



INSIDE SOLID WASTE

Summer 2026

•

Volume 116

•

lacountyiswmtf.org

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



TOP STORIES

- 3 California Product Stewardship Council
Textile Recovery Education Event
- 5 Compost Application Pilot at Whittier
Narrows Park

- 7 Organic and Edible Gardening Workshop:
Sustainable Practices in Pico Rivera
- 8 Southern California Waste Management
Forum 2026

Household Hazardous Waste Permanent Collection Centers



SWMC

Inside Solid Waste

Task Force Public Education and
Information Subcommittee

CHAIR
JOY PIPKIN

For information, call
Carol Saucillo at (626) 300-4594
Monday - Thursday, 7 a.m. - 5 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 Monique Brackett at (626) 300-2697 or mbrackett@dpw.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).

Nicole Bernson (Balboa)

10241 N. Balboa Boulevard, Northridge, CA 91325

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
ID/CDL required

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 Saturdays, and the first Sunday of every month,
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Los Angeles/Glendale Collection Center

4600 Colorado Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90039
ID/CDL required
Open Saturdays only, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

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.**

California Product Stewardship Council Textile Recovery Education Event



On June 10, 2026, the California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC) hosted a Recovered Textile Exhibit to advance textile reuse, repair, recycling, and market development opportunities throughout California. To support the event, Los Angeles County Public Works provided Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) Zone Incentive Funds. Local Jurisdictions receive these funds from CalRecycle to support new and expanding businesses to divert waste from landfills.

The event brought together local governments, textile recovery organizations, manufacturers, recyclers, waste haulers, policymakers, and community stakeholders to discuss innovative approaches to managing textile waste and building a more sustainable textile recovery system. Textiles are among the fastest-growing waste streams in California. As the State continues to develop policies and programs to increase textile diversion, the event provided a valuable forum for sharing best practices, highlighting emerging markets, and fostering collaboration among organizations working to keep textiles in productive use.

Mr. Alex Helou of the City of Los Angeles Sanitation & Environment (LASAN) delivered the welcoming remarks. He emphasized that achieving meaningful textile

diversion will require innovation, collaboration between local governments and industry partners, and investment in recovery infrastructure. He also highlighted the City's vision to leverage upcoming global events, such as the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games, to advance sustainability goals and create lasting benefits beyond the events themselves, including cleaner communities, increased resource recovery, and a stronger circular economy.

LASAN presenters also shared updates on their Textile Recovery Pilot, including efforts to establish Los Angeles as a regional textile recovery hub. They noted that approximately 1.2 million tons of textiles were disposed of in California landfills in 2021, representing roughly three percent of the State's landfill stream, with textile waste increasing significantly over the past two decades. The Textile Recovery Pilot has been divided into three phases, starting with Phase I (2020-2022), which focused on analyzing textile waste data, conducting trials in upcycling, recycling, and composting, developing a commercial textile generator map, and establishing textile management processes. Phase II (2023-2024) expanded these efforts through fiber identification

technology demonstrations, the establishment of a textile collection and sorting site, the production of renewed fabric containing 30 percent recycled content, and the formation of a Textile Working Group. The current Phase III (2025-2026), is focused on scaling implementation by producing renewed fabric containing 40 percent recycled content, upcycling Los Angeles Department of Water and Power uniforms into tote bags, conducting education and stakeholder engagement events, and developing a redesign exchange platform.

The City of Los Angeles presentations were followed by panel discussions led by industry panelists representing textile-sorting, reuse, remanufacturing, and recycling organizations, including Homeboy Threads, Looptworks, Laguna Fabrics, Eorte, Aberdeen, LA Fiber, and the Suay Center for Repair + Reuse. They highlighted the importance of designing products for recyclability, improving material identification technologies, expanding domestic recycling capacity, and creating stronger end markets for recovered textiles. Speakers shared examples of successful textile recovery programs that have collectively diverted millions of pounds of material from disposal while creating jobs and supporting local manufacturing. Panelists also discussed challenges associated with recovering textiles generated from large public events, including signage, banners, uniforms, and other hard-to-manage materials. Several speakers noted that local government support through funding, procurement programs, contracts, and policy initiatives can help create consistent material supply and infrastructure investments necessary to scale textile recovery efforts.

