

# Garden Grove Recycling & Waste Newsletter



**REPUBLIC**  
SERVICES

Sustainability in Action

SPRING 2023

RepublicServices.com/gardengroveca | 800.700.8610

## What You Need to Know About Organics Recycling



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California Senate Bill (SB) 1383, which was signed into law in 2016, establishes a goal of reducing the volume of organic waste disposed of in California landfills by 75% by 2025. As required by this law, Garden Grove approved an organics recycling program in partnership with Republic Services.

Organic waste includes all food scraps, including cooked meat, fish, poultry, bones, fruits, vegetables, bread, pasta, rice and grains; food-soiled paper, such as greasy pizza boxes, coffee filters, wet paper towels and soiled napkins; and yard trimmings, including grass clippings, leaves, small branches, plants, weeds and garden waste.

**Residents:** If you have curbside carts, food scraps and food-soiled paper now go into your brown cart with yard trimmings. If you live in a multi-family complex with dumpsters, food scraps go into the green or brown organics cart or the organics dumpster with the green or brown lid. Republic Services is working to implement organics programs at all multi-family properties, so if your property does not yet have a container, please be aware that a program will be coming soon. Please do not bag food scraps in plastic bags. Place loose food scraps and food-soiled paper into the cart or dumpster. You may also use paper bags.

**Businesses:** Senate Bill 1383 also requires ALL businesses and multi-family properties to have recycling and organics recycling programs in place. Republic Services offers FREE technical assistance to help you get started with new recycling programs.

Call Republic Services at **714.238.3300** to get connected with a Recycling Coordinator and review your options.

Republic Services will be conducting container inspections throughout the year to ensure proper disposal of materials. You may see Republic Services staff in safety vests reviewing the contents of your recycling, organics and trash containers. If an improper item is found, a courtesy tag will be placed on the cart notifying you of the incorrect items. These educational reviews are mandated by state law and will occur on an annual basis. If you have

any questions on how to properly dispose of any materials, please call Republic Services at **714.238.3300**. Garden Grove and Republic Services appreciate your cooperation.

For all information related to SB 1383 and the latest updates regarding organics recycling in Garden Grove, please visit [GGcity.org/organics](http://GGcity.org/organics).

## Keeping Your Organics Cart Smelling Fresh

To keep your organics cart clean and smelling fresh, you can:

- Freeze or refrigerate food scraps and put them into the cart on collection day.
- Place food scraps into a paper bag or wrap them in newspaper to absorb liquids.
- Place leaves or other yard trimmings in the bottom of the cart, add food scraps, and then layer more yard trimmings on top.

If your cart gets a little smelly, you can quickly clean it the next time it is empty. Simply attach an automatic shut-off spray nozzle to your hose and use a high-pressure stream to spray the bottom and then the inside walls of the cart. Allow the water to sit for an hour. Then, drain the water out onto your lawn or another landscaped area. (Don't drain the water onto your sidewalk or driveway or into the gutter!) Let the cart air-dry in the sun.

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## ORGANICS

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### Acceptable items

#### Yard Waste



#### Food Waste\*



#### Food-Soiled Paper & Paper Bags\*



\*You can place food in a paper bag.

### Unacceptable items



Recyclables



Plastic Bags & Wrap



Fats, Oils & Grease



Construction Waste



Hazardous Waste



Trash & Pet Waste

# Food Recovery Requirements for Businesses

To reduce food waste and help address food insecurity, SB 1383 requires that California recover or rescue 20% of surplus edible food to feed people in need by 2025. The law directs food-generating businesses to recover the maximum amount of their edible food that would otherwise go to landfills and to maintain records of their food donation activities. SB 1383 places mandated food donors into two tiers, giving communities time to expand food recovery infrastructure for prepared foods while targeting easier to capture foods, such as produce, fresh grocery items and shelf-stable food. At present, large food businesses, such as wholesale food vendors, distributors, food service providers and grocery stores, are required to have a food donation program in place. Additional businesses, such as cafeterias, restaurants and venues, will be required to comply by January 1, 2024.

