

# Important Notice for Owners/Managers of Multi-family Properties

Food scraps and food soiled paper are the largest single item in our waste stream - making up approximately 35% of what we throw away in Alameda County. Instead of taking up space in the landfill, food scraps can become compost - a valuable resource used by landscapers and farmers.

Starting in 2018, all Union City multi-family properties will be required to provide adequate on-site collection service for all organics per Alameda County's Mandatory Recycling Ordinance.

### What is considered a multi-family property in Union City?

Multi-Family properties are generally apartment and condominium complexes of five units or more.

## When do I have to have organics service in place and what's the cost?

The new requirements are effective with the start of the new year; however, potential fines for non-compliance will not be issued before July 2018. For information on City-approved organics collection rates, please contact Republic Services or the City's recycling program at 675-5466 or 675-5353.

### What is organic material?

Organics include food scraps/leftovers, food prep trimmings, paper contaminated with food or oils such as paper plates, towels, and napkins, as well as pizza and bakery boxes, waxed cardboard and plant debris.



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- Provide container(s) for collection of organic material at the same or at an equally convenient location as garbage.
- Provide for organics collection service.
- Provide information at least annually for tenants, employees & contractors describing how to properly use recycling, garbage & organics containers. Same info shall also be provided to new tenants no later than 14 days after tenants move in.
- Waivers of these restrictions may apply



#### Who's responsible?

Property owners and managers of multi-family buildings are only responsible for complying with the requirements of the ordinance listed above, and are not responsible for the food scrap recycling behaviors of tenants.

### How do I get help getting started?

To arrange for organics collection service, available only through City's franchise service provider Republic Services, please call 657.3500 or Union City Recycles at 675-5466/5353. Free onsite waste/recycling assessments are available upon request.

The new County recycling rules build on existing City requirements regarding mandatory weekly collection of solid waste and recycling from all multi-family and commercial customers. The shared goal is to ensure that less than 10 percent of the waste sent to landfills by 2020 is easily recyclable or compostable material.

