

MANDATORY COMMERCIAL RECYCLING LAW ASSEMBLY BILL 341

WHAT IS ASSEMBLY BILL 341 (AB341)?

AB341 requires mandatory commercial recycling in California beginning July 1, 2012. Businesses or public entities that subscribe to a service of 4 cubic yards or more of solid waste per week must recycle. Multi-family dwellings of 5 units or more must also recycle.

For more information on Mandatory Commercial Recycling (AB 341) please see the California Resources, Recycling, and Recovery (CalRecycle) website at <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/climate/Recycling/default.htm>

For a printable version of this website please download: *Mandatory Commercial Recycling.pdf*

For a printable version of the outreach flyer please download:

English version *Mandatory Commercial Recycling-flyer-english.pdf*

Spanish version *Mandatory Commercial Recycling-flyer-spanish.pdf*

How do you contact us?

Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation
Solid Resources Citywide Recycling Division (SRCRD)
1149 S. Broadway, 5th Fl.
Los Angeles, CA 90015-2213
(213) 485-2260
(213) 485-3671, fax
SRCRD@lacity.org

Staff is available during business hours, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

What we need from you!

- Your Name
- Business Name
- What type of business
 - Commercial Business
 - Multi-Family Residence
- The type of waste do you generate
- The type of information you need

Related Programs

Business Waste Assessment Program
(213) 485-3888
SAN.LABWA@lacity.org

Multi-Family Recycling Program
(213) 473-4142
multifamily@lacity.org

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What are the benefits of this law?

- 1) The more recyclable materials a business can divert from their trash, the greater the potential savings and/or reduction in costs (i.e., monthly trash bill)
- 2) Recycling can help reduce emissions of methane, air toxics, and criteria pollutants from landfills
- 3) Recycling frees up space in landfills that have a limited capacity
- 4) The more businesses and residents recycle, the greater the ability for the City of Los Angeles to meet its diversion goal of 70% by 2013 and Zero Waste by 2020

Who is required to recycle?

- 1) Businesses, business complexes, or public entities that have the capacity to create 4 cubic yards or more of solid waste per week
- 2) Owners/managers of a Multi-family dwelling of 5 units or more

Who can I contact for recycling services?

There are permitted haulers who can collect your solid waste. Here is a link of permitted haulers who may offer you recycling services:

http://www.lacitysan.org/solid_resources/strategic_programs/ab939/compliance_fee.htm

What steps are required to comply?

- 1) Separating your recyclable materials from your trash and taking them to a recycling center or subscribing to a service for the collection of recyclables by a permitted hauler
- 2) Subscribing for services with a permitted hauler who collects all your waste in one bin and separates the recyclables from the trash at a different site

What type of materials can I recycle?

Owners and managers of affected properties can contact a permitted hauler to subscribe to recycling services. The types of materials you can recycle may depend on what recyclable items the permitted hauler accepts. Contact a permitted hauler for more details.

http://www.lacitysan.org/solid_resources/strategic_programs/ab939/compliance_fee.htm

What if I am a business that has occasional special events that generate large amounts of waste? Am I subject to the mandatory commercial recycling?

During the time period that your site generates and subscribes to a weekly service of four cubic yards of solid waste, then the business will need to recycle.

What is “solid waste?”

Solid waste is material that is generally disposed of in a landfill and does not include recyclables.

What support is available to assist me in meeting the requirements of the law?

The Bureau of Sanitation offers a publication entitled “**Mind Your Business**” and can conduct free business waste assessments to help businesses identify how they can implement their own recycling programs.

http://www.lacitysan.org/solid_resources/pdfs/2009/Mind_Your_Business-cvrinside_5-09.pdf

The Bureau of Sanitation also offers a **Multi-family Residential Recycling Program Managers/Owners guide** that illustrates how to calculate the cost savings from a recycling program. http://www.lacitysan.org/solid_resources/pdfs/multifamily.pdf

How do I sign up?

- 1) Call your existing waste hauler and ask if they provide recycling services
- 2) If you don't have an existing hauler or want to explore service provided by a different hauler, contact one of the City of Los Angeles permitted haulers
http://www.lacitysan.org/solid_resources/strategic_programs/ab939/compliance_fee.htm

How do I know if I have the capacity to collect 4 cubic yards or more a week?

If your bin is 4 cubic yards and picked up once or more a week you are required to recycle. If your property has bins that provide an equivalent capacity you are required to recycle, (i.e., if you have a 3 cubic yard bin and it is picked up twice a week, then you are required to recycle). Check your current waste hauling bill or call your hauler if you are not sure of your bin size.

Why was Assembly Bill 341 signed into law?

- 1) To reduce the green house gas (GHG) emissions by diverting commercial solid waste through recycling efforts, and to expand the opportunity for additional recycling services and recycling manufacturing facilities in California
- 2) To reduce methane emissions at landfills from the decomposition of organic materials
- 3) To meet the statewide goal of 75% solid waste diversion by 2020
- 4) According to 2008 Statewide Waste Characterization data, the commercial sector generates nearly three-fourths of the solid waste in California. Most of the commercial sector waste disposed in landfills is recyclable

When does this law take effect?

All affected properties are required to start recycling by **July 1, 2012**.

Who can I contact for more information?

City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation Citywide Recycling
(800) 773-2489

HOW DO I CREATE A RECYCLING PROGRAM?

Identify a Team Recycling Leader

Find someone at your business or property who will take the lead in being the point person for your recycling program.

Set up/implement a recycling plan

Do inventories of your trash so you can determine how to reduce what you dispose and divert more recyclables. Buy recycling bins, make signs, contract with a permitted hauler, and look at Mind Your Business

http://www.lacitysan.org/solid_resources/pdfs/2009/Mind_Your_Business-cvrinside_5-09.pdf.

Make it a Team Effort

Get other people at your business or property involved and your program will produce better results.

Make it fun

Have a potluck and have attendees identify items at the potluck that are recyclable and non-recyclable. Reward participants with recycled content gifts.

If you are at a business, assign team captains from different departments or divisions who can help the team leader.

Consistently communicate to employees or residents the importance of the program.

Monitor your waste volume periodically to see how you are progressing.

BUSINESS RESOURCES AND LINKS

Business Recycling

http://san.lacity.org/solid_resources/pdfs/BusinessRecycling.pdf

Mind Your Business (19 pages)

http://www.lacitysan.org/solid_resources/pdfs/2009/Mind_Your_Business-cvrinside_5-09.pdf

Mind Your Business Updated Recycler List (47 pages)

http://www.lacitysan.org/solid_resources/pdfs/publication/RecyclingCompanyList.pdf

Multi-Family Recycling Web Page

<http://www.larecycles.org/>

Multi-Family Recycling

http://www.lacitysan.org/solid_resources/pdfs/multifamily.pdf

Business Guide to Environmental Services (115 pages)

http://san.lacity.org/solid_resources/pdfs/publication/EBNS_Guide.pdf

Business Waste Assessments

http://san.lacity.org/solid_resources/pdfs/BusinessRecycling.pdf

Cal Recycle - FAQ(State of California Recycling Agency)

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Climate/Recycling/FAQ.htm>

Commercial and Office Recycling Information

http://www.lacitysan.org/solid_resources/recycling/services/office_recycling.htm

How To Buy Recycled

http://www.lacitysan.org/solid_resources/pdfs/howtobuy.pdf

How To Get into the Loop (Businesses Selling Recycled Content Products)

http://www.lacitysan.org/solid_resources/pdfs/publication/How_to_loop_4-09.pdf

Let's Reuse LA

http://www.lacitysan.org/solid_resources/pdfs/publication/Lets_Reuse_LA_5-09.pdf

Putting it to Good Reuse (Directory of Donation Opportunities)

http://www.lacitysan.org/solid_resources/pdfs/publication/Reuse_L.A_12-08-2011.pdf

Recycling Market Development Zone

http://www.lacitysan.org/solid_resources/pdfs/publication/RMDZ_Brochure_4-29-09.pdf

You Can Reduce Unwanted Mail

http://www.lacitysan.org/solid_resources/pdfs/unwntdml.pdf