



INSIDE SOLID WASTE

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Inside Solid Waste is produced quarterly by Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force



TOP STORIES

- 3 Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Adopts Zero Waste Plan
- 4 City of Burbank "Food is NOT Trash" SB 1383 Campaign

- 5 Malibu Rises to the Challenge of a New Kind of Recycling
- 6 City of Hawthorne's Dump Day/ Community Clean Up 2022 – October 8, 2022

Household Hazardous Waste Permanent Collection Centers



SWMC

Inside Solid Waste

Task Force Public Education and
Information Subcommittee

CHAIR

Mike Mohajer

For information, call
Vanessa A. Olivas at (626) 458-2528
Monday - Thursday, 7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.



Visit lacountyiswmtf.org to find agendas, meeting minutes and copies of the Inside Solid Waste newsletter. If you are interested in participating on the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Public Education and Information Subcommittee or if you would like to submit an article for Inside Solid Waste, please contact Vanessa A. Olivas at (626) 458-2528 or volivas@pw.lacounty.gov. Quarterly meetings are held at Los Angeles County Public Works Headquarters to discuss and review upcoming newsletters.

City of Los Angeles S.A.F.E Permanent Collection Centers

Open Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., unless otherwise noted.
Services suspended during rainy weather.
For information, call (800) 98-TOXIC (988-6942).

Gaffey Street Collection Center

1400 N. Gaffey Street, San Pedro, CA 90731

Hyperion Treatment Plant

7660 W. Imperial Highway, Gate B, Playa Del Rey, CA 90293

Washington Boulevard Collection Center

2649 E. Washington Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90021

Randall Street S.A.F.E. Center

11025 Randall Street, Sun Valley, CA 91352

UCLA Location (E-waste accepted on Saturdays only)

550 Charles E. Young Drive West, Los Angeles, CA 90095
Open Friday and Saturday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Los Angeles/Glendale Collection Center

4600 Colorado Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90039

Los Angeles County Permanent Collection Centers

Antelope Valley Environmental Collection Center

Antelope Valley Public Landfill,
1200 West City Ranch Road, Palmdale, CA 93551
Open 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

EDCO Environmental Collection Center

EDCO Recycling and Transfer Center,
2755 California Avenue, Signal Hill, CA 90755
Open 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

About Household Hazardous Waste

Items accepted: paint and solvents, used motor oil and filters, anti-freeze and other automotive fluids, cleaning products, pool and garden chemicals, aerosol cans, all medicines except for controlled substances, auto batteries, household batteries, computers, monitors, printers, network equipment, cables, telephones, televisions, microwaves, video games, cell phones, radios, stereos, VCRs and electronic toys. **Not accepted: business waste, ammunition, explosives, radioactive material, trash, tires and bulky items such as furniture, refrigerators, washing machines/dryers and stoves.**

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Adopts Zero Waste Plan



After much anticipation, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors adopted the Zero Waste Plan on September 13, 2022. The Zero Waste Plan is an update to the Roadmap to a Sustainable Waste Future Plan, which was adopted in 2014 and has guided the County to implement policies and develop programs to achieve established waste diversion goals.

A lot of progress has been made since 2014: unincorporated communities reached a waste diversion rate of 65 percent, Los Angeles County Public Works continued to implement innovative waste reduction and recycling programs, such as the Food Donation and Recovery Outreach Program that diverts edible food to residents who are food insecure. Nevertheless, the County faces significant challenges to achieve its sustainability goals. Restrictions regarding exports of recyclable materials have contributed to an increase in landfill disposal, and since the COVID-19 pandemic, the County has seen an increase in the use and disposal of single-use-plastics.

Additionally, California is experiencing the effects of climate change and recognizes that solid waste landfill disposal creates greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, which exacerbates the climate crisis. This led the State to pass Senate Bill 1383 (2016) which set ambitious goals to reduce GHG emissions by diverting 75 percent of

organic waste from landfills by 2025. The most recent Countywide Organics Waste Management Plan Annual Report estimates that approximately 5.4 million tons of organic waste is disposed of each year Countywide, while the County is only able to process 0.5 million tons per year.

