



Food Waste Recycling News is Good – But Could be Better

At E.J. Harrison & Sons, we'd like to take a moment to thank and congratulate our business customers! With your help, businesses across our local communities and the state are having a huge impact on reducing methane gas production at local landfills.

According to recent statistics released by the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), 75% of required businesses are now participating in food and organic waste recycling and 97% of communities are recycling organics.

On top of that, our partners at Agromin recently reported composting more than 1.25 million tons of organic waste statewide in 2025; that's a 250,000-ton increase from 2024. And the hoppers at Agromin's Mountain View Organic Waste Processing Facility are converting more food waste than ever into practical products.

It's a remarkable shift from just a few years ago, when our customers had no simple way to recycle their food waste.

As great as we're doing, like a lot of things in life, there is always room for improvement. And, if you are a restaurant owner or employee and you see room for improvement in your handling of food waste, please contact us at Harrison; specifically, email Donald Sealund, our contract compliance field supervisor, at donalds@ejharrison.com.

Like all of us at Harrison, Sealund is deeply dedicated to the cause of getting more and more of our customers' food waste recycled. He'd be happy to discuss how we can help you

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New Packaging Law Impacts Many Businesses

On May 1, a new state plastic packaging law took effect that requires producers to reduce single-use plastic packaging by 25% and ensure all packaging is recyclable or compostable.

The Plastic Pollution Producer Responsibility Act, Senate Bill 54, addresses the large-scale use of single-use packaging and plastic disposable foodservice ware in California.

"We're taking action to stop producers from using excessive amounts of plastic packaging that pollutes our communities," California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) Director Zoe Heller said in a video on the CalRecycle web site. "With strong state oversight, producers will be accountable for designing less wasteful packaging and funding systems to make sure their materials are collected, reused, and composted or recycled when consumers are done with them."

At E.J. Harrison & Sons, we support all efforts to reduce waste and increase recycling to help keep our communities clean. Plastic bags and packaging are an environmental scourge. Two hundred million metric tons of plastic are currently poisoning our oceans and another 11 million

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The ReHarvest Center: A New Label to Tout Food Waste Recycling

Since its official grand opening in November, Agromin's food waste recycling system in Oxnard has gone by the name Mountain View Organic Waste Processing Facility. While that's certainly descriptive, and the name still applies, our partners at Agromin are promoting a new label, one that more succinctly captures this center's purpose: The ReHarvest Center.

New Agromin promotional materials put it this way: "The ReHarvest Center sets a new standard for how California manages food waste materials — reharvesting organic resources cleanly, efficiently, and at scale."

The new branding is part of an effort to increase awareness of the need for food waste recycling, the benefits of the Mountain View facility's state-of-the-art technology, and Agromin's ability to process more food waste and serve many more customers.

"Organic recyclers are scrambling to keep up with the growing demand for food waste recycling facilities," Agromin CEO Bill Camarillo wrote in a recent editorial in the Ventura County Star. "Our company opened one in Oxnard last year.



More need to be built, but to justify the costs, the sites require more volume."

Currently, the ReHarvest Center handles around 40 tons of food waste per day. But it has the capacity to recycle as much as 300 tons per day. So new promotional materials are targeting new customers for food waste recycling. But we also know that more E.J. Harrison & Sons businesses customers could contribute.

Harrison Industries Engineering Manager Mike Harrison points out that about 50% of Harrison business customers were granted waivers allowed under the food waste recycling law, state Senate Bill 1383. The waivers let some businesses avoid participating in the food waste recycling program. While there are multiple good reasons some businesses may need the waiver, with a little effort, we believe

that some could join the food waste recycling efforts being made by so many of our other customers.

Between Agromin's promotional efforts and stronger efforts of our business and residential customers, we can bring the ReHarvest Center closer to operating at full capacity.

How It Works

Take an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of the Mountain View Organic Waste Processing Facility, now also being called the ReHarvest Center! Every step of this state-of-the-art operation is designed to efficiently and sustainably reharvest food waste, turning what would be trash into a powerful renewable resource. Watch the video at <https://tinyurl.com/4ta47ssd>.

Food Waste Recycling

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meet your food waste recycling goals and needs, by finding a specific program that works for you.

We want to help every customer we serve to set optimal recycling goals and meet them.

To give you a sense of why it's important to champion this cause, it's estimated that a single ton of food waste can produce up to 143 pounds of methane gas, a so-called "super pollutant," caused by anaerobic decomposition of organic waste, like food scraps, in landfills. It is 84 times more potent

than carbon dioxide in its contribution to climate change, according to CalRecycle. We've had a close-up view of the devastating effects of climate change, which has been blamed for unpredictable weather patterns and winds that have contributed to, or worsened, devastating wildfires.

If you're already participating in food waste recycling, keep up the great work and remain vigilant! For those of you not yet participating, we can help you board the food waste recycling train. We'll set you up with all the disposal bins and carts you will need and we'll work with you and your team to ensure that participation is a breeze. For more information, visit ejharrison.com/commercial-food-waste-guidelines/.

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.

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.

New Packaging Law

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metric tons are added each year, according to the Ocean Conservatory.

We know this may impact some of the business customers we serve and we would like to make sure you are aware of this important law. The question is, what businesses are impacted?

In general, the law applies to producers, which includes manufacturers, brand owners, or anyone making or selling a product using materials covered by the law. That could include:

- ◆ Food and beverage companies
- ◆ Restaurants and stores
- ◆ Apparel and footwear brands
- ◆ Home goods companies
- ◆ Consumer packaged goods manufacturers
- ◆ All retailers selling products with covered packaging

Under the law, by 2032:

- ◆ There will be a 25% cut in all packaging
- ◆ 100% of all packaging will be either recyclable or

compostable

- ◆ 65% of all packaging will be recycled

Failure to comply with the law could lead to fines as high as \$50,000 per day, per violation.

If you're not sure of the impact to your business, learn more at calrecycle.ca.gov/packaging/.

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: KIM MANG

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
RACHEL LANG, 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



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