

City Prepares for Changes in Solid Waste Collection Services

Food waste recycling is coming to the City of Sacramento!



What is SB 1383?

Senate Bill 1383, signed by Governor Brown in 2016, is a statewide mandate requiring organic waste be recycled to reduce short-lived climate pollutants and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in landfills. Organic waste, which includes food waste, food-soiled paper, and landscape trimmings, makes up a significant portion of California's waste stream. When landfilled, organic waste produces methane – a greenhouse gas with over 80 times the heat-trapping effect of carbon dioxide. The City's new program will turn that organic waste into compost to be offered to local agricultural users and landscapers in accordance with the State's goals to reduce organic waste disposal by 75 percent by 2025.

What Does This Mean for Customers?

The City of Sacramento has been preparing for the new law and will implement food waste collection service in summer 2022. Food waste is already being collected from most restaurants and stores, and in 2022 all residential customers in California will also be required to separate food waste from garbage. When the service begins, City residents will be able to dispose of food waste in their yard waste container instead of their garbage container. Customers who do not currently have a yard waste container (due to an exemption) will be provided a new container for their food waste and incidental organics. Organic waste collection will continue to be a weekly service.

What is Organic Waste?

In Sacramento, "organic waste" accepted by our processors will include grass clippings, leaves and yard waste, fruit and vegetable scraps, grains, coffee grounds, dairy, eggs, meat, bones, seafood, leftover food, and food-soiled paper such as coffee filters and paper napkins. In anticipation of our program launch, customers will be offered a free kitchen food scrap collection container along with a roll of compostable bags and an informational brochure.



Effects of Covid-19 on Solid Waste

COVID-19 brought several changes to how the Recycling and Solid Waste Division serves our community. Safety guidelines prompted a shift for many to begin working from home, which led to a large increase in package deliveries and household waste. In 2020, there was a significant increase in curbside garbage and recycling tonnage due to people working and spending more time at home.

Increased Street Sweeping



The City is proposing a rate adjustment to cover the operating and disposal costs that will accompany more frequent street sweeping. In 2022 this service will clean City streets once every four weeks, as opposed to the current frequency of once every six weeks. This service is provided from February through October.

Our Goal is Top-Notch Customer Service



We provide collection to more than **131,500** residential customers



We collect **141K** tons of garbage
70K tons of yard waste and
33K tons of recycling



We collect more than **18** million containers annually

A Rate Adjustment is Needed

The City's Recycling and Solid Waste Division is proposing rate adjustments to solid waste collection services that will go into effect in 2022. This rate adjustment will help the City pay for increased processing fees for the combined organics stream of yard waste and food waste as well as additional equipment and staff. The rate adjustment will allow Sacramento to comply with California's aggressive recycling and GHG emissions reduction goals, while bringing the City of Sacramento closer to achieving its sustainability goals.



The anticipation of new food waste recycling service and an influx of new customers prompted a citywide adjustment to collection routes, completed in February 2021. When routes become too large to be completed in one day, service interruptions occur. The City had not increased the number of solid waste routes since 2013, but with an average of 100 new accounts added per month in 2020 and similar increases in 2021, a City-wide reroute was necessary. The proposed rate adjustment will help the City support this additional route capacity, and to meet increased demand from organics recycling, manage account growth, and avoid service interruptions.

What's Next?

The process for the rate adjustments will be discussed at an upcoming meeting of the City of Sacramento Utility Rate Advisory Commission. You are invited to join the meeting online or submit comments electronically. To view meeting schedules and agendas, visit www.cityofsacramento.org/Clerk/Legislative-Bodies/Boards-and-Commissions/URAC for more details. In accordance with Proposition 218, customers were sent a notification via mail in early October 2021 and a public hearing on the proposed rates is planned for November 17, 2021. Information is posted on our website at www.sacrecycle.org and questions can be emailed to sacrecycle@cityofsacramento.org.

Proposed Monthly Rates

	FY2020/2021 Current Rate	April 1, 2022 Proposed Increase	January 1, 2023 Proposed Increase	January 1, 2024 Proposed Increase
Garbage (64 gallon*)		\$1.00	\$0.98	\$0.96
Total Monthly Cost	\$22.13	\$23.13	\$24.11	\$25.07
Bi-Weekly Recycling		\$0.29	\$0.32	\$0.33
Total Monthly Cost	\$7.16	\$7.45	\$7.77	\$8.10
Organics		\$2.44	\$2.43	\$2.43
Total Monthly Cost	\$11.88	\$14.32	\$16.75	\$19.18
Street Sweeping		\$0.10	\$0.10	\$0.11
Total Monthly Cost	\$1.42	\$1.52	\$1.62	\$1.73
Overall Increase from FY2020/2021 Monthly Bill		\$3.83	\$3.83	\$3.83
Total (Assumes 64 gallon*)	\$42.59	\$46.42	\$50.25	\$54.08

*To see rates for other bin sizes, visit www.sacrecycle.org.

Food Waste Only** (& Incidental Organics)		\$10.02	\$11.73	\$13.43
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**This rate is for customers who do not currently have yard waste collection service.