



January 1, 2026

Subject: Updated Recycling and Organics Program Starting January 2026

Dear West Covina Residents,

The City of West Covina is committed to meeting California's environmental goals and complying with Senate Bill 1383 (SB 1383), a statewide law that requires cities to reduce landfill waste by expanding recycling and organic waste collection.

As part of this effort, residents are now required to place all food waste and food scraps into the green organics container, along with yard and green waste. Separating food waste from trash allows these materials to be recycled into compost and mulch instead of breaking down in landfills, where they produce methane gas.

In addition, in the coming months, Athens Services will deliver a new blue recycling cart to each household at no additional charge. Once received, residents will be required to separate recyclable materials—including paper, cardboard, plastics, glass, and metals—and place them into the blue recycling cart.

Once these changes are complete, all residential customers will have a black (trash), blue (recyclable) and green (organics) container as the base level of service. Rates for the base level of service will not increase. Instead, customers will be receiving additional capacity (a blue recycle barrel), as part of the base level of service. Only additional barrels beyond the three base carts (trash, recycling, and organics) are subject to an additional fee.

The City and Athens Services have worked closely to develop a program that best serves the needs of the West Covina community while making participation simple and convenient. Athens will provide additional outreach and educational materials in the coming weeks to help residents understand these changes and how to properly sort materials.

If you have questions about your residential waste services, contact the Athens Customer Care Center at (888) 336-6100 or visit the Athens Services website for West Covina residents at [AthensServices.com/Residential-Services/West-Covina/](http://AthensServices.com/Residential-Services/West-Covina/).

Thank you for your cooperation and for doing your part to help create a cleaner, more sustainable West Covina.

Sincerely,

*Milan M. Mrakich*

Milan Mrakich  
Acting City Manager  
City of West Covina