages using the built-in Google Translate tool. If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech-disabled, you can reach CalRecycle through the California Relay Service, which provides operators to relay telephone conversations. Additionally, anyone with disabilities who requires special accommodation to access documents on the CalRecycle website under the Americans with Disabilities Act can contact the CalRecycle Office of Public Affairs.

## Non-Internet Users

CalRecycle understands that while many websites, webpages, and email addresses are referenced throughout this guidebook, not everyone has access to the Internet. Phone numbers are referenced when applicable to address this concern. If a non-Internet point of contact for CalRecycle is not referenced in a specific section in this guidebook, the best first point of contact is the CalRecycle Headquarters phone line, 1-800-Recycle (732-9253), which will direct your call to the staff member who can best address your question or concern.



*Recology San Francisco, Artist in Residence Program.  
Artwork made from diverted waste.*

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### CalEPA Environmental Complaint Form

<https://calepacomplaints.secure.force.com/complaints/>

### CalEPA Contact

(916) 323-2514

[cepacomm@calepa.ca.gov](mailto:cepacomm@calepa.ca.gov)

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### Illegal Dumping Cleanup

#### Resources

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/IllegalDump/>

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### CalRecycle Office of

#### Public Affairs

(916) 341-6300

[opa@calrecycle.ca.gov](mailto:opa@calrecycle.ca.gov)

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### California Relay Service

California Public Utilities

Commission

1-800-735-2929

[info@ccaf.us](mailto:info@ccaf.us)

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### CalRecycle Translation

#### Services

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Help/default.htm#Translate>

# Thank You!



## Press Releases

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Newsroom/PressReleases/>

## Publications

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Publications/Default.aspx>

## Statewide Job Opportunity Resources

<https://jobs.ca.gov/>

## Frequently Asked Questions

<https://jobs.ca.gov/Public/GeneralInfo/FAQS.aspx>

## CalRecycle Job Opportunities

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Jobs/>

## Contact for Human Resources

[Humanres@calrecycle.ca.gov](mailto:Humanres@calrecycle.ca.gov)  
(916) 341-6646

## YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/user/CalRecycle>

## Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/CalRecycle>

## Twitter Page

<https://twitter.com/CalRecycle>

## Instagram

[CalEPA\\_Pics](#), [#CalRecycle](#)

## Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.com/calrecycle/>

## Blog

<http://calrecycle.tumblr.com/>

## Listservs

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Listservs/>



## Thank You!

CalRecycle appreciates the efforts the public makes to participate in statewide recycling and composting programs and in the Department's decision-making processes. This participation is essential for helping CalRecycle craft effective programs and policies that encourage Californians to reduce, reuse, and recycle. Additionally, all public efforts help decrease the amount of waste we send to landfills each year, which helps reduce greenhouse gases and contributes to the state's concerted efforts to mitigate climate change. This guidebook is intended to inform all Californians about CalRecycle and what we do. We hope we've provided you with the information you need to begin participating with CalRecycle and making your voice heard in this Golden State.

## Stay Connected and Follow Us!

CalRecycle has a presence on social media. Follow us to receive recycling-related news stories, photos, and original content. More than 4,000 people follow us on Facebook, and more than 7,000 people follow us on Twitter. Fun and creative environmentally inspired projects and ideas can be found on CalRecycle's Pinterest page. We regularly publish reports on Department programs and waste management topics that can be downloaded from the website.

## Work At CalRecycle

CalRecycle is always looking to employ qualified individuals, from recent college graduates to those looking to make a mid-career change. If you are interested in employment opportunities with CalRecycle, refer to the CalRecycle exams and jobs webpage and the State Personnel Board's webpage. It is important to note that in order to get a job working for CalRecycle, you must take an initial qualifying exam. For any questions about the hiring process, please refer to the FAQs or to the CalRecycle Human Resources contact provided.

