

# A Greener El Cerrito

News from the City of El Cerrito Operations + Environmental Services Division

Commercial Edition | November 2016 | Volume 1

[www.ecenvironment.org](http://www.ecenvironment.org) | 510-215-4350

## New Commercial Edition

The El Cerrito Recycling + Environmental Resource Center is happy to announce a new Commercial Edition of our *Greener El Cerrito* newsletter, providing information specifically for commercial solid waste account holders. Staff at the Recycling Center plans on publishing the Commercial Edition two times per year. We welcome any thoughts and suggestions for articles that would be helpful for your business. Contact us at [green@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us](mailto:green@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us) or 510-215-4350.

## Mandatory Commercial Organic Recycling Legislation Passed by State of California

The State of California has passed a commercial organics recycling law (Chesboro AB1826), which establishes a timeline for commercial accounts to adopt recycling of organic materials. Commercial accounts include apartment complexes, businesses, schools, and other institutions.

If your establishment produces more than 4 cubic yards of solid waste per week, you will need to adopt an organics recycling program by one of the following dates:

- April 1, 2016 – Commercial accounts generating eight cubic yards of organic waste per week
- January 1, 2017 – Commercial accounts generating four cubic yards of organic waste per week
- January 1, 2019 – Commercial accounts generating four cubic yards or more of solid waste per week

Organic waste includes: food waste, green waste, landscape & pruning waste, nonhazardous wood waste, and food-spoiled paper waste that typically is mixed in with food waste.

Some commercial accounts can save money by reducing their garbage container size and increasing their recycling and composting practices. For more information regarding organic waste collection and billing, please contact East Bay Sanitary, the City of El Cerrito's franchise waste hauler, at 510-237-4321. For more information or technical assistance with recycling at your facility, contact the El Cerrito Recycling + Environmental Resource Center at 510-215-4350.



**ATTENTION** | IMPORTANT CHANGES TO RECYCLING RULES FOR BUSINESSES AND MULTI-FAMILY HOMES

Learn more about the new law at [www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Recycle/Commercial/Organics/default.htm](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Recycle/Commercial/Organics/default.htm).

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## Holiday Schedule for Solid Waste Collection

The El Cerrito Recycling + Environmental Resource Center and East Bay Sanitary offices will be closed for business for the following upcoming holidays: Veterans Day (November 11, 2016), Thanksgiving Day (November 24, 2016), Christmas (work holiday observed on December 26, 2016), and New Year's Day (work holiday observed on January 2, 2017).

*Curbside collection of recycling, green waste, and garbage will occur as normally scheduled on these holidays. Christmas trees will be picked up free of charge through January 13, 2017.*

### WHY IT'S IMPORTANT TO KEEP SOLID WASTE ENCLOSURES CLEAN

In order to ensure effective solid waste service, please keep your garbage and recycling enclosure clean and fully accessible. Keeping your enclosure clean will also minimize risk of health code violations, improve the appearance and upkeep of your property and surrounding area, and encourage tenants and employees to help with the effort. If your enclosure is a mess, users will avoid it and compound the problem.

Here's a checklist of ways to help us provide the best garbage and recycling services possible:

- Never leave anything scattered on the floor of the enclosure or on top of bins.
- Clearly label each container with the items that can be deposited inside.
- Instruct employees and tenants on proper disposal and recycling of solid waste materials.
- Flatten all cardboard to maximize space and enable efficient service.
- Contact Environmental Services at 510-215-4350 if you have recycling questions, want more recycling pickups, or need technical assistance, more recycling bins, or new labels for your containers.
- Contact East Bay Sanitary at 510-237-4321 if you have questions or need technical assistance with your garbage and/or organic service.



Example of a clean and accessible enclosure