

MAKING YOUR COMPANY'S WASTE AND RECYCLING PROGRAM COMPLIANT

The days of calling anyone with a dump truck to haul away your business's waste and recycling are long gone. Over the past decade, California has adopted regulations that directly impact your business:

- AB 341 – Requires recycling by businesses and multifamily dwellings of five units or more that generate four cubic yards or more of solid waste weekly. The goal: 75 percent recycling by 2020.
- AB 1826 – Requires organics waste (green waste, food scraps, and food-soiled paper) recycling by businesses that generate four cubic yards or more of solid waste weekly. Multifamily dwellings of five units or more are only required to recycle green waste.
- SB 1383 – Expands on AB 1826 with recovery goals of 50 percent by 2020, 75 percent by 2025, and 20 percent of disposed edible food by 2025.



In the City of Los Angeles, businesses must sort their recycling into blue, “recycling only” containers as part of the recycLA program to meet AB 341 standards.

HOW TO MAKE YOUR BUSINESS COMPLIANT

AB 1826 and SB 1383: In communities throughout the San Gabriel Valley and Los Angeles County, Athens provides commercial customers with education and outreach services and source-separated bins for organics and food waste.

Athens then recycles the source-separated organics and food waste into compost and mulch at American Organics. The compost is reinvested back into many of the communities that Athens serves to create a sustainable, closed-loop solution to organics management.

A third option Athens offers for managing food waste is partnering with local food recovery organizations, such as Beacon House, FoodCycle LA, St. Francis Center, and Food Forward in Los Angeles. Food Forward recently opened a refrigerated storage facility that has a capacity for 33 million pounds of food a year. These and other food recovery organizations divert food waste from landfills and direct edible food to people in need.

The commercial sector generates nearly three-fourths of the solid waste in California. Athens is adopting new technologies and forging new partnerships to help businesses reduce, reuse, recover, and recycle wherever possible. Together, Athens and the communities it serves are fostering a safe, healthy, and sustainable environment.

To learn more about how to set up a compliant program, go to:

- AthensServices.com/In-The-News/Organics-Waste-and-AB-1826
- CalRecycle.CA.gov/Recycle/Commercial/Organics