## Significant Legislation

- **AB 2020 (Margolin, Chapter 1290, Statutes of 1986):** The California Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act (aka the Bottle Bill) established the Beverage Container Recycling Program, which incentivizes the recycling of aluminum, plastic, and glass beverage containers through the California Refund Value (CRV). Approximately 20 billion bottles and cans sold in California each year are subject to CRV. The program's goal is to achieve an 80 percent recycling rate of the beverage containers sold and distributed in California. In 2013 more than 85 percent were returned for recycling.
- **AB 939 (Sher, Chapter 1095, Statutes of 1989):** The Integrated Waste Management Act created the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB). The bill required each county to prepare, adopt, and submit an Integrated Waste Management Plan to the Board, which is each city's plan to implement source reduction and recycling and a countywide plan for the siting of solid waste facilities. It established waste diversion mandates to reduce solid waste disposal by 25 percent by 1995 and 50 percent by 2000 for each jurisdiction. The bill created a statewide system of permitting, inspections, enforcement, and maintenance for solid waste facilities and required the Board to adopt minimum standards for solid waste handling and disposal to protect air, water, and land from pollution. It also established local disposal tipping fees, which are fees paid by waste haulers to take disposed waste to landfills. The tipping fee is currently \$1.40 per ton, which provides funding for the waste diversion programs administered by CalRecycle.
- **AB 32 (Núñez, Chapter 488, Statutes of 2006):** The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 is the first program in the country to address climate change by requiring a reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from all sources throughout the state. The law requires the state to reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2020, which is a 25 percent reduction statewide. In 2008 the California Air Resources Board developed a Scoping Plan that outlines the main strategies the state will use to reduce GHG emissions. The Scoping Plan identifies CalRecycle as the lead in maximizing the capture of methane (a potent GHG) at landfills



and using landfill gas (a combination of methane, carbon dioxide, and other gases) as a renewable energy source to replace energy from fossil fuels. CalRecycle is also the lead agency for increasing statewide recycling through commercial recycling, composting organics, anaerobic digestion, extended producer responsibility, and the purchasing of environmentally sustainable or “green” consumer products.

- **SB 63 (Strickland, Chapter 21, Statutes of 2009):** This legislation eliminated the CIWMB effective December 31, 2009. CIWMB programs and responsibilities were reorganized and merged with the Beverage Container Recycling Program to create CalRecycle effective January 1, 2010.
- **AB 341 (Chesbro, Chapter 476, 2011):** This bill established a statewide goal to source reduce, recycle, and compost 75 percent of California's generated solid waste by the year 2020. It required businesses, including public entities and residential complexes of five units or more that generate 4 cubic yards or more of commercial solid waste per week, to arrange for recycling services by January 1, 2012.

