

edcodisposal.com "We'll Take Care of It"

# Organics Recycling

**Public Education Samples** 



Coming in 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-theart, advanced technology Anaerobic Digestion (AD) Facility in San Diego

County, capable of producing renewable natural gas that will serve the needs of the region.

Anaerobic digestion 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.

# 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 your community 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. Anaerobic digestion 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 your community to achieve State mandates, including AB 1826, AB 1594, and SB 1383, which are directly related to organic recycling in the State of California.

# 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 and live webcam located on the home page under Recycling Videos!

# 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 because 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 be converted into renewable natural gas and fertilizer.

# What Will Go in the Green Cart?

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

# <complex-block>

# What Can You do Now?

In the United States alone, a shocking 40% of food is uneaten, wasted and discarded. 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 **sdfsa.org/savethefoodsd/**, residents can find information on food recovery throughout the county, food donation guides, and resources.

# **Organics Recycling is Easy!**

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



### STEP 1

Place food scraps, food-soiled paper and yard trimmings in your organics cart. If it grows, it goes! See pages 3-4 for a list of accepted materials.



STEP 2

Set out your green cart by 6:00 a.m. on your regular collection day.



### STEP 3

Make sure everything fits in the areen cart with the lid closed, and keep the lid closed at all times.

# From Organics Cart to Anaerobic Digestion



EDCO's Anaerobic Digestion Facility Coming in 2021

Biogas is generated during anaerobic digestion. Biogas is mostly methane gas, which is captured, filtered, and upgraded into 100% Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) that can be used to fuel vehicles or be directly injected into gas lines for community usage, both a renewable carbon-negative fuel source. The material that is left after anaerobic digestion happens is called "digestate." Digestate is a wet mixture that is usually separated into a solid and a liquid. Digestate is rich in nutrients and can be used as fertilizer for crops.

### **HOW WILL OTHER CARTS AND COLLECTION BE AFFECTED?**

### **Organics**

Now place food waste, green waste, landscape and pruning waste, non-hazardous wood waste, and food-soiled paper waste in your organics cart all mixed together.

### Recycling

No changes! Continue to place recyclables, like plastics 1-7, glass, metals, cardboard, carton and paper, in your **BLUE** recycling cart.

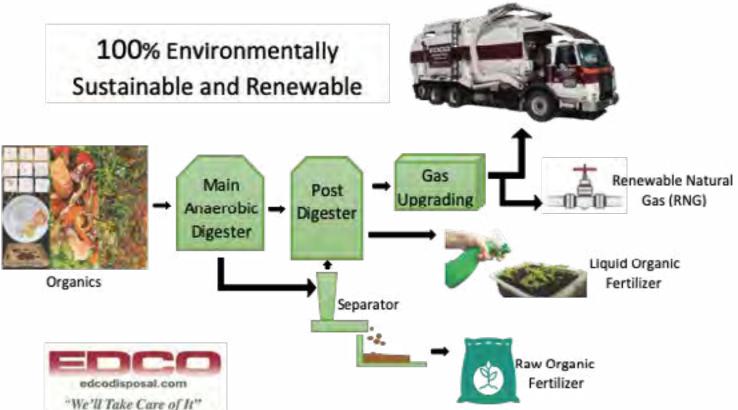
### Trash

Instead of placing food scraps and food-soiled paper into your gray trash cart, place them in your organics cart.



**Organics** Recycling

# **100%** Environmentally



Organics Brochure 1



### The materials in your organics cart do not go to a landfill! They are recycled into a natural resource!

- With mandatory recycling deadlines on the horizon, the EDCO Anaerobic Digestion Facility will allow the City of Coronado to meet compliance mandates, including AB 1826, AB 1594, and SB 1383, which are directly related to organic recycling in the State of California.
- Anaerobic digestion (AD) is the natural process in which microorganisms break down organic materials such as food waste, green waste, kitchen-generated fats, oils and greases. AD happens in closed spaces where there is no oxygen.

# What Goes 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 organics cart.

If it grows, it goes!



## **Food Scraps**

Cooked or raw meat, poultry and seafood (including bones), cheese, dairy products, fruits, vegetables, grains, pasta, egg shells, bread, coffee grounds, tea bags, tea leaves, baked goods, nuts, jelly, candy, snack foods, leftovers, spoiled food.

