ORGANICS RECYCLING PROGRAM

Food and yard waste in landfills emit 20% of the state’s methane. Methane, a climate super pollutant, is 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide. In compliance with new statewide regulation (SB1383), the County of Santa Cruz will be required to include food scraps to current yard waste collection services. All food scraps and yard waste now need to be placed in your green organics container.

There will be no change to your service schedule.
Tips for collecting food scraps from your home:

Use a lidded container to collect food scraps from your kitchen.

Keep food scraps indoors in a cool place. If you have room, try freezing or refrigerating food scraps until disposal.

Wait until the night before or the morning of your service day to place food scraps in your cart.

Clean your food scraps container regularly.

Tips for your organics cart:

Keep your cart in a cool place and set out your cart the night before or the morning of your service day by 5:00 a.m.

Set out your organics cart even if it isn’t full.

Make sure that the lid of the cart is kept closed. Do not overfill your cart.

Layer yard waste and food scraps.

Clean your organics cart regularly.

Visit our website for even more tips! www.greenwaste.com

ORGANICS SERVICE GUIDE

If it can be eaten or grown in a field or garden, it can be composted.

YARD WASTE

YES: Weeds, leaves, vines, grass, small branches, houseplants, plant clippings and flowers

NO: Dirt, sod, rocks, pet waste, treated wood waste (painted, stained or pressure treated), sawdust, palm fronds, ice plant, poison oak, branches larger than 6” in diameter and 3’ in length

FOOD SCRAPs

YES: Fruits, vegetables, dairy products, grains, bread, coffee grounds and paper coffee filters, eggshells, cooked meats and bones

NO: Plastics, raw meats, glass, metals, compostable and non-compostable utensils, condiment packets, grease, liquids, coffee capsules, tea bags, plastic wrap, plastic bags, foil, silverware, drinking straws, bottles, polystyrene (Styrofoam) or chemicals

Extra Yard Waste

For an additional charge, extra yard waste may be placed at the curb in 32-gallon (or smaller) cans, or bundles tied with twine or string. Loose piles of yard waste are not accepted at the curb. Please note: Food scraps MUST be placed in your GreenWaste provided organics cart.

Included with your service

Included with each garbage cart is one recyclables and one organics cart at no additional charge.

To learn more, visit www.greenwaste.com