These and other factors resulted in the need to update the Roadmap planning document now referred to as the Zero Waste Plan. The Zero Waste Plan recalibrates the strategies necessary to meet the County's waste diversion and GHG emissions reduction goals. It emphasizes initiatives that support pursuing State and Federal funding for infrastructure development; procurement of recovered organic waste products, such as biomethane; and preventing or eliminating waste altogether, which is at the top of our waste management hierarchy. In addition, the Zero Waste Plan includes more extensive discussion of the role of citizen participation and environmental impacts when developing or expanding infrastructure or implementing programs and services.

The Zero Waste Plan is available at zerowaste.lacounty.gov. For more information, please contact Los Angeles County Public Works, Ms. Breana Romero at (626) 458-6552 or bromero@pw.lacounty.gov.

City of Burbank “Food is NOT Trash” SB 1383 campaign

When the California legislature passed Senate Bill 1383 (SB 1383) to aid in the fight against climate change, organics disposal in landfills was the target. However, in order to make such a monumental societal shift, the public, businesses, and local governments need to recognize that organic waste, especially food, is a valuable natural resource that modern society has been wasting and has the potential to cause great harm.

Outreach Design:

The City of Burbank’s SB 1383 outreach planning was designed to build public awareness and buy-in that food waste is a problem that everyone can help solve by shifting how it’s valued and treated. The idea that ‘food is not trash’ became the guiding theme of the city’s launch into organics collection for composting (regenerate soil). This slogan serves as a double entendre that food should not be trashed and now goes in the green cart to be recycled for beneficial reuse.

To help the public understand the new law and proper protocol, a comprehensive, yet easy to follow eight page guide was created, titled *“Food is NOT Trash”*. This guide became the foundational outreach tool explaining why organic recycling is now required and provides helpful tips to manage it at home and work. (It is available in print and online and in Spanish and Armenian)

To keep consistent messaging, the *“Food is NOT Trash”* theme and design look was carried throughout the Burbank SB 1383 launch phase through various outreach efforts:

- Bus shelter panels
- Recycling/trash/organics truck signs (26 in the fleet)
- Utility bill (print and e-version with links to SB 1383 website)
- Social media
- Webinars
- Speaking engagements

Food Scrap Collection and Food Pail Giveaway

Kick Off:

The city solid waste services had been composting yard trimmings through the residential curbside service for several decades, so the first phase of SB 1383 implementation was adding food scraps to the existing green cart collection (launched July 2022). To aid in this public behavior transition, the city provides free countertop pails for Burbank residents to hold and manage food scraps (no plastic bags). These are made available through distribution events and at city offices and each pail includes a printed *“Food is NOT Trash”* guide. In-person distribution provides city staff an opportunity for direct engagement to walk the residents through the program and answer questions.

While the city’s residential curbside food scrap collection program was being promoted and established, the second phase of SB 1383 implementation focused on increasing commercial compliance for business and multi-family properties to ensure citywide access to organics recycling service by the end of 2022. The new year kicked off with a more comprehensive outreach effort with a mailed special SB 1383 edition newsletter that fully explains the organics collection requirements and best practices. The printed and electronic publication also encouraged public pick up or download of the *“Food is NOT Trash”* guide and pail giveaway.

The printed guide and copies of the newsletter are also distributed at various city buildings, such as recreation facilities, senior centers, libraries, and permit offices. Providing accessible hard copy materials allows property managers, business owners, and neighbors to spread the word to others by handing out extra copies.



Learn What Goes IN the Bin
whereitgoes.burbankca.gov





Malibu Rises to the Challenge of a New Kind of Recycling



The City of Malibu (the City) is known for its leadership in environmental issues. The City's local laws target pollution that threatens the ocean and wildlife, including banning plastic shopping bags and other single-use plastics, establishing a dumpster locking program, and adopting an organics recycling ordinance.

In addition to the prohibition on single-use plastic bags, businesses are not allowed to use polystyrene or plastic take-out containers, straws, cutlery, and stirrers. Bio-plastic utensils are also not allowed due to a lack of commercial composting facilities in the area. The City is a partner in the Clean Bay Certified Restaurant program and conducts bi-annual inspections to ensure compliance.

In an effort to reduce rodents and the use of rodent control methods, the City implemented an Enhanced Enforcement Program for Solid Waste Containers. Rodent control methods such as the use of poisons, target rats, mice, gophers and squirrels, and can also indirectly cause the death of predators such as owls and mountain lions. The program aims to keep commercial trash areas clean and the dumpster lids tightly closed at all times. The City worked with haulers to ensure a lid locking service for businesses and inspects commercial properties for compliance.