### How to Collect

- Use a kitchen caddie, see page 5.
- Place food scraps directly in your cart (loose or in paper bags) and ensure the lid closes. Please do not use any kind of plastic bags!

### What to Avoid

Do not include liquids, plastic, glass, metals, Styrofoam.

# Food-Soiled Paper

Paper bags, paper napkins, paper towels, paper plates, paper cups, paper take-out containers and take-out boxes (with no plastic or wax coating, and with metal removed), coffee filters, tissues.

### How to Collect

• Paper can be dry or wet.

• Place food-soiled paper directly in your cart (loose or in paper bags) and ensure the lid closes.





Yard Waste

bags) and ensure the lid closes.

• Place yard trimmings directly in your cart (loose or in paper

No rocks, dirt, soil, tree stumps, or plastic bags.

How to Collect

What to Avoid

Residents can request up to two (2) additional green organics carts at no additional cost. Residents who have three (3) green carts and want additional green carts may request more for a monthly fee. Call our office or order fast and easy online at edcodisposal.com through the Contact EDCO tab to request additional green organics carts.

### Keep these items out of your green cart!

Prohibited items cannot break down, or cause a safety hazard for collection crews. Check the list below to find out what to **KEEP OUT** of your organics cart:



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|---|---|
|   |   |

- Aluminum
- Animal carcasses
- Dirt
- Cigarette butts & ashes Fats, oils, grease • Clothing
  - Glass

Diapers

- Hazardous waste
- Kitty litter
- Landscape timbers
- Liquids
- Medical waste
- Metal

- Pet waste
- Plastic bags or film
- Plastic containers
  - Plastic Straws
  - Rocks
  - Soil

Organics Brochure

Can I use plastic bags for organics, even if they are biodegradable

plastic?

No, please do not use any kind of plastic bags for any type of green waste, food waste or other organics, as they contaminate the Anaerobic Digester! All organic material must be placed loosely inside the organics cart for collection. Paper bags are acceptable.

Grass clippings, small branches, small tree limbs, tree roots, flowers, leaves, plants, straw.



### Natural Fibers

Popsicle sticks, sawdust, toothpicks, wooden chopsticks, untreated wood.

### How to Collect

• Place natural fibers directly in your cart (loose or in paper bags) and ensure the lid closes.

# **Need More Green Carts?**

- Styrofoam
- Trash
- Treated or painted lumber
- Tree stumps
- Treated or painted wood
- Wine corks

# **Collecting Your Food Scraps**

Collect food scraps in any container for an easy way to set aside leftovers for your green organics cart. Coffee cans, plastic food storage containers, or kitchen caddies can be used.



STEP 1

Keep your kitchen container in a convenient location in your kitchen, such as on the counter top, under the sink or in the freezer. | kitchen container.



STEP 2

While cooking or cleaning up, place leftover food scraps and food-soiled paper into your



STEP 3

Empty the contents of your kitchen container into your green cart when it's full and before you set out the cart each week.

### Avoid the "Yuck" in a Kitchen Organics Collection Container

### These tips may help reduce odors:

• Wrap food scraps in a paper towel or old newspaper.

• Line your kitchen organics collector container with a paper bag or newspaper to absorb moisture and manage odors in your kitchen caddie.

· Collect food scraps in a cereal box or tissue box. Be sure to remove any plastic linina.

 Sprinkle baking soda inside of the kitchen organics collector container.

• Wash your kitchen organics collector container in the dishwasher or by hand after emptying it into your green cart.



### **Optional Kitchen Caddies are Available**

A kitchen caddie is a designated container specifically for the internal collection of organics in your home. Any reusable container can be used as a kitchen caddie, but EDCO also has an optional free kitchen caddie for your household use. Please visit our website, edcodisposal.com, and visit the Residential Service's Organics page to learn more about how to place an order.

### How do I get my food scraps from my kitchen to the organics cart?

There are many different ways to cleanly move food scraps from your kitchen to your organics cart. Here are some of the most popular options:

Wrap Your Scraps! - Many people find wrapping food waste in any type of non-wax paper, such as paper towels, packing paper, newspaper, or paper bags, is an easy way to move food waste from inside your kitchen to your organics cart. This is especially true for large quantities of fruit, meat, etc., and you can even leave the scraps wrapped in the paper and then just drop it into the organics cart. Please do not use any kind of plastic bags!

