

Commercial Services Guide

Fines for lack of compost and recycling service start January 2023



Under state law SB 1383 and Alameda County’s Organics Reduction and Recycling Ordinance, all businesses, nonprofits, institutions, schools, and multifamily properties in Alameda County are required to have compost and recycling collection service or have an approved waiver. StopWaste, the Alameda County public agency working on behalf of cities to enforce the law, will begin to issue citations for non-compliance starting January 2023. Starting fines range from \$50 to \$100, depending on the size of a site’s trash service.

Since the law went into effect in January 2022, StopWaste, the city of Oakland, and Oakland Recycles have been working in partnership to alert non-compliant sites to the requirements. This grace period to correct violations is now ending. Once an official warning letter has been sent, a site has 60 days to arrange for compost and recycling service or obtain a waiver. If no action is taken, a citation will be issued and the starting fine imposed. Fines will increase every 60 days, with fine amounts up to \$500 for any sites that continue to not have the required service.

The purpose of the law is to reduce the amount of food and other compostable materials sent to landfills where they break down and release methane, a harmful greenhouse gas and leading cause of climate change. In addition to the collection service requirement for compostable and recyclable materials, sites must set up color-coded and labeled indoor containers, and sort materials correctly. Some food generating sites must also recover and donate or sell any surplus edible food to feed people.

To learn more about the requirements, find free resources, and request support, visit www.StopWaste.org/rules or call 510-891-6575 and leave a message for a call back.

Please see reverse side for tools and support for bringing your business into compliance.



Compost and Trash Collection
Waste Management of Alameda County, Inc.: (510) 613-8710

Recycling Collection
Please visit Oaklandrecycles.com/services/business to view a list of available recycling service providers.

Get the Support You Need

WM, the City of Oakland, and StopWaste provide tools and support to help your business comply with all city, county and state recycling laws.

- Sorting signage and stickers to assist your employees and customers in recycling right.
- Free indoor bins (a value of \$500 per approved site) are available to qualifying Alameda County businesses for compost collection. To apply visit <https://portal.stopwaste.org/freebins>.
- On-site technical support to assess what level of service for compost, recycle, and trash matches your needs.
- On-site or virtual recycle trainings.

For more details, visit oaklandrecycles.com/services/business/ or contact WM at oaklandoutreach@wm.com



Utensils, Straws, and Condiments by Request Only

State law AB 1276 requires retail food operations and food delivery platforms to stop automatic distribution of single use cutlery, condiment packets and chopsticks. The goal of AB 1276 is to reduce excess packaging and reduce food waste from unwanted condiment packs.

Law requirements:

- Single-use foodware cannot be bundled or packaged in a way that prohibits the customer from taking only the item desired.
- A food facility using a third-party food delivery platform must list on its menu the availability of single-use foodware accessories and standard condiments and only provide those items when requested.
- The following single-use items can only be provided when requested by the customer:
 - Utensils (forks, knives, spoons, and sporks)
 - Chopsticks
 - Condiment cups and packets
 - Straws, stirrers and cocktail sticks
- Disposable foodware accessories can be offered to drive-thru customers and within airports.
- AB 1276 does not apply to correctional facilities, school cafeterias, residential and health care facilities.



For resources and funding opportunities to support your business in switching to reusable foodware, visit: www.stopwaste.org/reusablefoodware

Visit Oaklandrecycles.com/services/business for information.



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