

# Residential Organics Recycling

Residents are encouraged to dispose of their organic waste in any of the green lid carts (“organic carts”) located throughout Laguna Woods Village.



Green lid carts are for organic waste

## What is considered organic waste?

The following waste can be placed in organic carts:

- Food (e.g., breads, coffee grounds, dairy, eggs/eggshells, fats, fish, fruits (pits too!), grease, meat (including bones), nuts/nutshells, oils, shellfish/shells, and vegetables)
- Food soiled paper (e.g., paper coffee filters, napkins, plates, tea bags, and towels, as well as pizza boxes (bottoms only; tops should be recycled!) and wooden chopsticks)
- Pet food (e.g., birdseed, cat food, and dog food)

Cardboard, glass, metal (aluminum/tin), and plastic should be placed in regular recycling containers. Polystyrene should be placed in trash containers.

If an organic cart is full or unavailable for any reason, waste may be placed in a nearby trash container.

## What about green waste?

The Laguna Woods Village Landscape Services Department offers a weekly service to pick up residential green waste. Please place your green waste close the curb, in a single pile; staff cannot go into the back of units or pick up multiple piles. All requests must be made through Laguna Woods Village Resident Services at [residentservices@vmsinc.org](mailto:residentservices@vmsinc.org) or (949) 597-4600 by Thursday at Noon for pick-up on Friday (holidays may affect these hours). If you submit your request after the deadline, your request will be fulfilled as soon as possible the following week. As a reminder, green waste is not permitted to be placed in the regular trash, recycling, or organic containers located throughout Laguna Woods Village.

## Can organic waste be bagged before being placed in an organic cart?

Organic waste may be bagged in compostable or paper bags, or wrapped in newspapers, before being placed in an organic cart. Consider asking for paper bags when shopping for groceries; after groceries are unpacked, those same bags can be used to collect and dispose of organic waste.

## Why is residential organics recycling required? What are the benefits?

In 2016, Governor Brown signed into law Senate Bill 1383, which aims to reduce methane, hydrofluorocarbon gas, and anthropogenic black carbon emissions in a statewide effort to combat climate change and improve public health. Senate Bill 1383 mandates residential organics recycling.

Organic waste in landfills emits 20% of California’s methane, a climate super pollutant 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide, as well as air pollutants like PM<sub>2.5</sub>, which contributes to asthma and other health conditions<sup>1</sup>. By lessening the amount of new organic waste disposed of in landfills, residential organics recycling will reduce the impacts of harmful emissions.

## What happens to organic waste once collected?

Organic waste collected in Laguna Woods is transported to an anaerobic digestion facility where it is converted to renewable natural gas and/or organic compost.



<sup>1</sup> State of California. California’s Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Reduction Strategy, 23 Nov. 2021, <https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/slcp>.



For assistance locating your nearest organic cart, please call CR&R Incorporated at (949) 625-6735 or visit [www.cityoflagunawoods.org/LWVorganics](http://www.cityoflagunawoods.org/LWVorganics).

# ORGANICS

## R E C Y C L I N G

*Bag waste in compostable  
or paper bags, or wrap  
in newspaper*

**YES**

### FOOD

Bones  
Breads  
Coffee Grounds  
Dairy  
Eggs/Eggshells  
Fats  
Fish  
Fruits  
*(pits too!)*  
Grease  
Meat  
Nuts/Nutshells  
Oils  
Shellfish/Shells  
Vegetables

**YES**

### FOOD SOILED PAPER

Coffee Filters  
Napkins  
Plates  
Tea Bags  
Towels  
Pizza Boxes  
*(bottoms only; tops  
should be recycled!)*  
Wooden Chopsticks

### PET FOOD

Birdseed  
Cat Food  
Dog Food



**NO**

**NO  
CARDBOARD**

**NO  
GLASS**

**NO METAL  
(ALUMINUM/TIN)**

**NO  
PET WASTE**

**NO  
PLASTIC**

**NO  
POLYSTYRENE**

**NO**