Commercial Recycling Legislation

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Zero Waste Marin has a zero waste goal by 2025. We are working with businesses in our community to help us all achieve this goal. According to a survey done by CalRecycle in 2008, the commercial sector generates nearly three fourths of the solid waste in California. There are two primary pieces of legislation that effect businesses waste management practices: AB 341 and AB 1826.

The State of California passed AB 341 in 2011. The purpose of this law is to reduce Green House Gas emissions by diverting commercial solid waste to recycling. The goal is to recycle and compost 75% of our waste stream by 2020. A business that generates four cubic yards or more of solid waste per week was required to recycle by July 1, 2012.

AB 1826 was passed in October of 2014 and will be implemented in 2016 requiring commercial businesses to recycle organic waste (yard waste, food waste, and food soiled paper). This program will be rolled out in phases to allow for the infrastructure needed to be built out. Businesses that generate eight cubic yards of organic waste per week will need to implement an organics recycling program by April 1, 2016; and businesses that generate four cubic yards of organic waste per week will need to implement by January 1, 2017.

By January 1, 2019, if you create four cubic yards or more of WASTE per week, you will need to have an organics recycling program. Zero Waste Marin tracks legislation and you can find information and updates on our website.