Kitchen Caddies - A kitchen caddie is an optional, free 1.5 gallon sealable container that can be placed under your kitchen sink or another convenient area for your household to use. Any reusable container can be used as a kitchen caddie, but EDCO also has an optional free kitchen caddie for your household use. Kitchen caddies lock to keep odors in and once full, can be taken to your organics cart and emptied onto the green waste. After emptying, it can be washed out and is dishwasher safe. To receive a free EDCO kitchen caddie, please visit our website, edcodisposal.com, and visit the Residential Service's Organics page to place an order.

Containerize It - Many people have their own containers, such as coffee cans and Tupperware products that they are comfortable using to hold food scraps. Similar to kitchen caddies, once the container is full, it can be taken and emptied into the organics cart.

Freeze It - Several people choose to freeze or refrigerate their food scraps in containers and paper bags and then empty as needed.











# Filling Your Organics Cart



### Here are some suggestions to help reduce odors, moisture and pests in your green organics cart:

- Place yard trimmings and food-soiled paper at the bottom of your cart to absorb moisture.
- Layer your food scraps with yard trimmings inside the cart. Do not use plastic bags of any kind, please, as they cannot break down in the anaerobic digester. Paper bags are okay.

• No yard trimmings this week? No worries! Just add food scraps directly into your green organics cart. If food scraps are wet, use a paper bag or newspaper at the bottom of your cart to absorb moisture before putting in the wet scraps. • Keep your food scraps frozen and place them directly in your cart the night before your collection day.

### **KEEPING YOUR ORGANICS CART CLEAN**

• Rinse your cart with mild soap and water when necessary. Tip: Be sure to pour the dirty water onto the lawn and never down a storm drain!

- Sprinkle baking soda in your cart.
- Keep the cart lid closed at all times.
- Set out your cart every week.
- Keep your cart in a shaded area.
- Line the cart with leaves or food-soiled paper.



# What to do on Collection Day

Other than what now goes into your new organics cart, there are no changes to collection guidelines or your collection day.

### SET-OUT AND COLLECTION GUIDELINES

- Set out carts at street level with the wheels against the curb, if applicable, and out of the way of traffic.
- Please be careful not to place carts in areas of traffic, such as bike lanes, to avoid blocking paths of travel.
- If collected from an alley, keep carts at a minimum of two (2) feet distance from walls or fences.
- Cart lids should be completely closed and arrows on the lid of carts should point toward the street or alley.
- Keep a minimum of two (2) feet distance between your carts, and three (3) feet from obstructions such as parked cars, mailboxes, trees and telephone poles.
- Please do not overload your carts. Do not overfill the automated carts to prevent the cart lids from properly closing.



Cart Placement

and set out carts by 6:00 a.m. on your scheduled day of service or the night



"We'll Take Care of It"

# lf it Grows... it Goes!

### Visit edcodisposal.com for more details and information on what goes in the green organics cart.

### New Organics Recycling

Please place yard trimmings and food scraps directly in your green cart. No plastic bags of any kind, please, as they cannot break down in the anaerobic digester. Paper bags are okay.

### Organics

Now place food waste, green waste, landscape and pruning waste, nonhazardous wood waste, and food-soiled paper waste in your **GREEN** cart all mixed together.

### Recycling

No changes! Continue to place recyclables, like plastics 1-7, glass, metals, cardboard, carton and paper, in your **BLUE** recycling cart.

### Trash

Instead of placing food scraps and food-soiled paper into your gray trash cart, place them in your **GREEN** organics cart.

### **Do You Need More Carts?**

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### ORGANICS

Place organic material directly into your green organics cart. Residents can request up to two (2) additional green organics carts at no extra cost.

### RECYCLING

Residents can recycle plastic containers 1-7, mixed paper, newspaper, cardboard and beverage containers all mixed together in your recycling cart. Please help prevent contamination by not placing any trash in your blue recycling cart. For more information on what to recycle visit our website, edcodisposal.com. Residents can request additional recycling carts at no extra cost.

### TRASH

Please place trash inside your gray EDCO carts only. Residents can request additional gray trash carts for a monthly fee.

Requests can be made by phone or order fast and easy online at **edcodisposal.com** and click on the **Contact EDCO tab** after entering your zip code.

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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 Marco Topete at mtopete@edcodisposal.com, text a message to (619) 202-8365, or call us at (619) 287-7555.