



December 8, 2021

Subject: New Organics Recycling Requirements Starting January 1, 2022

Dear Valued Customer:

Effective January 1, 2022, the City of Azusa will implement a source-separated solid waste and recycling system. The Citywide program will maximize the recovery of recyclables, such as cans, bottles, cardboard, and paper. The program will also ensure organics waste is recycled into compost, mulch, or biogas instead of decomposing in landfills, which releases methane gas into the environment. These changes will make trash collection cleaner and more efficient, using fully-automated collection services, and support environmental sustainability in Azusa.

In recent years, California has passed several unfunded environmental laws, such as SB 1383, requiring California Cities to implement and comply with waste, recycling, and organics collection services. As a result, the City and Athens have worked closely to develop an enhanced program that best serves the community's needs.

Athens will deliver new green 64-gallon organics waste carts for yard waste, food scraps, and food-soiled paper early next year. Once these green carts are available, the regular trash bins will only be used for non-organics waste and recyclable materials, which Athens recycles at its materials recovery facility. Representatives from the Athens team will work with your organization to determine the appropriate number of organics carts you will need, as well as the best location to store them. This same team is available to provide your staff training to maximize participation in the City's new recycling program.

To lessen the impact of this organics recycling program mandated by SB 1383, Athens will phase in the actual cost of organics recycling over three years. The discounted cost will be reflected on your invoice in the form of a credit, which will decline each year until the full cost is fully implemented. More details will be following in the coming months on this transition.

Along with the changes in collection service, Athens will provide additional cleaning services throughout the City. New services include regular power washing of the bus stops and shelters throughout the City and power washing of the downtown district.

Athens will provide commercial customers with additional outreach and education regarding this transition. Important dates and deadlines will also be communicated in the coming weeks. Please see attached Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) for further information.

If you have any questions regarding the City of Azusa's new recycling program, please get in touch with Athens Services at (888) 336-6100.

Sincerely,

City of Azusa

Athens Services