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 Oakland 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 requires all businesses to participate, not just those with 4 or more cubic yards of weekly garbage service. Requirements to collect food scraps and compostable paper separately from garbage will become effective July 1, 2016.

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:

- 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 containers.

Newly affected businesses and institutions, those with less than 4 cubic yards of weekly garbage service, have until the end of the year to complete the steps necessary to comply with the Mandatory Recycling Ordinance requirements. No fines will be issued before January 1, 2015 for those newly covered businesses and institutions. For all businesses and multi-family property owners and managers affected by Phase 1 of the Ordinance, enforcement has been in effect since January 1, 2013. There are no changes to the requirements for multi-family properties in Oakland at this time.

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SETTING-UP COLLECTION SERVICE

Businesses & Institutions:
The City of Oakland contracts with Waste Management of Alameda County (WMAC) for all garbage services. WMAC and California Waste Solutions (CWS) offer low-cost Small Business Recycling service that includes up to two 96-gallon carts of weekly service. They also offer greater service levels, at market prices. Oakland businesses are free to make arrangements for recycling and organics (food scraps, food-soiled paper and plant debris) collection with any service provider. For more information about the Small Business Recycling service, or to find a commercial recycling service provider for your business please contact the City of Oakland by phone at (510) 238-SAVE (7283) or by email at recycling@oaklandnet.com. There are currently two organics service providers in Oakland: WMAC (510-290-7683) and Recology East Bay Organics (510-267-0852).

Multi-Family Properties:
The City of Oakland contracts with WMAC for all garbage services. Recycling collection is available to all multi-family properties provided by either WMAC or CWS, depending on service area. Visit www.oaklandrecycles.com to view the service map to determine which service area your property is located in. To subscribe to recycling service, call WMAC at (510) 613-8710 or CWS at (510) 836-6200, depending on service area. Organics (food scraps, food-soiled paper and plant debris) collection service is provided to multi-family complexes by WMAC. To subscribe to organics service, call WMAC at (510) 613-8710. The City of Oakland provides free multi-family toolkits upon request, including resident door hangers and in-unit collection caddies for residents to use in transferring their recyclables to the centralized collection containers, as supplies last. Contact the City of Oakland at (510) 238-SAVE (7283) or recycling@oaklandnet.com to request multi-family toolkits.

Additional information about the services provided in the City of Oakland can be found at: www.oaklandrecycles.com

Support Materials and Additional Assistance

Downloadable posters with information specific to the City of Oakland’s services are available at www.RecyclingRulesAC.org/city-of-oakland. 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.

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.

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.