Malibu solid waste service is managed by a Los Angeles County contract for the Malibu Garbage Disposal District (eastern half) and a city-permitted hauler system regulates the remainder (western half). Outreach to the community has been challenging since the two haulers have different sorting requirements for

Senate Bill 1383. On the eastside, organic waste goes in the trash container to be processed at a high yield diversion facility. On the westside, food scraps and other organics go in the green waste container to be processed at a food recovery facility.

In order to assist businesses and residents to understand what is expected, the City and the County coordinated on educational messaging. In April 2022, the partners held a virtual community meeting on organics and implementation. Haulers for east and west end services were available to answer questions.

In October 2022, the City presented a virtual Organics Recycling Training focused on the importance of participation in recycling and waste reduction. Attendees were provided with a link to the online Zero Waste Guide for Residents. Community members that show identification and proof of attendance will receive a free kitchen collection bin. The 1.9 gallon kitchen caddy is easy to carry, empty, and clean (dishwasher safe). Supplies for the bins are limited and will be distributed via a reservation system for pick-up at City Hall. The City continues to offer community trainings. Residents are encouraged to take advantage of this giveaway that may help make it easier to separate food waste from garbage and mixed recycling.

The City of Malibu will continue to strengthen its environmental programs with community support. For information about the City's new Organics Recycling Program, visit malibucity.org/organics

City of Hawthorne's Dump Day/Community Clean Up 2022

October 8, 2022



Background:

The City of Hawthorne collaborated with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and conducted a free Community Dump Day Event on October 8, 2022. The event was held at the Betty Ainsworth Center - 3851 West El Segundo Blvd from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday.

The Clean California program funded a portion of this free Dump Day Event. The Clean California initiative is a multi-year cleanup effort to keep roads and waterways free of litter and transform state and local public spaces through beautifying efforts. Caltrans agreed to reimburse the City of Hawthorne with a percentage of costs for labor, equipment, and dumping fees expended for this Dump Day Event.

This event was intended to mobilize the community to clean up the city during this focused part of the month. It included a collaboration between staff, residents, and support from Caltrans, Martinez Landscape, and Republic Services for bulky item trash, paper shredding, and electronic waste pick-up.

These Dump Day events discourage illegal dumping along highways and roads by giving communities a convenient place to dispose of bulky items safely, properly, and at no cost. No commercial drop-offs were allowed. Residents were invited to drop off their bulky items, paper for shredding, and electronic waste at the Betty Ainsworth parking lot.

Event day:

Twelve 40-yard containers were provided by Republic Services and placed strategically throughout the city, allowing residents to drop off trash, paper for shredding,

electronic waste, and bulky items. Staff started as early as 6:30 a.m. to ensure everything was ready for the 8 a.m. check-in. The city was divided into ten sections, each accompanied by at least two staff leaders.

Staffing provided 159 volunteers, 47 Hawthorne city employees, 12 Republic Services staff, and 15 Martinez Landscape staff throughout the event.

Statistics:

Total paper shredded: **6,780 pounds**

Total solid waste collected from roll off boxes: **11.03 tons**

Total solid waste collected from Front End Loaders: **13.39 tons**

For more information, please contact Ms. Selena Acuna at (310) 349-2982 or e-mail Sacuna@cityofhawthorne.org.



Impacts of Recent Legislation on Conversion Technologies



As outlined in Los Angeles County's Zero Waste Plan, which was approved by the Board of Supervisors on September 13, 2022, conversion technologies (CT) are essential for closing the loop in a circular economy and achieving the goal of diverting more than 95 percent of unincorporated County waste from landfills by the year 2045. CT facilities use non-combustion processes to convert solid waste into renewable energy and other useful products. However, new state laws enacted in 2022, Senate Bill 54 (SB 54) and Assembly Bill 1857 (AB 1857), may create barriers to the development of CT facilities.

SB 54 requires that all plastic packaging meet a 65 percent recycling rate by year 2032, made possible through producer investments in recycling infrastructure. SB 54 defines recycling as "maintaining materials in the circular economy" and does not allow the use of pyrolysis, gasification, or other plastics-to-fuel technologies to meet required recycling rates. SB 54's definition of recycling could discourage siting CTs processing plastic packaging in California and make it more difficult to properly manage various solid waste streams, including certain plastics.

