



# RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING IS MANDATORY FOR BUSINESSES AND MULTIFAMILY HOMES

RecyclingRulesAC.org

ACWMA ORDINANCE 2012-01

## Attention: Owners and Managers of Businesses and Multifamily Properties in Dublin

Effective January 1, 2020, Alameda County Waste Management Authority's Mandatory Compost and Recycling Ordinance 2012-01 will begin in the City of Dublin. All Dublin multifamily properties with five or more units and all businesses will be 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 and AB 1826 also require many multifamily properties and businesses to subscribe to recycling and organics collection service. To order recycling or organics collection service, contact Amador Valley Industries (AVI) at (925) 479-9545.

#### **RECYCLING RULES**

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:

- 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 frequency for organics (food scraps, compostable paper, and plant debris) at the same or an equally convenient location as garbage.
- Failure to provide containers and service of sufficient number, size, and 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.

 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:

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

Property owners and managers have 6 months to complete the steps necessary to comply with the new requirements. No fines will be issued before July 1, 2020.

\* 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 composta 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 foodsoiled 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 4 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.

To determine if you exceed the 20 gallon "significant quantity" threshold, take a look in your garbage bins or carts the day before collection day. If you're not sure how much solid waste you generate (garbage and recycling service volumes combined), call Amador Valley Industries (AVI) at (925) 479-9545.

#### SETTING-UP COLLECTION SERVICE

The City of Dublin contracts with Amador Valley Industries (AVI) for garbage, recycling, and organics (food scraps, food-soiled paper, and plant debris) collection services for residents, businesses, and multifamily properties in the City of Dublin. To order recycling or organics collection service, contact AVI at (925) 479-9545.

Additional information about the services provided in Dublin can be found at:

- » www.dublin.ca.gov/1995/Solid-Waste-and-Recycling
- » www.amadorvalleyindustries.com

#### 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 assistance & trainings
- » Annual education templates
- » Free indoor food scrap bins up to \$500 per approved site



