



December 8, 2021

Subject: New Organics Recycling Requirements and Billing Transition 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. This same team will also be available to provide tenants with training to maximize participation in the City's new recycling program.

Athens will continue to offer residents FREE weekly bulky item collection services. The service is provided on your regular scheduled collection day, at no additional cost. Requests for bulky item pickups will need to be made directly with Athens Services to ensure items are collected from your property.

On January 1, 2022, Athens Services will assume billing responsibility for waste and recycling services. Your trash bill will no longer appear on the Azusa Light & Water (ALW) bill. Also, multi-family customers will no longer be billed individually by ALW. Instead, Athens will only bill a single responsible party, i.e. property manager, HOA, etc., monthly. The responsible party will then determine a method of allocating costs to individual multi-family residents. **This change will require one bill per property and will be issued monthly.** In addition, as part of the billing transition, you will receive your final refuse bill from ALW in January 2022. This is for services provided **through December 2021**. Concurrently, in January 2022, the responsible party will receive a separate bill from Athens Services for services rendered in January 2022. Athens Services will be contacting you in the coming weeks to confirm billing details.

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 customers with additional outreach and education regarding this transition. 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 contact Athens Services at (888) 336-6100.

Sincerely,

City of Azusa

Athens Services