Ms. Joanne Brasch of CPSC provided an overview of Senate Bill 707, California's Responsible Textile Recovery Act of 2024, which established an extended producer responsibility framework requiring producers to finance and manage the collection, transportation, repair, reuse, sorting, and recycling of textiles and apparel. Ms. Brasch emphasized that reuse and repair should be prioritized whenever possible and discussed the role of the Statewide Textile Recovery Act Taskforce (STRAT) in advancing textile recovery solutions throughout California. She also emphasized the importance of ensuring responsible management of textile materials throughout the supply chain and increasing accountability for producers and recyclers.

Ms. Jessica Aldridge of Athens Services discussed waste characterization studies and explained why textiles are not suitable for processing through traditional



curbside recycling systems and material recovery facilities. Ms. Aldridge highlighted findings from a textile audit conducted in partnership with CPSC, which analyzed nearly 800 pounds of textile materials collected from recycling zone audits. The study evaluated textile composition, diversion potential, and resource management opportunities, while comparing material recovery through material recovery facility processing versus source-separated collection. These findings demonstrated that textiles are more effectively recovered through dedicated collection and sorting systems, thus reinforcing the need for expanded textile recovery infrastructure and source-separation programs to maximize reuse, repair, and recycling opportunities.

Building on the information shared during the presentations, participants had the opportunity to engage in interactive exhibits and educational activities highlighting practical solutions for textile recovery and circularity. These activities showcased recycled textile products, upcycling innovations through an upcycled tote bag charm station, repair-and-reuse programs, and local textile recovery infrastructure. The exhibits and activities were provided by various organizations, including Circular Fashion LA, Afflare, Re/Assembly, iFoster, Fashion is Outrageous, Thread Haus Co., Greneker, When Simon Met Ralph, D-Sphere, Lab Denim, Ragroyalty, Enna Threads, and more.

This event aligns with the goals of the Los Angeles County RMDZ program by promoting end-market development for recovered textiles and related materials, encouraging investment in circular-economy businesses, and supporting education and outreach efforts to increase awareness of recycling and reuse opportunities.

For more information on the CPSC and future events, visit <https://www.calpsc.org/>.

Compost Application Pilot at Whittier Narrows Park



Los Angeles County Public Works (Public Works) collaborated with Agromin, a California-based company that recycles organic waste and produces earth friendly soil products, and the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation (Parks and Recreation) to launch a compost application pilot at Whittier Narrows Park. The effort was designed to evaluate how compost could improve soil health on heavily used sports fields while helping the County comply with California Senate Bill (SB) 1383, which requires local jurisdictions to procure and use recovered organic waste products, such as compost and mulch, in their operations.

Public Works and Parks and Recreation staff initiated the pilot at Cricket Field 1, Soccer Field 3, and Soccer Field 4 at Whittier Narrows Park. High-use athletic fields may experience soil degradation over time. Constant foot traffic and maintenance activities can compact the soil, restrict water infiltration, and potentially lead to surface ponding that could limit playability. Compaction also reduces water-holding capacity, which can contribute to increased soil salinity and drought stress.

In November 2024, representatives from Public Works, Agromin, and Parks and Recreation conducted a site visit to collect baseline soil samples from the selected

soccer and cricket fields. Control areas were identified where compost would not be applied, allowing for direct comparison with treated sections. In April 2025, Parks and Recreation staff performed mechanical aeration to prepare the soil, followed by the application of 75 tons of compost at a rate of 10 tons per acre. Agromin provided, delivered, and applied the compost at no cost for this pilot project.

Follow-up sampling in December 2025 revealed measurable improvements across multiple soil health indicators, including infiltration rate, water-holding capacity, organic matter content, carbon levels, and salinity. At Cricket Field 1, infiltration rates increased fivefold, indicating that compost application can reduce surface ponding and improve oxygen flow to turf roots. Water-holding capacity rose by approximately 35 percent, while salinity levels dropped by about 50 percent, significantly reducing osmotic stress. Organic matter increased by 0.64 percent, representing the sequestration of more than 12 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent per acre.

