



# Composting Organic Waste Reduces Methane Emissions and Slows Climate Change

## Sorting Compostables is Required

From increased wildfires to extreme weather, climate change is affecting all of us. California Senate Bill 1383 set statewide goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by limiting organic waste, such as food, yard trimmings, and soiled paper from being disposed of in landfills.

Landfills are the third largest producers of methane in California, responsible for 20% of the state's methane emissions. Composting produces significantly less methane, and reducing methane is one of the fastest ways to slow global warming.

Composting your organic waste at home or placing it in your green compost container contributes to the City's sustainability efforts by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

For more information on the City's sustainability efforts, visit [www.cityofpaloalto.org/sustainability](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/sustainability) or email [sustainability@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:sustainability@cityofpaloalto.org)

Information is available in different languages at:

La información está disponible en diferentes idiomas en  
其他語言版本的相關資訊可於以下網站索取

➤ [www.cityofpaloalto.org/SB1383regulations](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/SB1383regulations)

# What do these requirements mean for you?

Whether you are a resident or a business, you are required to properly sort *all* food scraps, yard trimmings, and food-soiled paper into your green compost collection containers.

## Residents

- Separate your waste into the appropriate container — recycle, compost, or landfill
- Multi-family property management must provide sorting information and training to new tenants and employees

## Food Generating Businesses & Food Recovery Organizations

- Grocery stores, large restaurants, and hotels — recover and donate surplus food
- Have written contracts with food recovery organizations or services
- Maintain food donation records
- For more details, visit the Santa Clara County Food Recovery program: [reducewaste.sccgov.org/food-recovery](http://reducewaste.sccgov.org/food-recovery)

## All Businesses

- Separate your waste into the appropriate container — recycle, compost, or landfill
- Set up waste stations with properly color-coded containers and signage
- Provide annual trainings and information to employees and tenants
- Inspect waste containers for contamination

## Self-Haulers of Organic Waste *(gardeners, landscapers, construction contractors)*

- Separate your waste into the appropriate container — recycle, compost, or landfill
- Take organic waste (landscape and pruning waste, yard trimmings, lumber, wood debris, pallets, etc.) to an approved organics processing facility
- Maintain records of self-hauled organic material

**Find information and tools** to help you sort your waste at [www.cityofpaloalto.org/wgwtools](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/wgwtools)

For free, personalized assistance to help your business comply with these requirements, contact GreenWaste of Palo Alto at (650) 493-4894 or [pacustomerservice@greenwaste.com](mailto:pacustomerservice@greenwaste.com)

For more information on SB 1383 visit,  
[www.cityofpaloalto.org/SB1383regulations](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/SB1383regulations)  
[zerowaste@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:zerowaste@cityofpaloalto.org)  
(650) 496-5910



Achieving zero waste together