# Organics Recycling is Coming to Imperial Beach!

EDCO's New Organics Recycling Program will Collect Food Scraps and Yard Waste Mixed Together in Your Green Cart

# organics RECYCLING





Separating organics - food scraps and yard waste - helps our environment.











#### Coming Soon, Organics Recycling!

Starting April 1, 2021, EDCO's New Organics Recycling Program will Collect Food Scraps and Yard Waste Mixed Together in Your Green Cart

#### Organic Waste



Organic waste is a renewable natural resource. It mainly comes from yard and kitchen waste from homes, and food waste and scraps from industrial and commercial operations.

Mandatory recycling of organic waste is the next step to achieving California's Zero Waste goals. EDCO is constructing the first state-of-the-art, advanced technology Anaerobic Digestion (AD) Facility in San Diego County, capable of producing

renewable natural gas that will serve the needs of the region.

AD is an efficient and environmentally sustainable technology that can make a significant contribution to the management of organic waste in California. Capturing and reducing the amount of methane released into the atmosphere is critical in ensuring a safe and healthy environment for ourselves and future generations.



## Why Recycle Food Waste?



Organic waste accounts for over 40% of the material in California's waste stream. Organic material cannot break down when buried in a landfill, as it would in nature or in a compost pile. Instead, it decomposes without oxygen, releasing methane gas into the atmosphere. Organic material (food scraps and yard waste) will soon be recycled when placed in green carts and then transported to EDCO's AD Facility, once completed, where it will break down and convert into renewable natural gas and fertilizer.

## EDCO's Anaerobic Digestion Video

To learn more about EDCO's new AD Facility and how it will significantly impact the future of organic waste, please visit our website at **edcodisposal.com** and watch our informative video located in our Resource Center tab on the home page and click on Videos!

## EDCO's Anaerobic Digestion Facility

Since 1967, family owned and operated EDCO has had a long-standing commitment to reducing impacts on the environment through innovation. EDCO's state-of-the-art AD Facility will begin serving customers in early 2021, assisting Imperial Beach to be in full compliance with state mandates and keeping us *On the Road to Zero Waste*.

AD is the natural process in which microorganisms break down organic materials such as food waste, green waste, fats, oils and greases. AD happens in closed spaces where there is no oxygen.

Recycling organics will be easy and convenient with EDCO's commingled organics recycling program. Once EDCO's AD Facility is complete, EDCO will expand source-separated green waste collection to include the recycling of food waste. The service will allow customers to place food scraps in the same container as green waste. EDCO's AD Facility will be a foundation for Imperial Beach to achieve State mandates which are directly related to recycling organics in California.



EDCO's Anaerobic Digestion Facility Coming in 2021

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As EDCO's new Organics Recycling Program implementation date approaches, more service details, collection information, program parameters, etc., will follow in another informational mailer in March.

QUESTIONS? Please visit our website at edcodisposal.com or email csrlg@edcodisposal.com.

#### What Will Go in the Green Cart?



Organic waste (also referred to as organics), which includes food waste, green waste, landscape and pruning waste, non-hazardous wood waste, and food-soiled paper waste, will be collected all mixed together in your green organics cart.

Below are just a few examples of what will be able to be placed in your green organics cart.

#### Food Scraps

Fruit, vegetables, meat, bones, dairy, egg shells, prepared food



#### Food-Soiled Paper

Napkins, tea bags, paper plates, coffee filters













#### California State Mandates

With mandatory recycling deadlines on the horizon, the EDCO AD facility will allow the City of Imperial Beach to meet compliance mandates including AB 1826, AB 827, AB 1594, and SB 1383, which are directly related to organic recycling in the State of California.

- AB 1826 Requires businesses that generate organic waste to arrange for recycling services for that waste, and for jurisdictions to implement a recycling program to divert organic waste from businesses subject to the law, as well as report to the State of California on their progress in implementing an organic waste recycling program.
- AB 827 Requires commercial generators subject to AB 1826 to provide customers with recycling containers inside their place of business for the convenience of recycling.
- AB 1594 As of January 1, 2020, the use of green material as alternative daily landfill cover (ADC) will no longer constitute diversion through recycling and will instead be considered disposal.
- SB 1383 Establishes targets to achieve a 50% reduction in the level of the statewide disposal of organic waste from the 2014 level by 2020 and a 75% reduction by 2025. The law grants CalRecycle the regulatory authority required to achieve the organic waste disposal reduction targets and establishes an additional target that not less than 20% of currently disposed edible food is recovered for human consumption by 2025.

#### What Can You do Now?

In the United States alone, a shocking 40% of food is uneaten, wasted and thrown out. We as consumers are the largest producers of food waste, believe it or not, exceeding grocery stores and restaurants combined! So, the smallest changes add up and make a huge difference.

San Diego Food System Alliance is leading an initiative across San Diego County to reduce food waste and increase food donation to people. By visiting their website, at **https://www.sdfsa. org/save-the-food-san-diego**, residents can find information on food recovery throughout the county, food donation guides, and resources.



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The EPA estimates that more food reaches landfills than any other single material in our everyday trash, constituting 22 percent of discarded municipal solid waste. Adding food waste to EDCO's Organics Recycling Program will help reduce the amount of organic waste going to landfills and lower Green House Gas (GHG) emissions released into our environment.

#### Questions?

For ongoing information, visit our website, edcodisposal.com, email us at csrlg@edcodisposal.com, text a message to (619) 202-8365, or call us at (619) 287-7555.