On Soccer Field 3, infiltration improved from 1.43 to 2.09 inches per hour in the center of the field. Salinity levels declined substantially, and soil organic matter



increased by nearly 1 percent in that area. Soccer Field 4 showed significant increases in infiltration and water-holding capacity compared to untreated control areas. Although overall organic matter declined across portions of that field, compost application helped mitigate carbon loss relative to the control. These findings indicate that applying compost can help preserve turf under sustained use.

The pilot demonstrated meaningful environmental and operational benefits. Enhanced soil structure allows the ground to act as a reservoir, helping to extend irrigation intervals and reduce peak water demand during warm weather. Agromin estimates that improving water retention can save up to 7,300 gallons of water per acre. Higher infiltration rates also reduce the likelihood of field closures after rain or heavy irrigation, while lower salinity levels decrease the need for corrective overseeding and chemical treatments.

The project also highlighted the County's capacity to scale compost and mulch use in support of SB 1383 procurement targets. A survey of composting, chipping, and grinding facilities in Los Angeles County and neighboring counties identified approximately 1.5 million tons per year of additional processing capacity. For unincorporated areas of the County, meeting the annual SB 1383 procurement target through soil amendments alone would require approximately 47,000

tons of compost or 81,000 tons of mulch per year. At the pilot application rate of 10 tons per acre, this would translate to treating roughly 4,700 to 8,200 acres annually, at an approximate cost of \$700,000 to \$5 million. Public Works is exploring opportunities to expand compost and mulch application across County properties, including Parks and Recreation facilities.

To build on the success of this pilot program, Public Works is exploring next steps for 2026 and beyond. Plans include expanded outreach to educate residents about the benefits of diverting organic waste from landfills for processing into compost and mulch, including the development of an informational video to be posted online and distributed through social media. Public Works is also identifying opportunities to increase the usage of compost and mulch in County landscaping, flood control infrastructure, roadways, and other applications. Public Works contracted with waste haulers to provide free compost and mulch to residents at events hosted throughout the year. Public Works is currently evaluating options to establish a permanent location where residents can pick up free compost and mulch at any time, as well as a community composting hub that would allow residents to drop off food and green waste for on-site composting and later collect the finished compost for reuse.

For more information, please visit <https://parks.lacounty.gov/whittier-narrows-recreation-area/>.

Organic and Edible Gardening Workshop: Sustainable Practices in Pico Rivera



The City of Pico Rivera (City) Office of Sustainability hosts quarterly composting and gardening workshops to engage the community in sustainable initiatives that promote organic waste recycling and environmentally friendly gardening practices. These programs are made possible through strong local partnerships with NASA Services, the City's waste hauler, and Grow2Zero Farms, whose mission is to provide communities with resources and education to support food security and reduce food waste.

These workshops are a key part of the City's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, focused on reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and improving community health by decreasing organic waste disposal. In alignment with these goals, the workshop also supports community engagement by providing participants with practical skills for organic recycling, food recovery, composting, and community climate action, helping build long term environmental stewardship across the community.

Participants learned how to grow organic edible gardens and transform everyday food scraps into nutrient-rich soil that supports healthy plant growth. The workshop emphasized practical composting methods that can be applied at home, including composting with or without a bin. Attendees explored what materials are

appropriate for composting, such as fruit and vegetable scraps, and which to avoid, including dairy products, treated or glossy paper, and pesticide-treated plants that can negatively impact soil health.

Additional gardening practices were highlighted to support successful edible gardens. Topics included the benefits of using eggshells to balance soil acidity and the water saving advantages of edible and native plants. Seasonal insights, including increased worm activity during the spring and optimal growing periods from late spring through early fall, were also shared. These tips reinforce the importance of organic waste recycling and give participants useful knowledge they can apply at home and share within their communities.

To support continued engagement at home, all participants received a kitchen compost pail. Two participants also won garden compost bins through a raffle, giving them the tools to start composting at home and adopt more sustainable waste practices.

