

# Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling Regulation For State Agencies

Local Assistance and Market  
Development/CalRecycle



# Overview

- Goals & Policy Drivers
- Benefits
- Requirements
- Local Resources
- State Resources
- Questions and Answers

**MANDATORY RECYCLING for BUSINESSES**

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Businesses generate nearly 70% of the solid waste in California.\*  
The State recently passed two laws that make it mandatory for businesses to recycle.

**AB 341**  
**MANDATORY COMMERCIAL RECYCLING LAW**  
AB 341 requires all businesses that generate 4 cubic yards or more of trash per week to arrange for recycling services.

**AB 1826**  
**MANDATORY ORGANICS RECYCLING LAW**  
Starting April 2016, AB 1826 will require businesses that generate 8 cubic yards of organic waste to arrange for organic waste recycling services. **Effective January 2017** this requirement will extend to businesses that generate 4 cubic yards of organic waste.  
*Organics include food, yard trimmings, nonhazardous wood, and food soiled paper.*

**The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works** is conducting free on-site visits to help businesses and food service establishments located within the County unincorporated areas comply with the State's mandatory recycling requirements. Provided here is some useful information about the State's business recycling mandates and how you can arrange for recycling services.

To assist businesses in recycling and complying with State laws, the County has established a commercial waste collection franchise system. Businesses in the County unincorporated areas may contact their authorized commercial waste hauler to receive **FREE** recycling services and arrange for organic waste recycling services.

For more information please visit [www.LACountySWIMS.org](http://www.LACountySWIMS.org) or call 1(800) 993-5844  
For a list of authorized waste haulers, please visit [www.LACountySWIMS.org/haulerlist](http://www.LACountySWIMS.org/haulerlist)  
For a general copy of your Customer Bill of Rights, please visit [www.LACountySWIMS.org/BOR](http://www.LACountySWIMS.org/BOR)

**County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works**  
Monday - Thursday 7:30am - 5:30pm  
(800) 993-5844 | email: [CommercialFranchise@dpoelacounty.gov](mailto:CommercialFranchise@dpoelacounty.gov) | [www.LACountySWIMS.org](http://www.LACountySWIMS.org)

\* EPA, July 2008. Municipal Solid Waste Characterization. Refer to table 1 of report.



# CalRecycle – Direct Policy Drivers

## AB 939

- 50% diversion requirement for jurisdictions

## AB 75

- State agencies integrated waste mgmt. planning and waste diversion goals

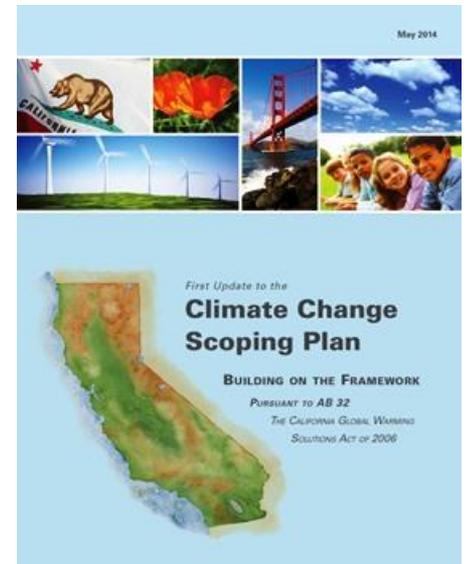
## AB 341

- 75% statewide goal by 2020 (no disposal-based activities)
- Does not change AB 939 & AB 75 requirements for jurisdictions or state agencies, respectively

## AB 1594

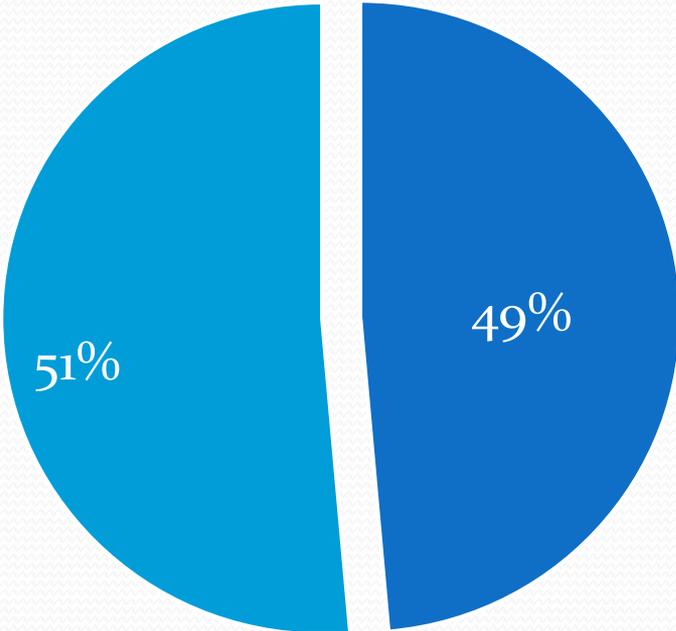
- Organic material as Alternative Daily Cover ≠ recycling