Locally, Abound Food Care (formerly known as Waste Not OC), a partnership of nonprofits, public agencies and private businesses, is working to ensure that surplus food goes to feed hungry people. Since 2012, Abound Food Care has provided system-wide solutions to help edible food generators channel excess edible food to communities rather than landfills. By reducing food insecurity and food waste, we're improving the health of our communities and the environment. Visit [Aboundfoodcare.org](http://Aboundfoodcare.org), to begin your donations to help end hunger and food waste.

# Free Household Hazardous Waste and Electronic Waste Disposal

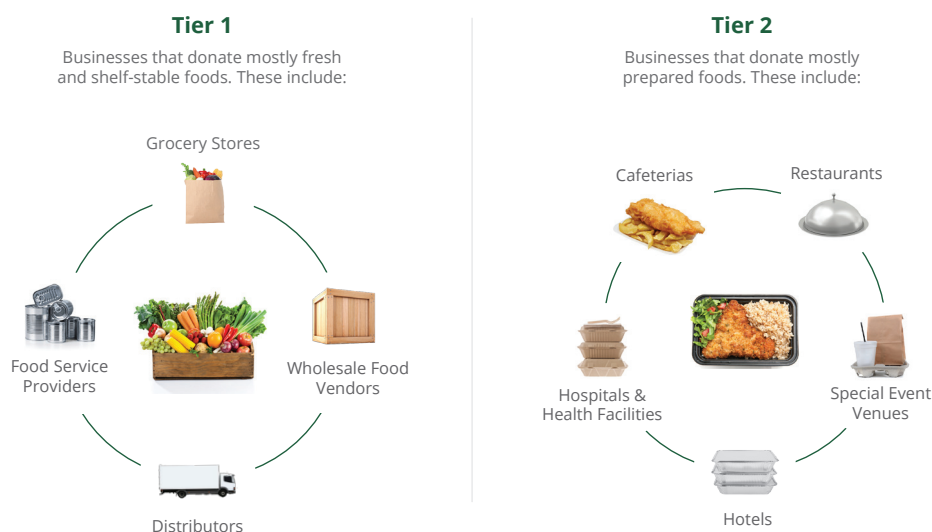
Leftover household products that contain corrosive, toxic, flammable or reactive chemicals are considered household hazardous waste (HHW) when you no longer need them. HHW includes products like paints, cleaners, oils, batteries and pesticides that require special handling when you dispose of them.



Orange County residents can dispose of HHW for FREE at any of the County's four Household Hazardous Waste Collection Centers. Electronic waste items, such as televisions, computers, tablets and cell phones, are also accepted at these centers. Proof of county residence is required.

Homebound seniors and disabled residents of Orange County may qualify for scheduled pickups of HHW. If you need more information about this special assistance, please call **714.834.4000**.

## Donate: What tier are you?



## Orange County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Centers

**Hours:** 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday (closed on major holidays and during rainy weather)

**Locations:**  
1071 N. Blue Gum St., Anaheim, 92806  
17121 Nichols Ln., Gate 6, Huntington Beach, 92647  
6411 Oak Canyon, Irvine, 92618  
32250 Avenida La Pata, San Juan Capistrano, 92675

## Proper Disposal of "FOG"

**No fats, oils or grease down the drain!**

FOG is the acronym for Fats, cooking Oils and Grease. If FOG goes down the drain and into sewers, it congeals, coating the inside of pipes and leading to blockages and sewer backups. Follow these easy steps to properly dispose of FOG:

