

# Environmental Times

News about your environment and customer services

ESFA21

## Fall 2021

### Inside This Issue

Organics Recycling  
Collecting Food Scraps  
Christmas Tree Recycling

### Holiday Schedule

#### Thanksgiving Day Service Delayed

EDCO will observe the Thanksgiving holiday on **Thursday, November 25, 2021**. *Only customers whose regular collection day is on **Thursday** or **Friday** will experience a one-day delay in service.*

#### Christmas Day Saturday, December 25, 2021 No Delay of Service

Due to the holiday falling on a Saturday, there will be **NO DELAY** and *all collection will be provided on the regularly scheduled service day.*

#### New Year's Day Saturday, January 1, 2022 No Delay of Service

Due to the holiday falling on a Saturday, there will be **NO DELAY** and *all collection will be provided on the regularly scheduled service day.*

### Can We Help?

Do you have questions regarding your service? Contact one of our friendly customer service representatives through the Contact EDCO tab on our website, send us a text message, or call our office.

## Organics Recycling Requirements

Organic waste is a renewable natural resource. It mainly comes from yard and kitchen waste from homes, and food waste and scraps from industrial and commercial operations. Mandatory recycling of organic waste is the next step to achieving California's Zero Waste goals.

### California State Mandates

EDCO's Organics Recycling Program will allow cities to meet compliance mandates including SB 1383, which is directly related to organic recycling in the State of California.

**SB 1383** - Establishes targets to achieve a 50% reduction in the level of the statewide disposal of organic waste from the 2014 level by 2020 and a 75% reduction by 2025. The law grants CalRecycle the regulatory authority required to achieve the organic waste disposal reduction targets and establishes an additional target that not less than 20% of currently disposed edible food is recovered for human consumption by 2025. **January 1, 2022** - regulations take effect and state enforcement begins which includes monitoring and reporting of all material collected and recycled.

Recycling organics is easy and convenient with EDCO's commingled Organics Recycling Program. Below is just a reminder of what to place in your current green organics cart. **Do not use plastic bags of any kind (even compostable or biodegradable) as they contaminate the compost! Paper bags are okay.**

### Food Scraps

Fruit, vegetables, meat, bones, dairy, egg shells, prepared food



### Yard Waste

Plants, leaves, branches, grass



### Food-Soiled Paper

Napkins, tea bags, paper plates, coffee filters



### Natural Fibers

Popsicle sticks, sawdust, toothpicks, wooden chopsticks, untreated wood.



## Collecting Your Food Scraps

Collect food scraps in *any container* for an easy way to set aside leftovers for your green cart. Coffee cans, plastic food storage containers, or food pans can be used.



### *How do I get my food scraps from my kitchen to the organics cart?*

There are many different ways to cleanly move food scraps from your kitchen to your organics cart. Here are some of the most popular options:

- **Kitchen Caddies** - A kitchen caddy is an optional, free 1.5 gallon sealable container that can be placed under your kitchen sink or another convenient area for your household to use. Kitchen caddies lock to keep odors in and once full, can be taken to your organics cart and emptied onto the green waste. After emptying, it can be washed out and is dishwasher safe. **To receive a free EDCO kitchen caddy, please visit our website, [edcodisposal.com](http://edcodisposal.com), and visit the Residential Service's Organics page to place an order.** Watch EDCO's Food Waste Recycling video on our website, [edcodisposal.com](http://edcodisposal.com), by going to the Resource Center tab and clicking on Videos.
- **Wrap Your Scraps!** - Many people find wrapping food waste in any type of non-wax paper, such as paper towels, packing paper, newspaper, or paper bags, is an easy way to move food waste from inside your kitchen to your organics cart. This is especially true for large quantities of fruit, meat, etc., and you can even leave the scraps wrapped in the paper and then just drop it into the organics cart.
- **Containerize It** - Many people have their own containers, such as coffee cans and Tupperware products, that they are comfortable using to hold food scraps. Similar to kitchen caddies, once the container is full, it can be taken and emptied into the organics cart.
- **Freeze It** - Some people choose to freeze their food scraps in containers and paper bags and then empty as needed.



## Organics Recycling Reminder



*Please do not use any kind of plastic bags (including certified compostable or biodegradable bags) for any type of green waste, food waste or other organics collection or disposal, as they contaminate the compost! All organic material must be placed loosely inside the green organics cart for collection. Paper bags are acceptable. Also, please do not put rocks in with organic waste or in the green cart.*

## Christmas Tree Recycling

Please place botanical decorations *inside your green waste cart* on your collection day and follow these guidelines when setting out your Christmas tree for curbside collection on your regular collection day **December 27, 2021 - January 7, 2022:**

- Remove all lights, ornaments, tinsel and the tree stand.
- Cut tree in 4-foot lengths and trim off branches if you plan on placing your tree inside the green waste cart.
- Place trimmed tree *inside your green waste cart* or place the whole tree next to your green waste cart on your service day.





# SB 1383 in One Glance

**Purpose:** Reduce the methane gas emissions to the environment which is harmful.

**Goals:** 1. Reduction of methane emissions by:

- 50% by 2020 through AB 1826 (Mandatory Commercial Recycling, including Organic Recycling) since 2016.
- 75% by 2025 through SB 1383

2. Recover at least 20% of currently disposed surplus food by 2025.

**How:** By reducing the amount of organic waste (Food Scraps, Green Waste, Paper, Cardboards, etc.) in the landfills.

**Why:** Landfills are the third largest producers of methane gas.

**Ways to accomplish these goals:**

1. Simply transfer organic waste (Specifically Food Scraps) from Gray Containers to Green Containers, where the contents do not end-up in landfills, but instead will be recycled to produce fertilizer and other materials.
2. Establish Edible Food Recovery Program