AB 1857 repeals the State provision allowing jurisdictions to receive diversion credit for up to 10 percent of their solid waste diverted from landfills through processing at transformation facilities or CT facilities. In addition, AB 1857 states that the proposed Zero Waste Equity Grant cannot be provided for solid waste management projects that result in "combustion, incineration, energy generation, and fuel production, or

any other form of disposal." Although CTs do not combust waste, this language could discourage CT facilities in California by removing the incentives for developers to build new facilities that create energy or fuel from waste and for local jurisdictions to use these facilities to properly manage waste streams and reduce dependency on landfills.

SB 54's definition of recycling and AB 1857's repeal of diversion credit and requirements for grant funding are not aligned with the State's goals of achieving a circular economy, reducing air pollution, and diverting waste. These laws do not assist with addressing plastic litter concerns, promoting clean energy infrastructure, decreasing greenhouse gas emissions, and reducing dependency on fossil fuels for energy and transportation. Various types of organic waste, plastics, and compostable materials cannot be continuously recycled without causing contamination, health, and/or safety problems. Even if hard-to-handle or non-recyclable materials are prohibited from sale in the State, there will still be essential packaging and product materials that cannot be recycled or banned, and "recycling" will generate residual materials that remain after recyclables and organic waste are processed.

As an alternative to landfilling, California needs a more reasonable approach for these materials and "post-recycled" residuals. CTs provide a way to manage these materials and are necessary to achieve the County and State's mutual goals. Enacted laws have only delayed an inevitable advancement in managing various solid waste streams. The role of landfills and CTs are primarily to accept wastes that cannot be avoided, reduced, reused, recycled, or recovered. There is limited landfill capacity for the disposal of waste from future generations. Eventually CTs will be needed as an economical solution for managing waste. Furthermore, other nations around the world have implemented targeted policies to encourage the management of solid waste through CTs, which helped them meet a portion of their energy needs, become more independent from fossil fuels, and reduce emissions and air pollution. In order for CTs to reach their full potential in California, they require less barriers to progress, consistent policy support, and reliable funding at all levels of government.

If you have any questions regarding the subject matter, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at MikeMohajer@gmail.com or (909) 592-1147.

Feeding Student Mind and Body with a Vegetable Garden on Campus



Herb and vegetable gardens are being cultivated in schools throughout Los Angeles County to help nourish students and introduce them to organic gardening. Elementary schools are taking advantage of the School Garden Program offered by Los Angeles County Public Works (Public Works) on a countywide basis to construct mini gardens on site. The County encourages schools to apply for this free program to enhance their campus.

The goal of Public Works is to introduce students to natural systems and get them interested in the environment through gardens by growing herbs, vegetables, and flowers. The program started in 2013 and has served hundreds of schools. In 2020, the program was suspended due to the Safer-At-Home Order in response to Covid-19. Since restarting in 2022, Public Works has seen considerable demand for construction of the gardens on campus from school administrators and teachers.

The program aims to reach schools in underserved

communities but has served a diverse array of schools in different cities and areas. What is generally offered to each school is: two raised beds (each 4 feet by 8 feet by 11 inches in dimension), soil, garden tools, plants, and compost bins. Schools could build the beds with the materials themselves or Public Works can have staff construct the garden with or without student participation. Staff also offers demonstrations on worm composting that has been popular with young students

The philosophy of the program is that the garden presents a living laboratory for students to learn science and hands on social skills. They learn how to grow organic food and develop a healthy hobby that they could teach their parents at home.

To participate in the program or a free consultation, schools should contact Public Works at (626) 458-3516 or e-mail schoolgarden@pw.lacounty.gov. For more information, please visit pw.lacounty.gov/epd/sg/school.cfm.

Explore Creative Possibilities in Your Garden



Gardeners looking to enhance their skills and improve the aesthetics of their gardens need to look no further. The Los Angeles County Public Works (Public Works) Smart Gardening Program will provide all the details on how to make your garden thrive through the practice of composting and organic gardening. Composting and organic gardening are excellent ways to supplement your garden's nutrients and provide the strength and energy your plants require to remain vibrant.

Residents are invited to attend free weekly webinars and workshops offered by Public Works' Smart Gardening Program and presented by certified Master Gardeners. The webinars cover different smart gardening techniques including backyard composting, worm composting, organic gardening, small-space gardening, and water-wise gardening.

