



# State of California Law Organics Recycling

City of  
**TORRANCE**  
California



For more information visit [www.TorranceCA.Gov/PublicWorks](http://www.TorranceCA.Gov/PublicWorks)

## Why is SB 1383?

SB1383 is a statewide effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and combat climate change. The law established a target of 50% by 2020 and 75% by 2025 in the reductions of statewide disposal of organic waste. All multi-family dwelling residents in the City of Torrance will have access to an organics bin (green bin) to dispose of food scraps, food-soiled paper, and yard waste. You may need to purchase an indoor container to keep your organic waste separate before transferring it to the outside organics bin.

## Tips for successfully using your organics container

- 1 Keep food scraps and food-soiled paper in a separate container in your kitchen (consider a kitchen pail, paper bag or other container).
- 2 Line the bottom of the collection container with napkins or plant trimmings to absorb excess moisture.
- 4 Sprinkle baking soda in the container to help minimize odor.
- 5 Place collected food scraps and other organic materials loose in the green cart or in a paper bag. Check with your waste hauler to see if compostable bags are allowed.

## What goes in the organics container?



### YARD WASTE

Leaves, Sticks, Grass,  
Yard Trimmings  
Clean, Untreated Wood



### FOOD SCRAPS

Fruits, Veggies, Meat,  
Bones, Dairy, Eggshells,  
Coffee Grounds



### FOOD-SOILED PAPER

Pizza Boxes, Napkins, Bags,  
Paper Towels  
(No Plastic-Lined Paper)

***\*Check with your waste hauler to determine what materials are accepted at your property.***

## How can I learn about composting?

Los Angeles County frequently hosts free workshops on the basics of backyard composting. Workshops are 1.5 hours and held at libraries, parks, and other venues throughout the County, including in the City of Torrance. Please visit [\*\*Los Angeles County's Smart Gardening webpage\*\*](#) for more information.



## What if I don't have access to outdoor space and want to compost?



**Worm composting!** Also known as vermiculture, composting with worms is a simple way to compost organics in the comfort of your own home.

**Learn more at: [TorranceRecycles.org/Residents/Worm-Farms/](https://www.torrancerecycles.org/Residents/Worm-Farms/)**

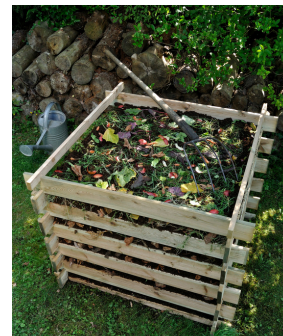
A variety of compost bins are also available to Torrance residents (at varying prices) for purchase. Requests must be scheduled in advance by calling (310) 781-6900. You may also pick-up a bin at the Manager's Booth at the Torrance Farmer's Market. Compost bins can also be found at your local hardware store or by purchasing online.

## What are other ways to reduce my organic waste?

- Minimize food waste by taking inventory before grocery shopping to prevent overbuying food.
- Properly store your perishable food items to prevent premature spoilage.
- Use your leftovers creatively! Turn stale bread into breadcrumbs, brown bananas into baked goods, and even turn vegetable scraps and peels into soup stock!

## Why is it important to sort our waste?

Landfills are the third largest source of methane emissions in California. When buried in landfills, organic waste emits 20% of the state's methane, a climate super pollutant 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide. Organic waste makes up almost half of what Californians send to landfills. Sorting out organic waste is an easy way to combat climate change and helps California farms by providing nutrient-rich compost products for soil.



[www.TorranceRecycles.org](https://www.torrancerecycles.org)