

SB 1383 Food Recovery: Are you ready to start donating?

Is your business tired of throwing out perfectly good food? Would you like to save money on your waste hauling costs, while also doing good for the environment and community?

A new law, SB 1383, is here to help.

SB 1383 Overview

Senate Bill 1383 is a new state law that aims to reduce organic waste disposal by 75% by 2025, and increase edible food recovery by 20% by 2025.

THE IMPACT AND IRONY OF FOOD WASTE

20%

of Methane Emissions

Organic waste in landfills emits 20% 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 3

San Diegans is Food Insecure

While tons of food is disposed, one in three San Diegans is food insecure.

Why was this law created?

SB 1383 seeks to address issues such as methane emissions and food insecurity, as food waste makes up the single largest component in our landfills.

To meet the goals of SB 1383, your business will be required to establish a food recovery program.

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. A food recovery or food donation program ensures that surplus food that can't be used in the kitchen goes to good use: Feeding people, not landfills.



Section 18991.3 of SB 1383 regulation requires businesses to hold a written agreement with food recovery organizations and/or services that will be recovering their excess edible food. Completing this Food Recovery Agreement can be used to fulfill this requirement.

Now that you know the environmental and social benefits of food recovery, are you ready to start donating? Be sure to read through these important notes.



Food Safety

All food recovery activities should be executed in compliance with all federal, State, and local regulations for safe food handling. For more information, refer to the County of San Diego Department of Environmental Health and Quality [Food Donation FAQ](#).



Donation Dumping

Donation dumping involves knowingly providing unusable or inedible food, forcing food recovery after capacity has been reached, or intentionally delivering food outside of the agreed upon food recovery windows. **This practice is unacceptable.**

Donation dumping will result in intervention by the City of Carlsbad Sustainable Management Division, potentially resulting in losing compliance status under SB 1383.



Federal Tax Incentives

Charitable food donation is eligible for federal tax incentives and enhanced tax deductions, provided that donations meet eligibility criteria.

Please seek legal counsel for tax filing and consult with your partnering food recovery organizations to obtain the necessary donation receipts required to claim any tax incentives and/or deductions.

Contacts

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