

SB 1383 Food Recovery Requirements Overview

Does your business generate food waste?

Gone are the days of tossing food into a trash can! A California law, SB 1383, is revolutionizing how businesses handle food waste by mandating food scrap recycling and food recovery programs.



The #1 Priority: Reduce Food Waste

SB 1383 puts programs in place that are designed to help **recycle** food waste and **reuse** it through food donation. The #1 priority, though, should always be to **reduce** food waste at the source.

Check out this guide for tips!

Developed by the Center for EcoTechnology, San Diego Food System Alliance, and Solana Center



Why was this law created?

Food makes up the single largest component in our landfills.

20%

of Methane Emissions

Organic waste in landfills emits 20% of the State of California's methane, a potent greenhouse gas

500,000 tons

of Food is Landfilled

500,000 tons of food is wasted in San Diego County each year

1 in 4

San Diegans are Nutrition Insecure

Ironically, while tons of food is disposed, one in four San Diegans is food insecure.

A food recovery/donation program ensures that surplus food that can't be used in the kitchen goes to good use: feeding people, not landfills. "Food recovery" is the act of saving, redistributing, and/or donating edible excess food to local organizations, such as food pantries, soup kitchens, and food banks.

SB 1383 Targets & Enforcement: SB 1383 established targets to reduce organic waste disposal by 50% by 2020 and 75% by 2025, and to increase edible food recovery by 20% by 2025. Cities and counties are required to implement a variety of programs to advance these goals. The California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) will enforce and penalize for non-compliance.



How will my business be affected?

SB 1383 sets new requirements:



Mandated Food Recovery



Agreements with Recovery Organizations



Record-keeping

These requirements apply to select industries only, which are categorized into a tier system:

- **Tier 1 Generators*** = supermarkets, grocery stores, food service providers, food service distributors, wholesale vendors
- **Tier 2 Generators*** = restaurants, hotels, health facilities, large venues, state agencies, local education agencies

*Size restrictions apply. Contact your city for more information.

Mandated Food Recovery Requirement

Tier 1 & Tier 2 generators must donate the maximum amount of edible food that would otherwise be disposed to a food recovery organization or service (e.g. food banks, food pantries, soup kitchens, etc.)
(SB 1383, Section 18991.3)

Agreements with Recovery Organizations

Tier 1 & Tier 2 generators must comply with the food donation requirement by establishing contracts or written agreements with food recovery organizations or services. Check with your city for a list of organizations that can receive your surplus edible food.
(SB 1383, Section 18991.4)

Record-keeping Requirements

Tier 1 & Tier 2 generators must keep the following records:

- A list of each food recovery entity that contracts with your business
- A copy of each contract/written agreement with food recovery entities
- For each food recovery entity your business contracts with:
 - The name, address and contact info of the service or organization
 - The types of food that are collected or self-hauled
 - The established frequency that food is collected or taken to the recovery agency
 - The quantity of food collected or self-hauled, measured in pounds recovered per month

(SB 1383, Section 18991.4)

Key Dates

- Starting **Jan. 1, 2024 onwards**, both Tier 1 and Tier 2 generators need to comply with donation contract and/or agreement and record keeping requirements.
- Cities are conducting annual inspections of generators to ensure compliance.
- Cities are required to conduct enforcement for all generators found to be non-compliant.

