

Dear TOT Residents,

California Senate Bill 1383 went into effect January 1, setting the goal of reducing the State's landfilled organic waste by 75% by 2025. As required, we are establishing an organics (food waste and green waste) recycling program.

Waste Management now provides five (green) carts located near the onsite office and follows the standard trash/recycling pickup schedule (usually Wednesdays). The organic waste's final destination is a bioenergy facility where it is digested into renewable natural gas.

At some point later this year, we will be required to have an organic/yard waste cart at every home (at \$6.00 a month to be paid by individual members). All residents will be required to participate, and no resident can opt out of the individual pick-up. More information will be sent as to when we will switch to the individual service.

What can go in organic waste bins

- Produce: Fruits, vegetables
- Meat: Bones, shells, fish, beef, chicken
- Dairy: Eggs, yogurt, cheese
- Bakery & Dry Goods: Pasta, beans, rice, bread, cereal
- Food-Soiled Paper: Paper coffee filters/ grounds, tea bags, napkins, paper plates
- Yard Waste: Grass, leaves, branches (3" diameter or smaller)

We in TOT are required to wrap our waste (except for yard waste) before placing in receptacles, which is a little different than the guidelines provided by Waste Management. **Please use lightweight paper or compostable bags (available at Whole Foods, Trader Joe's, and other locations).**

Please exclude loose plastic, compostable utensils, produce stickers, and twist ties from organic waste carts.

TIPS to prevent odors, insects, and rodents...

- Keep your food scraps in your freezer until the day waste is picked up.
- Make sure receptacle lids are closed tightly.

The LA County Department of Public Works provides free webinars on:

- ♻️ **Intro to Composting:** Learn about backyard and worm composting to create a rich soil amendment to nourish your garden.
- 💧 **Water-wise Gardening:** Create a beautiful drought-tolerant landscape and learn about *grasscycling* to fortify your lawn.
- 🌻 **Organic Gardening:** Build healthy soil, grow herbs and vegetables, and address plant pests and diseases using organic methods.
- 🌱 **Small-space Gardening:** Learn to grow plants in containers and set up a small-space worm composting system.

For more information, visit dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/sq/webinars.cfm. Webinar attendees are provided reduced prices on some compost bins, but when selecting, please keep in mind that **with our close proximity to neighbors, it's necessary to keep rodents out of compost.**

More information is available at topotopanga.org/composting/.

ORGANICS

| RECYCLING

| TRASH

Make sure your Organics, Recycling and Trash container are paired together with proper signage so employees place the right materials into the right container.

Right Materials – Right Container – Know Which Container to Use

What Goes in the Organics Container:



FOOD WASTE AND
FOOD SOILED PAPER



PRODUCE



YARD WASTE



MEAT, FISH & POULTRY



DAIRY



BREAD, PASTA, RICE,
GRAINS, COFFEE GROUNDS
AND FOOD SOILED PAPER



DO NOT INCLUDE:

- NO LOOSE PLASTIC BAGS
- NO SERVEWARE
- NO PLASTIC CONTAINERS
- NO FOAM CONTAINERS
- NO HAZARDOUS WASTE

What Goes in the Recycling Container:



PLASTIC BOTTLES & CONTAINERS



GLASS BOTTLES & CONTAINERS



FOOD & BEVERAGE CANS



FOOD & BEVERAGE CARTONS



PAPER



FLATTENED CARDBOARD
& PAPERBOARD



DO NOT INCLUDE:

- NO LOOSE PLASTIC BAGS
- NO FOAM CONTAINERS
- NO CLOTHING, FURNITURE
OR CARPET
- NO HAZARDOUS WASTE

What Goes in the Trash Container:



GARDEN HOSE



CANDY, SNACK & FOOD WRAPPERS



BROKEN CERAMIC DISHES & POTS



CHIP BAGS



DIAPERS



FOAM CONTAINERS



DO NOT INCLUDE:

- NO HAZARDOUS WASTE
- NO ELECTRONICS
- NO BATTERIES, TIRES
OR PAINT
- NO FLAMMABLE MATERIAL

Place recyclables directly into your recycling container - **don't bag your recyclables.**

To Learn More Visit:

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