

Re: NEW Requirements: Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling (MORe) Law, AB 1826

As of January 1, 2019, all commercial accounts who produce 4 cubic yards or more of solid waste a week must divert all of the organic materials that they produce.

What is a commercial Account?

This includes commercial or public entities like schools, hospitals, grocery stores, restaurants, shopping centers, offices, auto dealers, industrial businesses, nonprofit organizations, and others. A commercial business also includes all Multi Family Residential Dwellings (MFDs)with 5 or more units; however, it is not mandatory for MFD to divert food waste at this time. MFDs who self-haul yard trimmings should contact MSS to be placed on the compliant list.

What materials must be diverted?

- Food waste (If an MFD would like to include the diversion of food waste with yard waste, the composting program is available to all MFDs).
- Leaves, Grass, Branches, Stumps and Trimmings
- Clean Dimensional Lumber (non-hazardous & untreated)
- Clean Engineered Wood (non-hazardous & untreated)
- Clean Pallets & Crates (non-hazardous & untreated)
- Compostable, unlined papers including cardboard

Why do I need to comply with this law?

AB 1826, the Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling law (MORe) was signed in 2014 to help achieve California's aggressive recycling and greenhouse gas emission goals. California sends 30 million tons of garbage each year to landfills; of that, more than 30% is organic material which could be composted or used to produce renewable energy. Greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the decomposition of organic material in landfills have been identified as a significant source of pollution contributing to global climate change. For more information regarding this law, please visit the CalRecycle website at: https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Recycle/Commercial/Organics/

How can I become compliant?

It's easy! Sign up for organics diversion services with MSS right away! If services have not been set up, you will be referred to County of Marin and the State of California as non-compliant with the law. MSS offers two organics diversion programs and depending on the types and volumes of organic materials you generate; you may be required to have both services. *The Food to Energy (F2E) program* is designed for large producers of food waste and does not include any other materials on the organic list above. This program is not available to MFDs. *The Commercial Compost program* is designed for businesses and MFDs producing a small amount of food scraps combined with other material such as food soiled paper and yard waste.

Both organics programs are not only essential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions but also to achieve Marin County's Zero Waste goals. Please contact our Commercial Recycling Programs Coordinators at 415-456-2601 to help you become compliant today! Learn more about the laws and services provided at www.marinsanitaryservcie.com.