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Why Organic Waste?

Food organic waste accounts for about 20% of total landfilled material, which generates methane, a toxic greenhouse gas (GHG) emission 25 times stronger than CO₂. In an effort to reduce GHG emissions, CA State law SB 1383 aims to reduce methane from landfilled organic waste by 75% come 2025. In order to achieve these goals, CA has implemented a statewide mandatory food waste prevention program to divert food organic waste from landfills.



Tips For Teaching Kids To Recycle At Home

Eventually, all residential customers in the State will be required to recycle food waste. The sooner recycling is part of family routines, the more your children will come to expect it. Recycling can be challenging, but with these tips we can work as a team and make it easier:

Explain why. Your children will feel invested if they understand why recycling matters and how they're making a difference.

Show how. Explain which items can be recycled and how to identify the colored waste bins. Practice sorting food waste, glass, plastics, paper, and garbage into the correct bins together.

Be an example. Just like eating their veggies, kids often model parental behavior when it comes to recycling. Make sure you're leading by example!



Tips To Reduce Food Waste In Your Child's Packed Lunch



Get your child's input on what they like. Avoid packing foods that your child won't eat at home as these are likely to be discarded at school.



Cut up fruits and vegetables so they are easier to eat.

Make lunch fun. For example, add dips for cut veggies, make cheese or meat pinwheels, and include dressing to add to a "shake and serve" salad.



Reducing food waste in landfills is a significant part of our schools' sustainability journey. When we don't recycle organic food waste properly, we miss the opportunity to put the organic waste to better use. Some ways we can put our food waste to work is through composting, diverting food scraps to animal food, fuel conversion, and energy production. Food waste recycling also helps conserve our precious freshwater resource.



What Is Waste Recycling?

Nationwide, households are the number one producer of food waste, followed by schools. To do our part in reducing methane gas from our environment, the Fontana Unified School District has implemented its Waste Recycling Program at all school sites. The Waste Recycling Program helps lessen food waste and recyclable materials that would otherwise find their way into our landfills. These efforts are focused in the school cafeteria/MPR spaces during lunchtime.



What Does The Program Look Like?



1. Recyclables

First, students will pour all liquid from recyclable containers into the liquid separator unit, then discard their containers into the **BLUE** marked can. Recyclable containers include milk & juice cartons, glass & plastic bottles, and aluminum cans.



2. Food Organics

Second, students will discard food scraps/organic waste into the **BROWN** marked can. Organic waste includes all food scraps, such as meat, bones, veggies, fruit, soups, grains, and desserts, as well as soiled napkins and cardboard.



3. Trash

Third, students will discard landfill trash items into the **GRAY** marked can. Landfill trash includes plastic utensils, straws, soiled aluminum foil, paper cups, plastic cups & lids, Styrofoam, pouched drinks, chip bags, and anything else that was not discarded in the other two colors.

