



July 23, 2015

Re: Innovative new program to continue Manhattan Beach's leadership in Environmental Sustainability

Dear Business Owner:

California continues to move towards its goal of diverting 75 percent of waste from landfills and many businesses have established sustainability goals to do their part. To reach its goal, the State of California has adopted new legislation (Assembly Bill 1826) mandating all commercial businesses that generate organic waste to begin a program to divert organic material (including food waste) from the landfill. Waste Management (WM) has partnered with the City of Manhattan Beach over the past two years to take the lead as one of the greenest cities in Southern California and create a food waste recycling program for everyone in the City. This new permanent food waste recycling program is based on the successful commercial and residential pilot program in the City, which included 25 commercial businesses and 777 residences. The pilot program diverted an average of 37.33 tons of food waste per month.

On July 7, 2015, Manhattan's Beach City Council voted YES to a new a mandatory food waste recycling program! As your service provider, we would like to help you gear up your business for this exciting program! Beginning August 1st, food waste recycling will be included as part of your service offerings.

Once collected by WM, food waste is transported to be processed by WM's CORE® system in Orange where it is converted into Engineered BioSlurry(EBS)™ that is used for the creation of green, renewable energy at a wastewater treatment plant.

Our WM food waste experts will visit your business to share details about our food waste recycling program, train your staff and answer any questions you may have.

Please contact us to help set up your food waste recycling program!

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Commercial Food Waste Recycling FAQ's

Q: What is the Commercial Food Waste Recycling program?

A: As a result of a successful commercial food waste recycling pilot in the City of Manhattan Beach, the City made food waste recycling available to all businesses by incorporating this new service as part of the new service rate. Waste Management (WM) commercial customers can participate in this exciting new food waste recycling program that will contribute towards making the City of Manhattan Beach one of the greenest cities in Southern California. In addition, this program will help businesses comply with new state legislation, AB 1826, which requires businesses to divert organic material (including food waste) from the landfill.

Under this new program, businesses separate food waste from all other waste and place it inside a new food waste container for pick up. For any business without space for additional containers, WM will custom design a program to meet your needs.

Q: What happens to the food waste?

A: Once collected by WM, food waste is transported to be processed by WM's CORe® system in Orange where it is converted into Engineered BioSlurry(EBS)[™] that is used for the creation of green, renewable energy at a wastewater treatment plant.

Q: Is this the same as composting?

A: No. While traditional composting has its place, this innovative approach allows the capture of carbon for use as renewable energy.

Q: Who is eligible to participate?

A: All businesses that generate any amount of food waste in the City of Manhattan Beach are eligible to participate.

Q: Is there a cost to this program?

A: Effective August 1, 2015, the cost is included in new your trash and recycling rate.

Q: How often does the food waste get picked up?

A: There are many factors that can contribute to your pick-up frequency. It is why this program begins with a brief site visit from one of our Food Waste Recycling experts to customize your pick-up schedule.

Q: Will this program require additional carts?

A: Depending on the size of your business you may or may not require additional carts. If determined that you do require additional containers, those will be provided by WM. That will be determined during your site visit.

Q: If we need carts, will WM provide additional carts to us at no additional charge?

A: Yes, carts will provided at no additional charge.

Q: Will this new program require food to be separated?

A: Yes. This new program will require food to be separated from trash, green waste, and recycling for pick-up. During the site visit, we will work with you to determine if you need a separate food waste container or if the bagged food waste will be placed into an alternative container.

To Schedule your site visit, call (310) 924-0402 or email askgreen@wm.com.