Through collaborative partnerships and community-based education, the City continues to advance its zero-waste goals, reduce harmful GHG emissions, and foster a more sustainable, resilient Pico Rivera.

For more information, please visit <https://www.pico-rivera.org/mc-events/gardening-101-organic-and-edible-gardening/>.

Southern California Waste Management Forum 2026



On March 25, 2026, the Southern California Waste Management Forum (SCWMF) held its Spring Conference in Whittier, California. The conference focused on the implementation of State Senate Bill (SB) 1383 regulations, highlighting compliance efforts including the operational and regulatory challenges local jurisdictions face today. Cynthia Vant Hul, a Director of the SCWMF and President of Mariposa Consulting, provided opening remarks to welcome attendees. The first session was a Q&A discussion on SB 1383 and related recent legislation, led by Ms. Konya Vivanti, Environmental Programs Manager for the City of Lakewood.

The second session highlighted innovative approaches to organic waste management through the development of compost facilities. Mr. Christopher Sheppard, Principal Engineer at Los Angeles County Public Works, presented two case studies focused on pilot projects using SB 1383-compliant compost and mulch. The first pilot project took place at Whittier Narrows Recreation Area, where Agromin, a California-based company that recycles organic waste and produces earth friendly soil products, applied compost to high-use recreational fields, including soccer and cricket fields. Data collected from the cricket fields demonstrated measurable improvements in soil performance, including increased infiltration and water-holding capacity, highlighting the effectiveness of compost in enhancing soil health and improving water retention.

The other project was focused on residential properties in Altadena affected by the Eaton Fire, which occurred from January 7, 2025 to January 31, 2025. This pilot applied mulch to lots ahead of the 2025 rainy season to prevent soil erosion while improving water absorption and filtration. Public Works partnered with Agromin to supply materials and provide guidance to residents on applying the material to their properties. Mr. Bill Camarillo, CEO of Agromin, provided an industry perspective on organic waste processing and market development. He discussed key challenges, including contamination in organic waste streams, facility permitting constraints, and the need for stronger end markets for compost products. Mr. Camarillo also highlighted the environmental benefits of compost, particularly for soil rehabilitation and carbon sequestration. The discussion further explored strategies to increase compost use, including expanding existing facilities, developing local distribution sites, and leveraging community partnerships.

The third session, led by Ms. Judi Gregory, owner of Go2Zero Strategies, focused on how jurisdictions can use waste characterization studies to refine their Recovered Organic Waste Product (ROWP) procurement targets under SB 1383. SB 1383 establishes procurement requirements for each jurisdiction based on a standardized, population-based formula. Since this approach may not fully reflect the actual composition of waste disposed of within a



jurisdiction, Assembly Bill (AB) 2346, approved in 2024, allows jurisdictions to use waste characterization studies to request CalRecycle approval to adjust these targets by determining the true percentage of organic material in the waste stream. Speakers outlined the methodology required for conducting a waste characterization study with statistically valid sampling. This includes assessing all disposal streams, such as landfill direct loads and post-processing residuals, while accounting for seasonal variations and evaluating all organic material types, such as food waste, wood, yard trimmings, and other organic fractions. Presenters Ms. Laura Johnson, Senior Project Professional at SCS Engineers, and Ms. Madeleine Tully, Zero Waste Project Lead at Go2Zero Strategies, shared insights from a case study conducted for the City of Hesperia. The study involved random sampling from residential and commercial routes and physical sorting of materials to minimize bias. Each sample was collected, weighed, categorized, and documented with detailed tracking information. The City reduced its procurement target, resulting in cost savings. The session also addressed the importance of cost-benefit considerations. Waste characterization studies are resource-intensive, typically costing between \$40,000 and \$150,000 or more. Jurisdictions should consult with CalRecycle to ensure they are following an appropriate method and to determine whether the potential cost savings from reduced procurement targets justify the investment.

