

Athens Services Meets Los Angeles Landfill Reduction Targets

(City of Industry, CA) March 3, 2022 – Athens Services has reached a major milestone by meeting targets set by the City of Los Angeles to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills. The Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment Department (LASAN) reported the results in its 2020 [recyclA Progress report](#).

Under [recyclA](#), the city’s waste and recycling program aims to achieve “zero waste” through pioneering waste reduction, reuse, recycling, and recovery programs. According to the [recyclA Progress report](#), Athens reduced its landfill tonnage in 2020 compared to 2019. Results for 2021 aren’t available yet.



Athens Zero Waste Manager Alexander Han credits the company’s recycling success in Los Angeles to outreach teams personally visiting businesses and multifamily housing units onsite to train customers in recycling.

“We have a solid team that knows how to talk and engage with people onsite, one-on-one,” Han said. “We are there in partnership with our customers to help them be successful.”

Athens’ [recyclA](#) outreach program consists of a four-step approach called SITE:

1. **Signage** identifying the right material for recycling
2. **Internal** containers for recycling – blue for plastics, cardboard, and other recyclables, and now green for food waste and other organic material to meet California’s new SB 1383 requirements
3. **Training** employees at businesses and tenants at multifamily residences, and
4. **Events** including tabling and other outreach in the community.

“I’m really proud of our outreach team, their dedication to quality work, and the ownership they have taken to change behavior one customer at a time,” Han said. “They’re not just checking the box.”

Han also pointed to recent company investments in recycling and composting facilities featuring new technology to sort material and reduce the amount of organic waste going to landfills.

The recyclA program serves more than 65,000 customers in Los Angeles. Athens is the largest service provider with more than 21,000 customers.

Athens Services is a landfill avoidance company in Southern California. Family-owned and operated since 1957, Athens was founded on the simple principle of providing exceptional service, by hiring and developing great people, while fostering a safe, healthy, and sustainable environment; that’s The Athens Way. Today, Athens Services teams up with local communities, as well as private institutions and government agencies, as their zero waste partner.

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