



Full Steam Ahead at New Mountain View Facility

It's only been a few months since E.J. Harrison & Sons partner Agromin officially opened its Mountain View Organic Waste Processing Facility with a ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by many local government and business leaders. Now, Harrison trucks are taking all of your commercial food directly to Mountain View for recycling.

"They're coming right off the route and directly to the center," Agromin CEO Bill Camarillo said of Harrison's trucks. "The system is working and producing a nice food waste slurry that's clean. We're now processing about 40 tons of material a day."

Mountain View's opening means greatly expanded food-waste recycling capabilities for the region, much-needed efficiencies to the process and an environmentally friendly end-product with multiple uses. The new facility helps ensure that local jurisdictions and Harrison commercial customers meet the requirements of California Senate Bill 1383, which mandates recycling of food and other organic waste to reduce climate-harming methane gas emissions from landfills.

According to Camarillo, the key to the process – and where the system really shines – is removing nonfood contamination from the food waste.

"We are recovering over 95% of food from the material," Camarillo said, adding that much of the nonfood items are food containers like bags or clamshells in addition to glass,

Continued on page 2



A Dining Room Reminder: Your Customers and Food Waste Recycling

Just as we would like to make food waste recycling easy for all of our business customers, we hope you're making it easy for your customers to recycle their food waste. It's not only the right thing to do, it's the law. All commercial food service establishments that provide food for purchase and immediate consumption on site must comply with Assembly Bill 827.

In restaurants that require customers to clean their own tables, that means providing visible, easily accessible and clearly labeled recycling and organics collection bins or containers. These bins need to be placed next to your regular trash bins and should include signs detailing what can or cannot be placed into each bin.

Full-service restaurants where customers are waited on are exempt as long as they provide organics and recycling bins in the back of the house for restaurant staff.

AB 827 goes hand in hand with Senate Bill 1383. Both are aimed at keeping food waste and other organic materials out of our landfills to help cut dangerous methane gas emissions. We know you are working hard to recycle your food waste. Let's make sure you're helping customers do the same!



New Bag Law Takes Effect

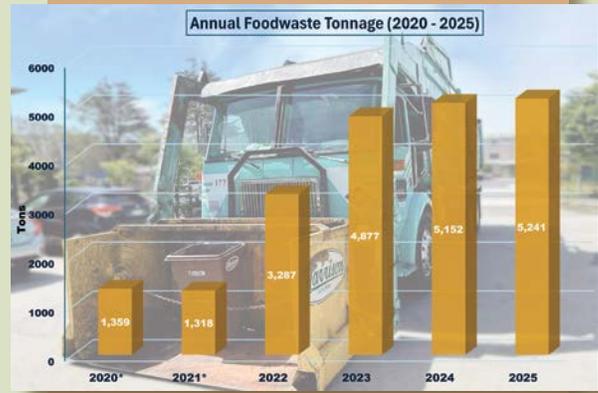
It's been years since California banned single-use plastic bags at checkout counters. This law didn't have the intended result of reducing single-use plastic bags. Some businesses began providing thicker plastic bags that were considered reusable. Plastic bag use only increased. Data shows that the tonnage of grocery and merchandise bags disposed by Californians grew by 47% between 2014 and 2022.

Plastic bags are an environmental scourge. Two hundred million metric tons of plastic are currently poisoning our oceans and another 11 million metric tons are added each year, according to the Ocean Conservatory. Much of that is made up of single-use plastic in the form of bags and bottles. Plastic is not biodegradable. It simply breaks apart into smaller and smaller pieces over time, creating what's known as harmful micro- or nanoplastics that pollute the environment.

In response, Senate Bill 1053 went into effect on Jan. 1 of this year. The law places restrictions on the types of bags that may be distributed at the point of sale by most grocery stores, retail stores with a pharmacy, convenience stores, food marts and liquor stores. Thicker plastic bags are no longer allowed. These stores may only provide customers with recycled paper carryout bags for a minimum charge of 10 cents per bag at:

- ◆ Checkout counters
- ◆ Self-checkout kiosks
- ◆ In-store pickup
- ◆ Curbside delivery
- ◆ Home delivery

We know this affects many of our customers and we would like to make sure you're aware of this important law. For more details on SB 1053 and how it may affect your business, visit calrecycle.ca.gov/plastics/bagrequirements/.



Keep Up the Great Work

Another year and another increase in commercial food waste recycling! Together, we're making a difference.

Since 2019, the annual commercial food waste tonnage E.J. Harrison & Sons has collected for recycling has increased every year (not including pandemic years of 2021 and 2022, which were lower for obvious reasons). In 2019, we collected more than 2,400 tons. In 2025, we collected more than 5,200 tons. That's 100 tons more than 2024 — a 147% increase since 2019 and a 2% increase over 2024.

Thank you to all our customers for taking food waste recycling so seriously.

Mountain View

Continued from page 1

plastic and metal.