# Appendix A



- **SB 535 (de León, Chapter 830, Statutes of 2012):** This legislation directs 25 percent of the revenue generated by the carbon Cap-and-Trade program established by AB 32 to projects that will benefit California's disadvantaged communities. It requires that a minimum of 10 percent of the revenue distributed to those projects must be located within disadvantaged communities. This law helps ensure that California's most disadvantaged communities are protected.
- **AB 1826 (Chesbro, Chapter 727, Statutes of 2014):** This bill requires businesses that generate a specified amount of organic waste per week to arrange for recycling services for that waste, and for jurisdictions to implement a recycling program to divert organic waste from businesses subject to the law.
- **AB 901 (Gordon, Chapter 746, Statutes of 2015):** This bill requires recycling and composting facility operators to submit recycling information to the Department, and it requires disposal facility operators to submit information on disposal tonnages to the Department. This law will help CalRecycle assess the state's progress toward achieving the 75 percent recycling goal.
- **SB 350 (de León, Chapter 547, Statutes of 2015):** This bill requires California's electricity use to come from 50 percent renewable energy by 2030.
- **AB 1071 (Atkins, Chapter 585, Statutes of 2015):** Requires the boards, departments, and offices under CalEPA to develop a policy for supplemental environmental projects (SEPs) that provides environmental and public health benefits to disadvantaged communities. SEPs are projects that benefit the environment that entities in violation of environmental laws voluntarily undertake as part of a settlement of an enforcement action.
- **SB 1383 (Lara, Chapter 395, Statutes of 2016):** Establishes the nation's toughest restrictions on destructive super pollutants (also known as short-lived climate pollutants) including black carbon, fluorinated gases, and methane. As it relates to CalRecycle, this bill establishes a 50 percent reduction of the statewide disposal of organic waste by 2020 and a 75 percent reduction of the statewide disposal of organic waste by 2025. In addition, the bill establishes a goal that not less than 20 percent of disposed edible food is recovered for human consumption by 2025.
- **SB 32 (Pavley, Chapter 249, Statutes of 2016):** Expands the state's landmark climate change legislation, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, by requiring the Air Resources Board to ensure that statewide greenhouse gas emissions are reduced to 40 percent below the 1990 level by 2030.
- **AB 1550 (Gomez, Chapter 369, Statutes of 2016):** Modifies SB 535 (de León, Chapter 830, Statutes of 2012) regarding Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds (GGRF) for disadvantaged communities (DAC). The bill requires: (1) A minimum of 25 percent of GGRF monies to be allocated to projects located within and benefiting individuals living in DACs; (2) An additional minimum of 5 percent of GGRF allocated to projects that benefit low-income households, or to benefiting individuals living in low-income communities; (3) An additional minimum of 5 percent of GGRF allocated to projects that benefit low-income households that are within a 1/2 mile of DACs, or to projects benefiting individuals living in low-income communities that are within a 1/2 mile of DACs.
- **SB 1000 (Leyva, Chapter 587, Statutes of 2016):** Requires cities and counties to adopt an environmental justice element or to integrate environmental justice goals, policies, and objectives into other elements of their general plans. A city or county must adopt or review the environmental justice element, or the environmental justice goals, policies, and objectives in other elements, upon the adoption or next revision of two or more elements concurrently on or after January 1, 2018.
- **AB 398 (E. Garcia, Chapter 135, Statutes of 2017):** Extends the state's **Carbon Cap-and-Trade Program** from January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2030.

## Local Enforcement Agencies and CalRecycle Solid Waste Facilities Permitting

### Permit Process – Local Enforcement Agency roles and Responsibilities

- Receives and processes the permit application from the solid waste facility operator
- Determines if the application is complete and correct
- Conducts a local meeting to inform the public about the application and permit
- Writes the conditions, limits, and other requirements that go into the permit
- Issues the permit after requesting and receiving concurrence from CalRecycle

### CalRecycle

- Reviews the permit and documents submitted by the Local Enforcement Agency
- Determines if the permit meets all the requirements in the appropriate laws and regulations
- Concurs in the issuance of the permit by the Local Enforcement Agency if the permit meets all requirements OR
- Does not concur in the issuance of the permit and provides the Local Enforcement Agency with the reasons why the permit does not meet requirements

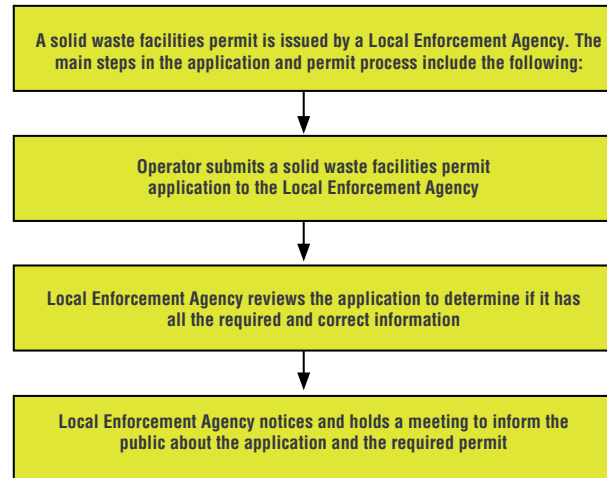
CalRecycle does not issue the permit; it only reviews the local enforcement agency's proposed permit to ensure it meets certain basic statutory requirements in Public Resources Code Section 44009. CalRecycle may only object to the proposed permit if it does not meet those requirements, which are:

- CalRecycle's design and operating standards regulations in California Code of Regulations Title 14 and 27

- Financial responsibility and assurance requirements
- The facility is identified in the local solid waste management plans

State statute requires that CalRecycle and the Local Enforcement Agency cannot have regulations or permits that overlap with or duplicate the authority of the Air Quality Management Districts and the Regional Water Quality Control Boards.

Issues with air quality, surface water and ground water at solid waste facilities cannot be part of a solid waste facilities permit or addressed by CalRecycle regulations. CalRecycle and Local Enforcement Agencies, however, do work cooperatively with other regulatory agencies to address issues that affect public health, public safety, and the environment.



### Solid Waste Facilities Permit –

Is required to operate a solid waste facility (landfill, composting, transfer station, etc.) and conditions and limits the design and operation of the facility to protect public health, safety and the environment.

### Local Enforcement Agency –

Is a local department designated by a city or county and certified by CalRecycle to permit, inspect and carry out enforcement for solid waste facilities.

**Operator –** Is the person or company identified in an issued permit who is responsible for the day to day operations at a solid waste facility and for keeping in compliance with laws and regulations pertaining to a solid waste facility.

# Appendix C



## California Refund Value (CRV)

The following products, if packaged in aluminum, glass, plastic, or bimetal beverage containers, are subject to CRV:

- **Beer and malt beverages.** For example: Budweiser, Coors, Corona, Heineken, Bartles & Jaymes
- **Wine coolers and distilled spirit coolers.** For example: Arbor Mist White Zinfandel Exotic Fruits, Woodchuck Hard Cider, Wyder's Pear Cider, Mike's Hard Lemonade
- **Carbonated fruit drinks.** For example: Martinelli's Sparkling Cider, Ocean Spray Sparkling Juice Drink, Welch's Sparkling Juice Cocktail
- **Noncarbonated fruit drinks that contain any percentage of fruit juice.** For example: Odwalla, Naked Juice, Snapple, Minute Maid Orange Juice
- **Carbonated water, including soda and carbonated mineral water.** For example: Pellegrino Sparkling Natural Mineral Water, Crystal Geyser Sparkling Mineral Water, Perrier Sparkling Natural Mineral Water
- **Coffee and tea beverages.** For example: Starbucks Frappuccino Coffee Drink, Lipton Iced Tea, Arizona Iced Tea
- **Noncarbonated water, including noncarbonated mineral water.** For example: Evian Natural Spring Water, Dasani Purified Water, Fiji Natural Artesian Water
- **Carbonated soft drinks.** For example: 7Up, Coca-Cola, Mountain Dew, Pepsi, Sprite
- **Noncarbonated Soft Drink.** For example: SoBe Lifewater, Country Time Lemonade, Visvita Aloe Vera Drink, Don Jose Horchata
- **Vegetable Juice (16 oz. and under only).** For example: V8 100% Vegetable Juice, Odwalla Carrot Juice, Campbell's Tomato Juice
- **Sport drinks.** For example: Powerade, Gatorade, VitaminWater
- **Excluded from the program are:** Milk, infant formula, wine, 100 percent fruit juice in containers 46 ounces or more, and 100 percent vegetable juice in containers over 16 oz.

**Please note: The products listed in this document are intended to provide a range of examples and should not be construed as an endorsement of any products by the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle).**

For more information about recycling your beverage containers, visit <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/BevContainer> or call 1-800-RECYCLE.





**Gavin Newsom, Governor**  
State of California



California Environmental Protection Agency



Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery