



BusinessScene

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AB 1826 - New Law for Organic Waste Recycling

A new law that went into effect April 1 requires certain businesses and multi-family residential complexes (five or more units) to participate in organic waste recycling. The criteria for complying with California Assembly Bill (AB 1826) is based on the amount of organic waste generated per week, as indicated below.

Pursuant to AB 1826, organic waste includes grass and other yard clippings, food scraps, non-hazardous wood waste, and paper products soiled by food. However, the recycling of food waste is not required in residential units.

AB 1826 helps implement AB 341, which was passed in 2011. Through AB 341, at least 75% of California's solid waste must be diverted from landfills by 2020.

Compliance with AB 1826 will divert organic waste away from landfills, and into recycling programs through Camarillo's franchise solid waste hauler, *Harrison Industries*. Organic waste diverted will ultimately be converted into renewable resources, including biofuels for vehicles, and compost for agriculture. Also, since organic waste in landfills produces methane gas, reducing this waste in our landfills will result in cleaner air.

Harrison Industries can provide free waste assessments to determine if particular businesses or multi-family properties need to comply with AB 1826.

Businesses and multi-family complexes will need to comply with AB 1826 on the dates indicated below, based on the generation of waste noted:

- April 1, 2016 – Businesses or multi-family residential (5+) units generating at least eight cubic yards of organic waste per week;
- January 1, 2017 – Businesses generating at least four cubic yards of organic waste per week;
- Jan. 1, 2019 – Businesses or multi-family units generating at least four cubic yards of solid waste per week;
- Summer/Fall 2021 – if the disposal of organic waste has not been reduced by at least 50% statewide by 2020, the program will begin including businesses that generate at least two cubic yards of organic waste per week.

There is more information about AB 1826 at www.ejharrison.com, or on the *CalRecycle* website at www.calrecycle.ca.gov/recycle/commercial/organics. To sign up for a free waste assessment of your business or residential property, or for assistance on how to comply with AB 1826, please contact Daniel Harrison at 647-1414, ext. 4341, or Danh@ejharrison.com.

