



February 10, 2017

Dear Business Owner,

Re: State Recycling & Composting Requirements for Businesses & Multifamily Dwellings, Including Government Offices & Schools

We are contacting you to help you comply with our state recycling & composting laws. Recycling is already mandatory for all businesses that generate four or more cubic yards of waste per week (per AB 341). Businesses and multifamily dwellings in the upper Napa valley have been very successful at setting up recycling, and currently almost all businesses are in compliance.

In order to keep organic waste out of landfills, **Assembly Bill 1826 (Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling)** was enacted. It requires businesses that generate organic waste materials (which include food waste, green waste, landscape and pruning waste and clean wood waste) to separate the material for composting.

The requirements phase in depending on the volume of organic waste generated each week. The second phase start date was January 1, 2017.

Business Deadlines	Volume Requirements for Participation
April 1, 2016	8 yds. or more of organic waste/wk.
January 1, 2017	4 yds. or more of organic waste/wk.
January 1, 2019	4 yds. or more of solid waste/wk.
January 1, 2020	2 yds. or more of solid waste/wk.

This is the next important step toward achieving California's aggressive recycling and greenhouse gas (GHG) emission goals. California disposes approximately 30 million tons of waste in landfills each year, of which more than 30 percent could be used for compost (soil) or mulch. GHG emissions resulting from the decomposition of organic wastes in landfills have been identified as a significant source of emissions contributing to global climate change. Reducing the amount of organic materials sent to landfills and increasing the production of compost and mulch are part of the AB 32 (California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006) Scoping Plan. In addition, this program is necessary to reach California's goal of at least a 75% recycling rate by 2020.

We can help! Please see the enclosed information for a description of our business recycling services. For more information, call the Upper Valley Waste Management Agency at (707) 259-8330 or Upper Valley Disposal & Recycling at (707) 963-7988, or email upvalleyrecycles@countyofnapa.org.

You can also find more information on California's recycling and composting laws, including helpful FAQ pages, at www.calrecycle.ca.gov/recycle/commercial/organics and www.calrecycle.ca.gov/recycle/commercial.

Thank you for your help in reaching California's recycling, composting and greenhouse gas reduction goals.