- Never put fats, oils or grease down the drain.
- Never put fats, oils or grease in the brown cart or the dumpster with the brown lid.
- Never put liquid FOG into any of your carts or dumpsters.
- At businesses, contain grease and oil by using covered grease storage containers or installing a grease interceptor. Never overfill your grease storage container or transport it without a cover. Grease control devices must be emptied and cleaned by permitted companies. Keep maintenance records on-site. For a list of oil/grease recycling companies, visit [CalRecycle.ca.gov/organics/food/rendering](http://CalRecycle.ca.gov/organics/food/rendering).
- At home, mix small quantities of FOG with absorbent materials, such as paper towels, kitty litter, coffee grounds or shredded paper. Then bag it in a plastic bag and put it into your trash cart or dumpster. Never place liquid oil (whether hot or cooled) into your curbside trash cart.
- Liquid oil from your kitchen at home, as well as larger quantities, such as liquid cooking oil from a turkey fryer, must be disposed of at one of Orange County's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Centers. Place oil into a sealed container (5 gallons or less in size) and deliver it to one of those centers. They will accept a maximum of 15 gallons of cooking oil per resident per visit.

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# Make Every Day Earth Day



After Earth Day each year, people think about ways to participate and protect the environment. But are you considering what you can do throughout the year to keep the spirit of Earth Day alive? No matter what changes you make in your everyday life, or the size of the project you take on, every little bit helps. Here are some ideas to get you started.

## At Home

- Exchange household cleaners containing toxic chemicals for greener options, such as using vinegar for streak-free windows or making your own simple laundry detergent.
- Stock your kitchen with empty containers from spreadable butter, sour cream, lunch meat, and other plastic tubs and use them to store leftovers or take your lunch to work.
- Donate or sell items you don't use anymore that are still useful, such as electronics, clothing, small kitchen appliances, movies, and books. Online marketplaces make it easy to sell these items, or you can donate locally through a website, like Freecycle or a Facebook Buy Nothing group, or to a nearby charity.
- Instead of sending fruit and vegetable scraps to the landfill, use them to create healthier soil by mixing them with yard waste in a backyard composting bin or place them into your organics cart for recycling.
- Cook using fresh ingredients to reduce packaging waste and only prepare as much as you can eat while the food is fresh. Remember to freeze leftovers to enjoy later.

## In the Community

- Give your time and energy to help out at local events, such as community cleanups, or with programs like a community garden in your neighborhood or at a place of worship.
- Undertake beautification activities in your neighborhood or at your home. Planting trees helps clean our air and provides cooling shade. Flowering shrubs and wildflowers attract pollinators. A vegetable garden can feed your family, with any extras shared with neighbors or coworkers.
- Litter attracts more litter, so do your part to keep your neighborhood clean. Report any signs of illegal dumping, pick up stray paper or wrappers you see outside (never touch any needles, food or other potentially contaminated litter), and dispose of any trash or recyclables in their appropriate bins in public areas.

## Everywhere, Every Day

- Know what is recycled locally and recycle all of those items regularly. Not sure what is accepted for recycling? Call us or visit our website at [RecyclingSimplified.com](http://RecyclingSimplified.com).
- Carpool or take public transportation to work, school, extracurricular activities, and club meetings. Better yet, walk or ride your bike when possible.
- Make it a habit to use reusable shopping bags when you go to the store or farmers market.
- Skip the bottled water and refill your own reusable water bottles or cups. Not only will you create less waste, but you'll also save money, since tap water is cheaper than bottled water.
- Kindly decline single-use plastics, such as straws, plastic utensils, drink cups, or takeout containers when possible. Take your own reusable versions to fast-food restaurants or coffee shops instead.

# Properly Dispose of Used Sharps

Many people use "sharps," such as needles, syringes or lancets, to care for a medical condition at home. Protect members of your family and collection workers by properly and safely disposing of used sharps. Republic Services provides residents in Garden Grove with up to four free sharps disposal kits per year. These kits come with a 1-gallon sharps container, instructions and a prepaid postage mailing packet to use when the container is full. Kits will be mailed to your home or can be made available for pickup. There is a limit of one sharps disposal kit per household per quarter. To order your free kit, call Republic Services Customer Service at **855.737.7871** or visit [RepublicServices.com/residents/sharps-and-needle-disposal](http://RepublicServices.com/residents/sharps-and-needle-disposal) and enter the coupon code 'GARDENGROVE' at checkout.