Beginner workshops are for newer gardeners to learn the basic techniques of backyard composting, worm composting, water-wise gardening, grass-cycling, and edible gardening in one session. Meanwhile advanced

workshops provide participants with fundamental principles of drought-tolerant landscaping, integrated pest management, and organic gardening. Workshops are held in libraries, parks, and other venues throughout Los Angeles County.

The webinars and workshops benefit gardeners of all skill levels and run about 1 to 1.5 hours, respectively. After each in-person session, Public Works will have compost bins available for purchase at a discount and encourage attendees to start composting. Besides contributing to the garden, composting helps jurisdictions comply with Senate Bill 1383, which mandates the reduction of organic waste disposed in landfills.

Public Works has offered workshops for over 20 years, while the webinars began recently due to Covid-19 Safer-at-Home Orders where thousands have participated. To register for a webinar, find a workshop nearby, or for more information, please visit [smartgardening.com](https://www.smartgardening.com). For questions, residents can e-mail smartgardening@pw.lacounty.gov.

SPRING 2023 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

The Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) continuously monitors and analyzes legislation that may impact solid waste management in Los Angeles County. Below are summaries of legislation the Task Force has taken a position on during the first half of the 2023/2024 Legislative Session.

California State Legislation:

Bill Number / Author	Task Force Position	Status
<p>AB 324 Pacheco</p> <p>Would require the PUC to open a new proceeding/phase of an existing proceeding, to consider establishing procurement goals for renewable hydrogen, and consider requiring each gas corporation and core transport agent to annually procure a proportionate share of renewable hydrogen to meet these goals. Would require the PUC to make specified findings before establishing renewable hydrogen procurement targets or goals.</p>	Support	Amended March 27, 2023
<p>AB 1594 Garcia</p> <p>Would require any state regulation that seeks to require, or otherwise compel, the procurement of medium- and heavy-duty zero-emission vehicles by a public agency utility, as defined, to ensure that those vehicles can support a public agency utility's ability to maintain reliable water and electric services, respond to disasters in an emergency capacity, and provide mutual aid assistance statewide and nationwide, among other requirements. Would additionally define a public agency utility to include a local publicly owned electric utility, a community water system, and a wastewater treatment provider.</p>	Support If Amended	Revised April 25, 2023
<p>AB 1705 McKinnor</p> <p>Would prohibit a person from establishing or expanding a transformation facility or an engineered municipal solid waste (EMSW) conversion facility in the state until the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) has determined that the state has achieved solid waste and organic waste policy goals for three consecutive years.</p>	Opposed	Amended March 21, 2023



Bill Number / Author	Task Force Position	Status
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SB 244

Eggman

Support In Concept

Amended April 13, 2023

Would enact the Right to Repair Act. Requiring, regardless of whether any express warranty is made, the manufacturer of an electronic or appliance product but sold to others outside of direct retail sales, to make available, on fair and reasonable terms, to product owners, service and repair facilities, and service dealers, the means to effect the diagnosis, maintenance, or repair of the product. The bill would also require a service and repair facility or service dealer that is not an authorized facility or dealer of a manufacturer to provide a written notice of that fact to any customer seeking repair of an electronic or appliance product before the repair facility or service dealer repairs the product.

SB 560

Laird

Support In Concept

Amended March 22, 2023

Would establish a stewardship program for gas cylinder products and would authorize producers of those products to establish one more producer stewardship organization for that purpose. Requires each producer or producer stewardship organization to submit a gas cylinder stewardship plan to CalRecycle that details, among other things, convenient and accessible opportunities for the recovery of gas cylinders used by consumers.

SB 665

Allen

Oppose Unless Amended

Introduced February 16, 2023

Would require the California Environmental Protection Agency, by January 1, 2025, to establish a working group consisting of the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, the State Water Resources Control Board, the Department of Toxic Substances Control, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, and the Ocean Protection Council to establish a framework for evaluating novel material types as they are developed to inform state policy decisions. The bill would further require the working group to, among other things, develop recommendations related to novel material types, including the appropriate marketing of the material, the handling of the material at the end of its useful life, and how the material needs to be treated in relation to existing state policies, rules, and regulations.

For more information on these bills or copies of Task Force letters, please visit the Task Force website, lacountyiswmtf.org or contact Perla Gomez with Los Angeles County Public Works, at (626) 300-2616, Monday - Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. or Mike Mohajer, a Member of the Task Force at MikeMohajer@gmail.com or (909) 592-1147.