

MULTIFAMILY PROPERTIES WITH 5+ UNITS AND BUSINESSES

in Dublin must keep their **recyclables** and **compostables** separate from the garbage.

ENFORCEMENT BEGINS JANUARY 1, 2021.

ACWMA ORDINANCE 2012-01

Attention Dublin Property Owners and Managers:

Effective January 1, 2020, the Alameda County Waste Management Authority (ACWMA) Mandatory Composting and Recycling Ordinance began in the City of Dublin. All Dublin **multifamily properties with five or more units and all businesses are required to recycle**. Additionally, **businesses that regularly generate organics and multifamily properties with 5 or more units are required to arrange for separate collection of organics** (food scraps, compostable paper, and plant debris). State laws AB 341 (Mandatory Recycling) and AB 1826 (Mandatory Organics Collection) also require many multifamily properties and businesses to subscribe to recycling and organics collection service. These laws work with and reinforce the aforementioned Ordinance.

This letter is to notify you that, beginning January 1, 2021, ACWMA will actively enforce the Mandatory Composting and Recycling Ordinance to determine compliance. The enforcement start date was originally set for July 1, 2020, but was postponed in light of the COVID-19 crisis. Enforcement activities include inspections to determine compliance with the new requirements. Violations could result in a citation and fine.

FOLLOW THE LAW TO AVOID POSSIBLE CITATION AND FINE

Property owners and managers of commercial properties and multifamily properties with five or more units may be cited, and possibly fined for the following violations:

1. For businesses and institutions that generate significant quantities* of organics such as restaurants and grocery stores and for multifamily properties: failure to provide containers and service of sufficient number, size, and collection frequency for **organics** (food scraps, compostable paper, and plant debris) at the same or an equally convenient location as garbage.
2. Failure to provide containers and service of sufficient number, size, and collection frequency for **recyclable materials** at the same or an equally convenient location as garbage. Materials that must be recycled include: cardboard, newspaper, white paper, mixed recyclable paper, recyclable glass food and beverage containers, metal (aluminum and steel) food and beverage containers, PET (#1) and HDPE (#2) plastic bottles. The recycling service must be able to capture all of the recyclables generated on-site.

3. Failure to provide information at least annually to employees, tenants, and contractors describing how to properly use the recycling and garbage containers, as well as no later than 14 days after move-in and no less than 14 days prior to move-out.

Businesses and institutions may also be cited, and possibly fined for:

4. For businesses and institutions that generate significant quantities* of **organics** such as restaurants and grocery stores: failure to place food scraps and compostable paper and plant debris in a separate container for organics collection.
5. Disposing of recyclable materials in the garbage.
6. Disposing of garbage in the recycling or organics containers.

In addition, new state law requires all businesses, excluding full service restaurants, and multifamily properties to provide customers and tenants with recycling and/or composting containers that are clearly labeled with educational signs, easily accessed, and placed adjacent to each garbage container.

* See the definition of "significant quantity" on the reverse side.

WHAT ARE "ORGANICS"?

When we refer to "organics," we are not talking about the pesticide-free produce you buy at the grocery store. Organics is a term used to describe compostable materials such as food scraps, compostable paper, and plant debris. These materials, when sent to a composting facility, will become compost—a valuable resource used by landscapers and farmers.

The Mandatory Recycling Ordinance requires "discarded food" and "compostable paper" to be kept separate from garbage and placed in a container for organics collection. Compostable materials that now must be kept separate from the garbage include items such as:

- Food prep trimmings
- Spoiled or contaminated food
- Paper contaminated with food or oils such as pizza boxes and bakery boxes
- Paper that is wet
- Paper plates, towels, and napkins

WHAT IS A "SIGNIFICANT QUANTITY"?

The Ordinance prohibits the disposal of any food scraps or food-soiled paper in the garbage. However, currently only businesses and institutions that generate a "significant quantity" of organics are required to have separate collection service.

Organics are considered significant when businesses:

- Generate 2 or more cubic yards of total solid waste per week AND hold a food service permit, or
- Dispose of 20 gallons (four 5-gal buckets) or more of organics in a garbage bin weekly.



Garbage Bin



= 5 gallons

SETTING-UP COLLECTION SERVICE

To set-up recycling and/or organics collection service, call Amador Valley Industries (AVI) at (925) 479-9545.

RESOURCES AND ASSISTANCE

The following free services and materials are available at: www.RecyclingRulesAC.org/resources.

- Signs & stickers to label indoor bins
- Educational videos
- On-site or virtual assistance & trainings
- Annual education templates
- Free indoor food scrap bins – up to \$500 per approved site

FREE INDOOR FOOD SCRAP BINS



Up to \$500 per approved site.

APPLY ONLINE NOW

www.RecyclingRulesAC.org/containers

Sign up at www.RecyclingRulesAC.org/stay-informed to receive important updates, news and resources related to recycling laws as they become available.