



## A GOOD IDEA IS NOW THE LAW.

ACWMA ORDINANCE 2012-01

**Attention Business Owners:** Recycling for businesses and institutions is now the law in Alameda County. Beginning March 1, 2013, businesses and institutions in Pleasanton generating **four or more cubic yards of solid waste per week** are required to have recycling service capable of handling the amount of recyclables they produce.

### What is the Mandatory Recycling Ordinance?

The Mandatory Recycling Ordinance is a new law that prohibits the disposal of certain readily recyclable materials. It requires businesses and multi-family property owners in Alameda County to provide on-site recycling to handle the amount of recyclable material produced at those locations. The ordinance takes effect in Pleasanton beginning March 1, 2013.

### What types of businesses and institutions are affected by the ordinance? How do I know if my business is affected?

Businesses and other commercial accounts including non-profits and institutions with four or more cubic yards of solid waste service per week in the jurisdictions below are included under the ordinance:

- Alameda
- Berkeley
- Fremont
- Livermore
- Oakland
- Pleasanton
- Union City
- Albany
- Emeryville
- Hayward
- Newark
- Piedmont
- San Leandro
- Unincorporated areas of Alameda County (except those within the boundaries of the Oro Loma and Castro Valley Sanitary Districts)

To confirm whether your business or institution is affected, review your solid waste bill to determine if the volume adds up to four or more cubic yards of collection per week or contact your waste hauler.

### What must commercial property owners do to comply?

Commercial property owners and managers are required to comply by arranging for recyclables to be separate from the garbage at the place of generation and by completing the following four steps:

1. Arrange for collection service of recyclables that are separated from the garbage.
2. Provide containers for recyclables at the same location where garbage cans or bins are kept. Recycling containers must be large enough to hold all of the recyclables generated on site.
3. Provide employees with information annually describing where recycling containers are located and how to use them. For commercial property owners who lease space to one or more businesses, such information must be provided to each tenant to share with their employees.
4. Provide recycling information to tenants no later than 14 days after move-in and no less than 14 days prior to move-out.

If a commercial property owner has an agreement with a third party to manage their solid waste collection services, both parties are responsible for compliance.

Recommended: Post prominent signs on or near the recycling and garbage containers clearly indicating which are for garbage and which are for recycling.

## Recycling Rules Alameda County

### What materials must be recycled?

Paper, cardboard, recyclable glass, food and beverage containers, metal food and beverage cans (aluminum and steel), and PET (#1) and HDPE (#2) plastic bottles must be recycled.

### What resources and support are available to help businesses and commercial property owners comply?

The following resources and support are available to help businesses and commercial property owners comply:

- City contracted haulers can provide assistance to businesses and multi-family residential properties that are starting or increasing their recycling services.
- Technical, “how-to” assistance for businesses and institutions in Alameda County is also available through the StopWaste Business Technical Assistance Team.

Beginning September 1, 2013, if a business or institution in Pleasanton is found to be out of compliance with the ordinance — and continues not to comply even after assistance has been offered — the business or property owner may be fined.

### For additional information:

Visit [www.RecyclingRulesAC.org](http://www.RecyclingRulesAC.org)  
or call the Mandatory Recycling Ordinance Information Line  
(510) 891-6575