In the fourth session, Cynthia Vant Hul discussed challenges with SB 1383 compliance. Presenters Mr. Raul Diaz, Public Works Director for the City of Cudahy, and Ms. Pilar Mejia, Municipal Manager at Republic Services, provided a detailed overview of the City of Cudahy's experience navigating a compliance evaluation and subsequent Notice of Violation (NOV) process. They emphasized the importance of understanding the full compliance timeline, maintaining up-to-date contact information, and being prepared for ongoing communication and data requests from CalRecycle's Jurisdictional Assistance and Compliance Enforcement (JACE) Branch. The City underwent multiple phases of review, including site visits, document requests, and periodic progress evaluations. The City initially lacked an approved residential green waste program and requested a low-population waiver, which was rejected by CalRecycle in 2020. In 2024, through collaboration with Republic Services, the City worked to implement a compliant

organic waste collection program. Organic waste containers were delivered in 2025. The rollout received a positive community response due to the City's robust outreach and public engagement efforts. The speakers discussed the importance of providing proper container labeling, conducting route reviews, ensuring that all residential and commercial generators are adequately serviced, and maintaining thorough documentation, especially for education and outreach efforts.

The fifth session featured a Q&A panel with representatives from CalRecycle's JACE Branch, including Ms. Ashlee Yee, Branch Chief; Ms. Jennifer Wallin, Section Manager; and Ms. Irene Cordero, Environmental Scientist. Presenters provided an overview of the JACE compliance pathway, which includes the compliance evaluation phase, NOV phase, Corrective Action Plan (CAP) phase, and, if necessary, administrative civil penalties. The panel emphasized that jurisdictions should continue to grant CalRecycle access to the Implementation Record. Additionally, the panel encouraged jurisdictions to review and provide feedback on the draft findings report provided by CalRecycle during the three-week review period before CalRecycle issues a final report. Any unresolved compliance issues identified in the final report may result in jurisdictions receiving an NOV from CalRecycle, which must be addressed within 90 days, with the possibility of an additional 90-day extension. If the jurisdiction does not resolve the issues, jurisdictions may enter a two-year CAP phase, which can be extended by up to one additional year. Panelists noted that eligibility for a CAP and one-year extension requires jurisdictions to demonstrate substantial effort toward compliance and, in some cases, extenuating circumstances. The panelists noted that while many jurisdictions have implemented core SB 1383 programs, common deficiencies include incomplete records, lack of supporting evidence and verifiable data, or misalignment between reported activities and actual implementation. The panel also stated that common red flags identified during evaluations were incomplete route reviews, insufficient monitoring of container contamination, lack of documented outreach to residents, and gaps in waiver tracking. For example, jurisdictions must ensure that waivers include complete information, such as generator identification, and confirm that they have conducted periodic inspections within required timeframes.

For more information, visit <https://www.scwmf.org/>.

City of Downey: Keep Downey Beautiful Programs



The City of Downey (City) is proud of its rich history and truly lives by its motto, *Future Unlimited*. In 1971, Keep Downey Beautiful was created to help maintain a clean city and beautify shared public spaces. Its goal is to create a cleaner, safer, and more welcoming environment for everyone who lives, works, or visits our City.

Once a month, the City holds Clean Ups to support this mission. During a Keep Downey Beautiful Clean Up, participants take part in activities such as picking up litter in parks, streets, and neighborhoods; removing debris or bulky items from public areas; and cleaning sidewalks, alleyways, and other community-use spaces. On average, 50 bags of trash, equating to 1,500 pounds, are collected at each Clean Up.

These Clean Ups build community pride and connection. Residents feel more invested in their community when they help care for it. Clean Ups also boost safety and appearance, reducing vandalism while enhancing the quality of life. In addition, they promote environmental responsibility by reducing pollution and protecting natural spaces. Lastly, these Clean Ups encourage teamwork. Volunteers range from young children to retired adults, and by working side by side toward a shared goal, they strengthen social connections while making a meaningful impact on our City.

For more information, please visit <https://www.downeyca.org/our-city/departments/public-works/trash-recycling/keep-downey-beautiful>.

Free Disposal Day Events to Serve Eligible Los Angeles County Unincorporated Communities



Pursuant to their Conditional Use Permits issued by the Los Angeles County, the landfill operators, in coordination with Los Angeles County Public Works (Public Works), will host Free Disposal Day (FDD) events in 2026 for eligible residents of selected unincorporated communities in Supervisorial Districts 3 and 5. The events provide residents a free, convenient way to drop off up to one ton of household waste, helping keep neighborhoods clean and deter illegal dumping.

