

MULTI-FAMILY PROPERTIES WITH 5+ UNITS AND ALL BUSINESSES IN CASTRO VALLEY

must keep recyclables & compostables separate from the garbage.

ENFORCEMENT EXPANDS July 1, 2016.

ACWMA ORDINANCE 2012-01

Attention Castro Valley Property Owners and Managers:

The Mandatory Recycling Ordinance of the Alameda County Waste Management Authority (ACWMA) was implemented in two Phases:

Phase 1 of the Mandatory Recycling Ordinance began July 1, 2014 requiring recycling at businesses and institutions and multi-family properties with five or more units.

Phase 2 of the Mandatory Recycling Ordinance began January 1, 2016 and added requirements to collect organics (food scraps and compostable paper) separately from garbage.

This letter is to notify you that, beginning July 1, 2016, ACWMA will actively enforce both phases of the Ordinance to determine compliance. Expanded enforcement activities include inspection for compliance with the new organics collection requirements. Violations could result in a citation and fine.

FOLLOW THE LAW TO AVOID POSSIBLE CITATION AND FINE

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:

- 1. New!** For businesses and institutions that generate significant quantities* of organics such as restaurants and grocery stores and for multi-family properties: Failure to provide containers and collection service for organics (food scraps and compostable paper) of sufficient number, size and/or collection frequency to handle all of the organics generated at that location.
- 2.** Failure to provide containers and collection service for recyclables of sufficient number, size and/or collection frequency to handle all of the recyclables generated at that location. 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.

- 3.** Failure to provide information at least annually to employees, tenants and contractors describing how to properly use the recycling 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:

- 4. New!** 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.
- 5.** Disposing of recyclable materials in the garbage.
- 6.** Disposing of garbage in the recycling or organics containers.

* 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, food-soiled paper, and plant debris. These materials, when sent to a composting facility, will become compost – a 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 food-soiled 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 20 gallons (four 5-gal buckets) or more of organics are disposed of in a garbage bin or 10 gallons (two 5-gal buckets) or more are disposed of in a garbage cart. To determine if you exceed the threshold, take a look in your garbage bins or carts the day before collection day.



Garbage Bin



Garbage Cart

SETTING-UP COLLECTION SERVICE

Businesses and multi-family properties should contact Waste Management of Alameda County at (510) 613-8700 to set-up organics or recycling collection service.

Resources are available at www.RecyclingRulesAC.org, including:

- **Downloadable posters and signs** – Click on Castro Valley Sanitary District under the “Rules by City” tab to find posters specific to CVSan, or go to the “Support Materials” section for generic posters and even a sign-maker tool.
- **Template letters** for compliance with the annual notification requirement.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR BUSINESSES

- Free site visits to identify specific opportunities to reduce waste, comply with the law and often save money on solid waste bills.
» www.RecyclingRulesAC.org/Request-Assistance
- Free indoor food scrap bins – A variety of containers and lids are available. Up to \$500 per approved business.
» www.RecyclingRulesAC.org/Containers

FREE INDOOR FOOD SCRAP BINS



Up to \$500 per approved business.

APPLY ONLINE NOW

www.RecyclingRulesAC.org/containers

Sign up at www.RecyclingRulesAC.org/Stay-Informed to receive important news, updates and resources related to the recycling laws as they become available.