Camarillo explained that the system was designed to remove those kinds of nonfood materials to make it easier on customers who may not want to touch the messy food waste they are recycling, which is understandable. "There's kind of an ick factor with food. Some people prefer it to remain in the container so they don't have to deal with a sloppy mess. The whole system is designed to help with that." This helps to ensure that the finished product — a clean slurry material — can ultimately be used as animal feed, fertilizer or a substance to be used for electricity.

It's also crucial that all businesses take part in this effort to help reduce landfill space and greenhouse emissions, Camarillo said.

"It's important that they participate," he said. "If they feel like they don't have enough container space and they need more, they should contact Harrison or their hauler provider or reach out to me and I'd be happy to help them."

Commercial Food Waste Basics

Under Senate Bill 1383, commercial customers must recycle all their organic waste, including food waste, unless they have a waiver. Among the business requirements:

- ◆ Businesses must either participate in recycling and organics curbside collection service OR self-haul recyclables and organic waste to a recycling or composting facility.

- ◆ Businesses must ensure adequate access to both recycling and organics recycling services for their employees, contractors, customers and tenants, including supplying an adequate number, size and location of containers with either sufficient labeling or the appropriate color.

- ◆ All businesses except for multifamily properties must provide recycling and organics recycling bins next to each trash bin (except in restrooms) for their employees, contractors, tenants and customers.



- ◆ Businesses must annually provide information to employees, contractors, tenants and customers about waste diversion requirements and about the proper sorting of waste. Businesses must prohibit their employees from placing organic waste and recyclables in the wrong bins.

- ◆ Businesses must inspect trash, recycling and organic waste bins for contamination on

a quarterly basis. If contaminated, employees need to be informed of the requirement to sort waste properly.

- ◆ Every business customer of Harrison must participate in the recycling program. If you haven't signed up, contact us immediately to determine your individual requirements and waiver eligibility. Email Harrison Contract Compliance Field Supervisor Donald Sealund at donalds@ejharrison.com or Contract Compliance Manager Daniel Harrison at danielh@ejharrison.com.

Keep Trash Enclosures Tidy

Trash enclosures at multifamily, commercial and retail properties get plenty of abuse and tend to be low on your priority list.

But, these enclosures are a reflection of your business or property. This is especially true of graffiti. Prompt removal of graffiti sends a message that you care about your business, property and community.

Graffiti that's left on trash enclosures and containers not only looks bad, it can also encourage further vandalism, leading to a cycle of neglect and disrepair.

It's important to keep your trash enclosures neat and tidy. Overflowing bins or trash littering the surrounding area are an eyesore and it generally only takes a few minutes to clean up.



By doing all you can to keep your trash areas clean and graffiti-free, you contribute to a more attractive and enjoyable community for everyone. Please remember that:

- ◆ Trash is limited to what fits in the bin, and lids should remain closed.

- ◆ Containers should fit fully within trash

enclosures.

- ◆ Trash and recycling bins should be ready by 7 a.m. on collection days.

- ◆ Locking containers are available in all sizes.

For commercial bin exchanges and size changes, and other service, pricing and billing questions, call 805-647-1414.

HARRISON COMMERCIAL & MULTIFAMILY COMPLEX CUSTOMERS

Recycling Guidelines

Keep your recyclables clean and loose!

Clean = NO contamination; Loose = DO NOT put in plastic bags, except shredded paper



YES



NO



Trash Guidelines - What goes in the Trash?

Hopefully, very little. After you have recycled, composted, filled the yard waste cart or bin, donated old clothing and goods, and done all of those good things and more — most of the rest can go in the trash.



YES



NO



For information on how to dispose of items not accepted in the trash, please call: Ojai 805-658-4323.

Connect with us! @ejharrisoninc



CITY OF OJAI

CITY MANAGER: BEN HARVEY
MAYOR: ANDY GILMAN
MAYOR PRO TEM: RACHEL LANG

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
KIM MANG, LESLIE RULE &
ANDREW WHITMAN

Yard Waste Guidelines

Keep green waste a natural resource and out of the landfill.



YES



NO



Call 1-800-CLEANUP for more certified used oil recycling locations. Funded by a grant from the California Integrated Waste Management Board.

ORGANICS RECYCLING

Commercial customers who generate food or other organic waste are required to recycle it. To set up a program for your business or multifamily complex, contact Donald Sealund at donalds@ejharrison.com or 805-647-1414, ext. 4318.



EXTRA TRASH? Rent a roll-off or 3-yard bin.

For information and rates, call 805-647-1414 or 1-800-41-TRASH

www.ejharrison.com



SELF-HAUL TRASH, E-WASTE, ABOP AND RECYCLABLES BUY-BACK

5275 Colt St. • Ventura
805-642-9236

www.goldcoastrecycling.com



For information on purchasing SOIL AMENDMENTS AND MULCH, call 805-485-9200 or 1-800-AGROMIN

www.agromin.com