The continued success of the program reflects the value of collaboration between Public Works and local landfill operators in providing a community service that promotes proper waste disposal. In 2025, approximately 710 residents participated in the events, resulting in the proper disposal of nearly 900 tons of household waste. The 2026 FDD schedule is as follows:

Lancaster Landfill

- April 4, 2026 (completed) and October 10, 2026
- 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- 600 East Avenue F, Lancaster, CA 93535
- Open to residents of the unincorporated Antelope Valley (Supervisorial District 5)

Sunshine Canyon Landfill

- April 18, 2026 (completed) and October 17, 2026
- 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- 14747 San Fernando Road, Sylmar, CA 91342
- Open to residents of the unincorporated

communities of Sunland, Kagel Canyon, Lopez Canyon, West Chatsworth, West Hills, Oat Mountain/Twin Lakes, and Lake Manor (Supervisorial Districts 3 and 5)

Residents are encouraged to review event requirements before attending, including eligibility, accepted materials, load limits, and other event guidelines.

To help maximize community awareness, Public Works promotes each event through the Solid Waste Information Management System (SWIMS), CleanLA, Nextdoor, and Eventbrite. Event flyers are also provided to participating landfill operators and Supervisorial District offices. For Sunshine Canyon Landfill, flyers are mailed directly to eligible households within participating communities. Residents are encouraged to follow these communication channels and watch for future announcements to stay informed about upcoming FDD events and other community cleanup opportunities.

By providing residents with a free and convenient disposal option, the FDD program helps improve neighborhood cleanliness, reduces opportunities for illegal dumping and demonstrates the ongoing commitment of collaboration and planning by Public Works with Los Angeles County and its partners to protecting public health and maintaining clean communities.

For questions about these events, contact Mr. Ramon Herman of Los Angeles County Public Works at (626) 458-6986 or RHerman@pw.lacounty.gov.

Hawaiian Gardens' Solid Waste Services to Transition from Waste Resources to Waste Management



The City of Hawaiian Gardens (City), Waste Resources (WR), and Waste Management (WM) are proud to announce that, effective May 1, 2026, WM will serve as the City's new provider of waste and recycling collection services. The transition from WR to WM occurred due to the sale of WR to WM.

The City approved the transition of providers in October 2025, subject to WM's acquisition of assets and personnel from WR.

WR and WM are working with City staff to ensure a smooth transition for the City's residents and businesses. At this time, there will be no changes to services, containers, service days, rates, or the local customer service phone number.

As part of the transition to the new service provider, billing procedures will change. Services occurring on or after May 1, 2026, will be billed by WM. Customers will receive an informational service guide, including payment instructions, with their initial invoices. Customers currently enrolled in automatic payments with WR will need to cancel those arrangements, as they will not carry over to WM accounts.

For more information about this transition, please visit wasteresources.com or contact Waste Resources Customer Service at (310) 366-7600.

Southern California Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) Annual Meeting



On June 10-11, 2026, the Southern California Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) hosted a two-day workshop, Catalyzing Change: A Collaborative Growth Workshop, in Garden Grove, California. As part of the workshop, SWANA partnered with The Recycling Partnership on June 10 to host a Recycling in America Workshop. It combined presentations, discussions, and hands on activities focused on behavior change and the implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility.

During the morning session, The Recycling Partnership noted that residential waste is not put to the highest and best use, and that a waste stream that is easier to divert from landfills will reduce disposal. One example of how to implement this change is Senate Bill (SB) 54, which:

- Requires 100 percent recyclable or compostable packaging by 2032.
- Sets plastic recycling rate targets of 30 percent by 2028, 40 percent by 2030, and 65 percent by 2032.
- Allows feedstock shipped from responsible end markets, including permitted chemical recycling pathways, to count toward recycling rates.
- Establishes plastic source reduction targets of 10 percent by 2027, 20 percent by 2030, and 25 percent by 2032.

