RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING IS MANDATORY FOR ALL BUSINESSES AND MOST MULTI-FAMILY HOMES

RecyclingRulesAC.org

ALAMEDA COUNTY WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

ATTENTION

Owners and Managers of Businesses and Multi-Family Properties:

The Alameda County Waste Management Authority Mandatory Recycling Ordinance 2012-01 has mandated recycling in the **City of Albany** since July 1, 2012 for businesses and institutions with 4 or more cubic yards of weekly garbage service as well as multi-family properties with 5 or more units. Phase 2 of the Mandatory Recycling Ordinance began July 1, 2014, which adds food scraps and compostable paper to the "Covered Materials" list. It also requires ***all*** businesses to participate, not just those with 4 or more cubic yards of weekly garbage service.

RECYCLING RULES

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

- **NEW!** For businesses and institutions that generate more than 10% organics such as restaurants and grocery stores* and for multi-family properties: Failure to provide containers and service of sufficient number, size and frequency ***for organics*** (food scraps and compostable paper).
- Failure to provide containers and service of sufficient number, size and frequency for recyclable materials (cardboard, newspaper, white paper, mixed recyclable paper, recyclable glass food and beverage containers, aluminum and metal food, beverage containers, PET (#1) and HDPE (#2) plastic bottles). The recycling service must be able to capture all of the recyclables generated on-site.
- Failure to provide information at least annually to employees, tenants, and contractors describing how to properly use the recycling, organics 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:

- Disposing of recyclable materials in the garbage.
- Disposing of garbage in recycling or organics containers.
- **NEW!** For businesses and institutions that generate more than 10% organics such as restaurants and grocery stores:* Failure to place food scraps and compostable paper in a separate container for organics collection.

Property owners and managers have until the end of the year to complete the steps necessary to comply with the new Phase 2 requirements. No fines will be issued before January 1, 2015.

Additionally, the ACWMA Plant Debris Landfill Ban Ordinance 2008-01 requires businesses, institutions and multi-family properties in Alameda County generating 4 or more cubic yards of garbage per week to separate all plant debris from garbage and recyclable materials.

* **Certain business types** are assumed to generate a *de minimus* amount (less than 10% by weight) of compostable materials and therefore may not be required to obtain organics collection service. If a routine inspection of the garbage container reveals that a larger than *de minimus* amount of food and/or compostable paper is being discarded, the property owner or business will be notified that they are required to obtain organics collection service.

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SETTING-UP COLLECTION SERVICE

City of Albany contracts with Waste Management of Alameda County (WMAC) for garbage, recycling and organics (food scraps, food-soiled paper and plant debris) collection services. WMAC provides free onsite waste and recycling assessments, stickers, and internal containers (limited supplies) upon request. To make an appointment or to subscribe to recycling and/or organics collection service, call WMAC at (510) 613-8700.

Additional information about the services provided in the City of Albany can be found at: **www.albanyca.org/albanyrecycles**

Support Materials and Additional Assistance

Downloadable posters with information specific to the City of Albany's services are available at www.RecyclingRulesAC.org/city/city-of-albany. Additional support materials, such as template letters for compliance with the annual notification requirement and tips for setting up or improving your recycling program are also available on the website.

In addition to the assistance provided by WMAC, the Alameda County Waste Management Authority's Business Assistance team is available to help businesses start or improve recycling and organics collection programs. Free services include phone consultations for guidance on compliance, on-site waste and recycling assessments, and detailed recommendations identifying specific opportunities for your business to reduce waste. Additionally, limited funding is available for businesses to purchase indoor organics collection containers.

Visit www.RecyclingRulesAC.org or call (510) 891-6575 to learn more or to request assistance.

The Alameda County Waste Management Authority (ACWMA) has a goal to reduce waste by ensuring that recyclables and compostables make up less than 10 percent of what goes to landfill by the year 2020. To help reach that goal, Mandatory Recycling Ordinance 2012-01 went into effect July 1, 2012.