**Valley Vista Services** 

# Recycle for the Earth Newsletter



CITY OF WALNUT - SPRING 2021

## **Mandatory Recycling and Organics Waste Diversion**

As part of California's Integrated Plan for Addressing Climate Change, several laws were passed to help reduce greenhouse gases, increase recycling in the U.S., and divert organic materials away from the waste stream. These new mandates affect every business in California, and each have their own compliance requirements of businesses and multi-family residences. See below for details on each new California State Law and resources to help ensure compliance.

### **AB 341: Commercial Recycling**

The aim of the mandatory commercial recycling law is for businesses and other public entities to recycle as much of the waste they generate as possible. AB 341 requires that businesses that generate four (4) cubic yards or more of commercial solid waste per week or are a multifamily residential dwelling of five (5) units or more must now arrange for recycling services.

Ensure that you are in compliance by contacting a VVS waste professional at (800) 442-6454. We will provide on-site training and a customized recycling program to help meet your needs. For more information regarding AB 341 and downloadable resources for your business, go to Valley Vista Services.com/Recycling.



#### AB 1826: Organic Waste Recycling

About half of California's waste stream is organic material like yard trimmings, food waste, and lumber. Organic material can be diverted from landfills into composting and anaerobic digestion facilities where it is transformed into rich soil



amendments and biofuel. California is aiming to reduce the amount of organic waste by 75 percent by 2025. In order to achieve this target, AB 1826 requires commercial business to arrange for organic waste recycling services if they generate two (2) cubic yards or more of solid waste per week. (This has been increased from previous guidelines stating four or more cubic yards of solid waste per week.)

All commercial properties are required to determine AB 1826 compliance status and implement an organics recycling program if eligible. Please note, however, that multifamily

dwellings organics recycling is specific to landscape waste only (not food waste). **To find out if you are in**AB 1826 compliance, fill out our quick on line survey at *TinyURL.com/AB1826-WasteSurvey* or call us at (800) 442-6454 to schedule a free organic waste assessment.

#### **SB 1383: Edible Food Recovery**

In September 2016, Governor Brown Jr. set methane emissions reduction targets for California in a statewide effort to reduce emissions of short-lived climate pollutants (SLCP). The targets must:

- Reduce organic waste disposal 50% by 2020 and 75% by 2025.
- Rescue for people to eat at least 20% of currently disposed surplus food by 2025.

Beginning next year on January 1, 2022, *California's Short-Lived Climate Pollutants Law (SB 1383)* will go into effect and will require property owners, organic waste generators, and commercial edible food generators to implement organic waste collection programs, edible food recovery, and tracking & reporting that comply with the requirements of SB 1383. *This will include:* 



Supermarkets	$\overline{}$
Grocery stores	
Hotels	

Wholesale food vendors

Large venues & events

Food service providers

Restaurants
Health facilities
Food distributors

SB 1383 requires businesses to donate the maximum amount of edible food they would otherwise dispose, to food recovery organizations. Los Angeles Regional Food Bank and Food Finders are great organizations that partner with local businesses and will distribute donated to food to people in need. **To learn more about how you can start preparing for SB 1383, please visit** *CalRecycle.ca.gov/Organics/SLCP/Education*.

# **Annual Citywide Clean-Up** Saturday, June 12, 2021

Get your spring-cleaning done on Saturday, June 12, during our Annual City-Wide Residential Clean-Up event. VVS will be collecting unlimited amounts of bulky items (couches, tables, mattresses and other furniture items), appliances (stoves, washers/dryers, refrigerators and similar items), e-waste (computers, game consoles, TV's), and bundled or bagged yard waste. To ensure collection, simply place these items on the curbside by 6 a.m. and we will collect at no charge.

# TOXIC, HAZARDOUS, OR LIQUID WASTES WILL NOT BE COLLECTED.

For information regarding the disposal of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) materials such as paint, antifreeze, household batteries, drain cleaners, pool chemicals, automotive products and used motor oil, please call (888) CLEAN-LA or visit CleanLA.com.

# **Smart Gardening Workshops**

This past year, we saw an unprecedented rise in home gardeners and green thumbs. It's no surprise that while many were picking up new hobbies during the COVID-19 pandemic, the interest in learning how to grow one's own food and becoming more sustainable became a much more relevant topic.

If you are interested in getting started with home gardening or taking your skills to the next level, you can now learn everything you need from the comfort of your own home! Los Angeles County Department of Public Works hosts FREE online workshops covering topics such as:

- □ Intro to Composting
- ⇒ Water-wise Gardening
- Organic Gardening
- **⇒** Small-space Gardening

Online workshops are approximately 45 minutes and followed by a 15-minute Q&A session. There will also be an opportunity to purchase compost bins at the end of the class. Register for the next free smart gardening workshop by



going to LADPW.org/EPD/SG/Webinars.cfm.

## Earth Day 2021

For us, every day is Earth Day. On Thursday, April 22, join VVS and over 1 billion participants around the world taking action to help make the planet a better place for generations to come. We all know that recycling is an important tool when it comes to helping our planet, but here are 5 more ways you can take action this April and beyond:

- Calculate your personal carbon footprint and start making changes to reduce it by going to CarbonFootprint. com/Calculator.aspx.
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- 2. Try a foodprint calculator to find out exactly how
  - your meals impact the planet. Go to *EarthDay.org/ Foodprints-Calculators*.
- Fight food waste by composting! Learn how you can make a difference right in your own backyard. Go to EarthDay.org/Compost-vs-Coronavirus-5-Ways-to-Compost-During-a-Pandemic.
- **4.** Practice sustainable fashion! Donate your old clothes and home goods instead of throwing them out. When you need something, consider buying used items.
- 5. Start "plogging" a.k.a. picking up trash while jogging! This is a fun and effective way to get a workout in while cleaning the community. Learn more about plogging and the Great Global Cleanup by visiting Cleanup.EarthDay.org.

For more information and ways to get involved with the Earth Day movement, go to *EarthDay.org*.

# **Holiday Schedule**

Collection Service will not run on these holidays:

- New Year's Day
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day

If your regular collection day falls on or after one of these holidays, pick up will be delayed one day. Excluding holidays, our normal business hours are Monday through Friday 8 am - 5 pm and Saturday 8 am - 1 pm.



## **Valley Vista Services**

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