In addition, CalRecycle provided an update on the SB 54 regulations, which took effect on May 1, 2026, and are designed to reduce plastic pollution and increase recycling. CalRecycle's next steps include developing its Producer Responsibility Organization plan, engaging with the Circular Action Alliance, and releasing more information about the Producer Responsibility Advisory Board.

In the afternoon, one of the most memorable sessions was Activating the Recipe for Community Engagement, which explained each "ingredient" of the engagement model, including supporting research, common barriers to success, and tactic based solutions. The ingredients included:

- Access — ensuring all people across geographies and housing types have access to convenient recycling services.
- Ease — creating step by step instructions at key decision points and providing physical tools that integrate with household preferences.
- Appeal — offering a compelling and consistent hook that captures attention.
- Norm — demonstrating that individuals are not acting alone.



Following the presentation, attendees worked in small groups to apply these ingredients to a problem identified at their table and shared their work with the group.

On June 11, 2026, SWANA focused on informing, inspiring, and connecting California's solid waste and recycling professionals. In the morning, Mr. Bill Bracken, Chef/Owner of Bracken's Kitchen, and Mr. Mike Learakos, CEO of Abound Food Care, discussed challenges and opportunities associated with food recovery. They highlighted issues such as handling raw food, short product shelf life, and the large volume of recovered food, 70 percent of which comes from retail grocery stores. One solution highlighted was to use existing infrastructure, such as repurposed kitchens, to prepare meals from bulk products to support the feeding network. Over the last 10 years, Bracken's Kitchen has provided more than 12 million meals and rescued more than 5 million pounds of perfectly edible food.

Another morning session focused on electric vehicle (EV) trash trucks from Republic Services. Currently,

236 EV trucks are operating at twenty-nine sites across nine states. These vehicles help municipal and franchise fleets meet sustainability goals through zero emission operation, reduced noise, and improved driver safety and retention. During lunch, attendees were able to view one of these EV trucks in person.

In the afternoon, Mr. Christopher Macon from the City of Laguna Woods provided an update on the Orange County Landfill Agreement. In 1997, the County of Orange entered into a Waste Disposal Agreement (WDA) with local cities and sanitation districts to manage municipal solid waste disposal across Orange County, followed by a second WDA that started in 2010. Currently, the parties are negotiating successor agreements to the second WDA, which has been extended through June 30, 2026.

SWANA will host its next workshop on September 10, 2026, in Long Beach, California. For more information about SoCal SWANA and its upcoming events, visit <https://www.socalswana.org/>.

SUMMER 2026 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 tracked during the second year of the 2025/2026 Legislative Session.

California State Legislation:

Bill Number / Author

Status

AB 27

Schiavo

Amended

June 19, 2025

2-year bill

This bill, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2024, and before January 1, 2029, would provide an exclusion from gross income for amounts received, on or after March 1, 2024, as compensation for loss, damages, expenses, relocation, suffering, loss in real property value, closing costs with respect to real property, including relator commissions, or inconvenience, including access to the real property, related to the Chiquita Canyon elevated temperature landfill event in the County of Los Angeles. This bill would, to the extent permitted by federal law, prohibit any Chiquita Canyon elevated temperature landfill event payment amount received by a taxpayer from being considered income or resources when determining eligibility or benefit amounts for any means-tested program or guaranteed income payments.

AB 28

Schiavo

Amended

June 11, 2026

2-year bill

The bill would require an owner or operator of an MSW landfill to notify CalRecycle if a subsurface elevated temperature event occurs, where subsurface gas or waste temperatures at a solid waste landfill persistently exceed 131 degrees Fahrenheit over a substantial area. Would authorize CalRecycle to require the owner or operator of a solid waste landfill experiencing a subsurface elevated temperature event to create a corrective action plan that includes, but is not limited to, a cost assessment for fully implementing the corrective action plan. Would authorize CalRecycle or a local enforcement agency to impose an administrative civil penalty of \$100,000 per day for failing to comply with these requirements and to be deposited into the Landfill Subsurface Fire Mitigation Community Fund used to mitigate harm to a person or community affected by a subsurface elevated temperature event.