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## Are You a Do-It-Yourselfer?

### Used motor oil pickup is available to Garden Grove residents.

Used motor oil and filters can be recycled and are accepted at Orange County's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Centers. Residents also have the option of recycling used motor oil at a local state-certified collection center. Visit [www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/UsedOil/CertifiedCenters](http://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/UsedOil/CertifiedCenters) for locations. In addition, Garden Grove offers a Residential Used Motor Oil Recycling Program. To participate in this program, follow these few simple steps:

- Drain your oil into a clean, sealable plastic container, such as a milk, water or detergent bottle or an oil bottle, not larger than 5 gallons.
- Place oil filters into a plastic bag and seal it.
- No more than 20 gallons of oil will be accepted per pickup.
- Call **800.449.7587** to schedule a collection.
- On your scheduled collection day, place the items by your front door or on your driveway, as directed.
- The collection crew will arrive between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on the collection day and will put the items into a spill-proof container in the collection vehicle.

For more information, call the City's Used Motor Oil Recycling Administrator at **714.741.5344**.





## Bulk Item Pickup

Garden Grove and Republic Services provide both single- and multi-family residents with convenient, weekly pickups for bulk items and electronics by appointment. Residents may request up to three bulk item pickups per year, with a total of 10 items accepted per pickup, at no additional cost. To schedule this service, simply call Republic Services Customer Service at **800.700.8610** at least 24 hours before your regular collection day to request a bulk item pickup. Once you have made the call, a truck will be scheduled to collect your bulk items on your next regular collection day.



## See Something? Say Something!

When you do spot an illegal dump site, don't ignore it. Instead, note the location and report it to the city. If you see someone dumping illegally, do not confront them. If possible, discreetly take a photo of the activity. Write down a description of the person, as well as vehicle make, color and license plate number. Call the City's illegal dumping hotline at **714.741.5375** or the Garden Grove Police Department's non-emergency number, **714.741.5704**, to report this activity. Working together, we can keep our city looking good for residents and visitors.

### Contact Us

**Collection Service, Billing, Public Disposal Center**  
**800.700.8610**

**Household Hazardous Waste**  
**714.834.6752**

**Residential Motor Oil Collection**  
**800.449.7587**

**Street Sweeping Citation, Storm Drains, Sewers**  
**714.741.5375**

*Republic Services is the sole provider of waste services in Garden Grove.*

[RepublicServices.com/gardengrovec](https://RepublicServices.com/gardengrovec)



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## Tips for Curbside Collection

### Do

- Close the lids on all your carts.
- Bag waste that will be placed into your trash cart.
- Toss only LOOSE recyclables into the recycling cart.
- Place only recyclables into the recycling cart. If you aren't sure what is recyclable, visit [RecyclingSimplified.com](https://RecyclingSimplified.com).
- Break down and flatten boxes before recycling. If needed, cut cardboard into pieces no larger than about 18 by 18 inches.
- Empty food and beverage containers. Wipe or rinse out food residue, as needed. Allow containers to dry before putting them into the recycling cart.

### Don't

- Don't leave the cart lids open.
- Don't place bagged waste on top of your trash cart.
- Don't bag your recycling.
- Don't overfill carts. Save extra materials to be placed into carts the following week.
- Don't put any of these items into your recycling cart: plastic bags; food; takeout coffee cups; clothing and textiles; hoses and cords; tissues, napkins and paper towels; or household batteries.



## Holiday Collection Schedule

- Memorial Day - Monday, May 29, 2023 (service delayed one day)
- Independence Day - Tuesday, July 4, 2023 (service delayed one day)
- Labor Day - Monday, September 4, 2023 (service delayed one day)
- Thanksgiving Day - Thursday, November 23, 2023 (Thursday and Friday service delayed one day)
- Christmas Day - Monday, December 25, 2023 (service delayed one day)
- New Year's Day - Monday, January 1, 2024 (service delayed one day)



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Disponible en español



Có sẵn bằng tiếng Việt