

# Guide to using Your Organic Waste Cart

Organic waste recycling is a fantastic way to reduce waste, support sustainability, and contribute to a healthier environment. Here's a step-by-step guide on how to effectively use your organic waste cart:

## 01

### Understand What Goes in Your Organic Waste Cart

Acceptable organic waste items include:

- Fruit and vegetable scraps
- Coffee grounds and filters
- Meat, poultry, and seafood waste
- Eggshells
- Yard waste (grass clippings, leaves, small branches)
- Food-soiled paper (napkins, paper towels)
- Pizza boxes with grease
- Bread, rice, pasta, etc.



## 01 B

### Keep These Out of Your Organic Waste Cart

Not Accepted items include:

- Plastic bags
- Wax lined paper (to-go coffee cups)
- Dirt and sod
- Plastic, glass and metal
- Tree trunks
- Pet and animal waste
- Any plastics labeled compostable or organic



## Separate Organic Materials

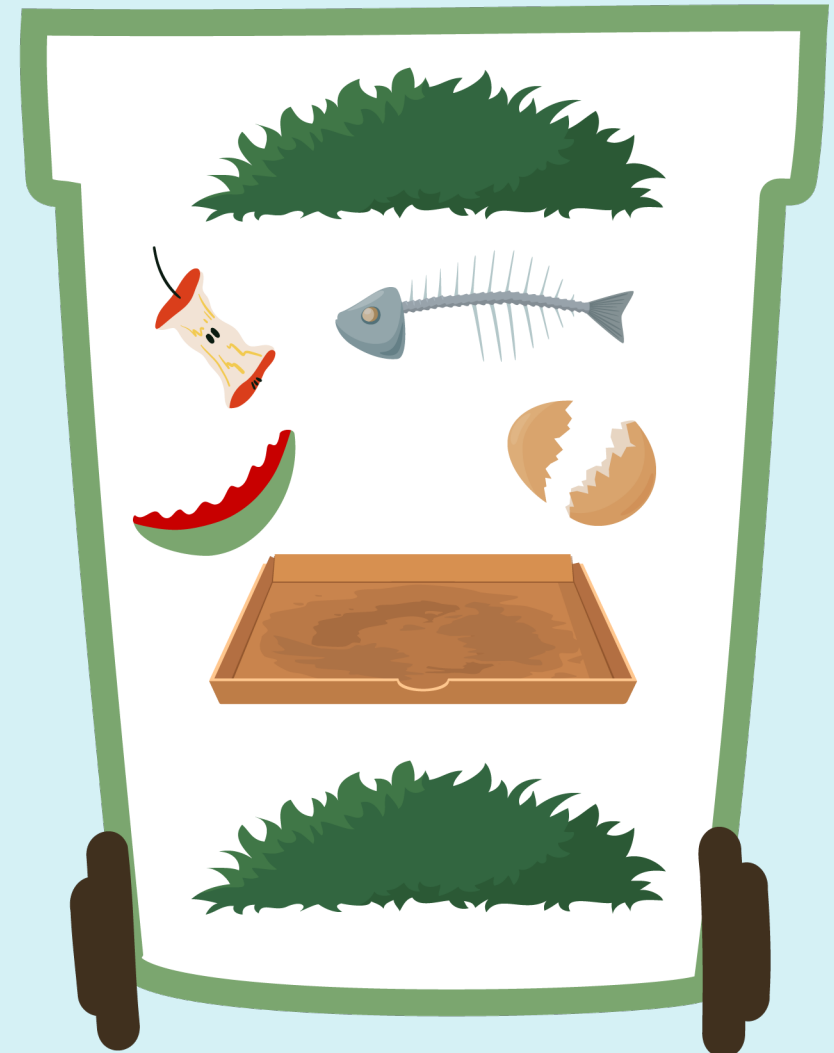
- A** Place a small container in your kitchen for collecting food scraps throughout the week. Empty the container throughout the week in Step 2-B (to the right).



- A-2** **Optional step that other people have found helpful.** If you choose to, you can store the container in your refrigerator or freezer to eliminate odors and pests. Empty this container into your organic waste cart the morning of your service day or more frequently if the container becomes full.



- B** Layer yard trimmings at the bottom and throughout your cart to keep food waste from sticking to the inside of the cart.



## Set Out Your Cart for Collection and Follow Collection Guidelines

On your designated collection day, place your organic waste cart at the curb along with your trash cart. Ensure the cart is easily accessible for collection trucks.

Utilize these Cal-Waste curbside guidelines:

- Carts must have 3 feet clearance on all sides.
- Carts must be 6 feet from vehicles and all other obstacles.
- Carts must be at the curb by 5:00 am on your service day.
- Avoid overfilling the cart. The lid should be able to close fully.
- Check the collection schedule to ensure you place your cart out on the correct day.

**Download the FREE Cal-Waste Recycles Right Mobile App to get your schedule on your phone!**

Scan this code with your phone to get the FREE Mobile App!



## Learn About Your Impact and Spread the Word

Organic materials collected in these carts are often turned into compost, which enriches soil and reduces the need for chemical fertilizers. Other processes for organic waste recycling include anaerobic digestion (waste to energy) to produce natural gas, pasteurization for livestock feed, and many more.

By following these steps, you can effectively use your organic recycling cart as part of your residential curbside waste collection service, contributing to a more sustainable and eco-friendly lifestyle.

### Compost Life Cycle



**As required by state law (Senate Bill 1383), Cal-Waste contamination auditors will examine carts placed on the street for collection. Carts will be audited to determine the success of the program.**