Bill Number / Author

Status

AB 762

Irwin

Amended

June 30, 2026

2-year bill

This bill would prohibit, beginning January 1, 2027, a person from importing or manufacturing for sale in this state a new or refurbished disposable, battery-embedded vapor inhalation device, and, beginning January 1, 2028, a person from selling, distributing, or offering for sale a new or refurbished disposable, battery-embedded vapor inhalation device in this state. The bill would define a “disposable, battery-embedded vapor inhalation device” to mean a vaporization device that contains nicotine but not cannabis or a cannabis product and that is not designed or intended to be reused.

AB 1153

Bonta

Amended

June 18, 2026

2-year bill

This bill would authorize CalRecycle, to develop regulations and provide program funding to public entities to abate illegal disposal sites for removing and disposing of recreational vehicles and for enforcement strategies including developing local enforcement teams and illegal dumping enforcement officers.

AB 1606

Nguyen

Amended

April 29, 2026

This bill, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2027, and before January 1, 2032, would allow a credit against those taxes to a qualified taxpayer for 30% of the qualified cleanup expenses paid or incurred during the taxable year, and would limit the credit to \$20,000 per taxable year. The bill would define qualified cleanup expenses for this purpose to mean costs directly related to the one-time removal and disposal of unauthorized encampments, illegal dumping, and abandoned property.

AB 2462

Pellerin

Introduced

February 20, 2026

This bill would require product manufacturers to provide safe return or appropriate disposal of unsafe or recalled products at no cost to end consumers, a recycling center, a municipal facility that accepts the product for recycling or disposal, a retailer that sells the product, a permitted solid waste facility, a household hazardous waste collection facility, and a thrift retail store. Authorizes CalRecycle impose an administrative penalty on a person in violation of the act of \$2,500 per day or \$5,000 per day if the violation is intentional or knowing, would create the Product Recall Penalty Account in the State Treasury and would require CalRecycle to deposit the penalties collected into the account.



Bill Number / Author

Status

SB 501

Allen

Amended

June 1, 2026

This bill would extend EPR for loose batteries to include medium format batteries (E-bikes, outdoor lawn equipment, portable power systems, etc.) seeks to expand the program under AB 2440 EPR program to categorize all covered batteries as either a small format battery or a medium format battery. The bill would define a “small format battery” to include a rechargeable battery weighing no more than 11 pounds with a rating of no more than 300 watt-hours and a non-rechargeable battery weighing no more than 4.4 pounds. The bill would define a “medium format battery” to include a rechargeable battery weighing more than 11 pounds but no more than 25 pounds, a rechargeable battery with a rating of more than 300 watt-hours but no more than 2,000 watt-hours, and a non-rechargeable battery weighing more than 4.4 pounds but fewer than 25 pounds.

SB 811

Caballero

Amended

June 25, 2026

This bill would establish a comprehensive scheme for the regulation of metal shredding facilities that would be administered by the DTSC pursuant to authority separate from laws governing the control of hazardous waste. The bill would prescribe the requirements for obtaining a permit, for being deemed to have a permit, for operating a metal shredding facility, and for transporting certain materials related to metal shredding. The bill would require the DTSC to have primary responsibility for enforcing these provisions, would require the DTSC to conduct an annual compliance evaluation inspection of each metal shredding facility and would authorize the DTSC to refer violations to a district attorney or the Attorney General for prosecution

SB 936

Blakespear

Amended

July 2, 2026

This bill would prohibit the sale and distribution of a nitrous oxide container that is capable of holding more than 8 grams of nitrous oxide or from which an individual may directly inhale nitrous oxide. Would also prohibit the sale and distribution of a nitrous oxide that has, or is marketed as having, the taste or smell of any food. Would prohibit knowingly selling or distributing a device that allows an individual to inhale nitrous oxide from the container or hold nitrous oxide for the purposes of inhalation. Would punish a violation of these provisions as an infraction, would also authorize a court to suspend the business license, including a license to sell tobacco products or cannabis, if the business has a prior conviction for violating these prohibitions.

For more information on these bills, 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.