## AB 32 Scoping Plan Update



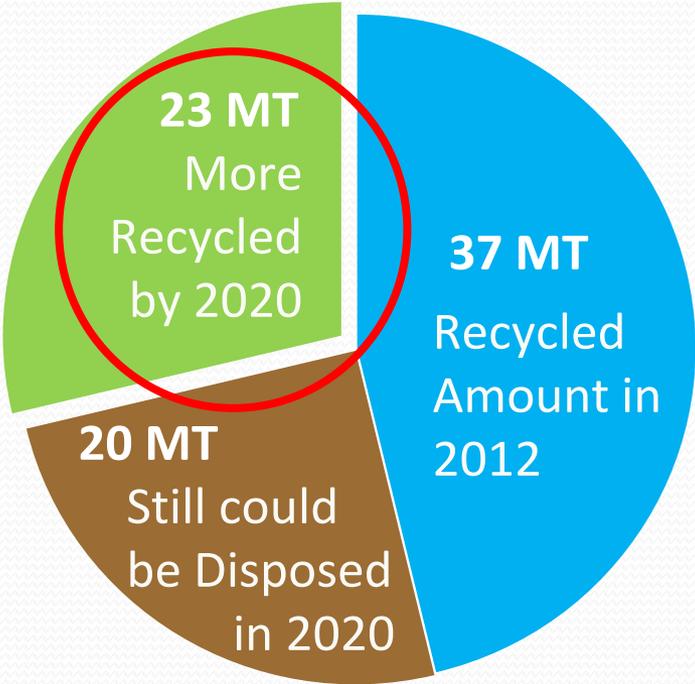
# 75% Initiative

Where Are We Now?



■ Currently Recycled   ■ Currently Disposal-Related Activity

Projected 2020 Tonnages to Reach 75%





# What Will 75% Take?

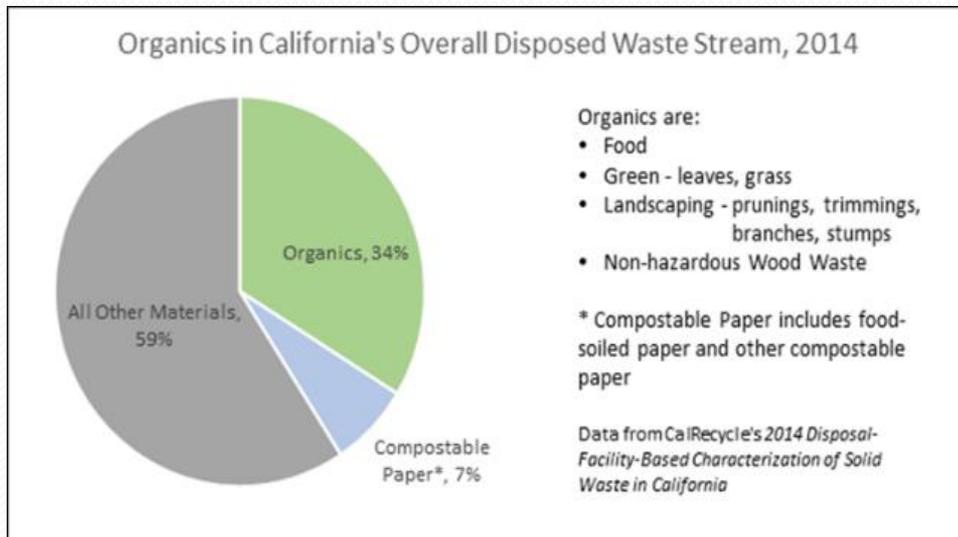
- ▶ Moving > 20 million tons/year out of landfills
- ▶ 1/3 or more organic, plus many traditional recyclables
- ▶ Either overseas or other states OR more infrastructure here in California
  - CalRecycle preference to handle waste in CA
- ▶ 100s of new or expanded facilities

# What Will 75% Take?

- ▶ Moving > 20 million tons/year out of landfills
- ▶ 1/3 or more organic, plus many traditional recyclables
- ▶ New or expanded facilities

# Why Organics?

- ▶ >>30% of total disposal compostable/digestible
- ▶ No way to 75% without it
- ▶ Scoping Plan identifies organics as key player to help meet GHG goals
- If divert 1/2 → 3-4 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>e reduction/year



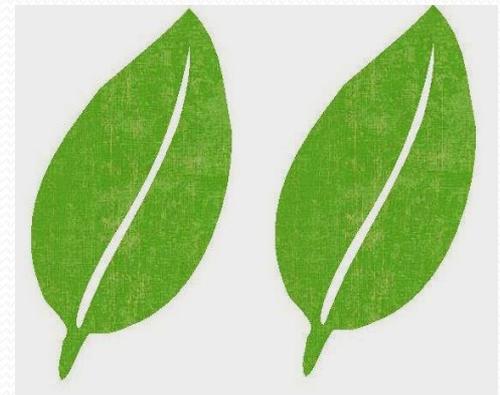


# AB 1826 State Agency Requirements

- ▶ April 2016 - Businesses generating 8 CY organics/week required to have organic waste recycling
  - Jan 2017 - 4 CY/week of organics
  - Jan 2019 - 4 CY/week of solid waste
  - 2020 trigger: CalRecycle can reduce to 2 CY of waste if statewide organics disposal not cut in
  
- *The law defines a business as a* commercial or public entity, including but not limited to a firm, partnership, proprietorship joint stock company, corporation, or association that is organized as a for-profit or nonprofit entity, strip mall (e.g., property complex containing two or more commercial entities), industrial facility, school, school district, *California State University, community colleges, University of California, special district or a federal, state, local, regional agency or facility*, or a multifamily residential dwelling.

# What Must Be Recycled?

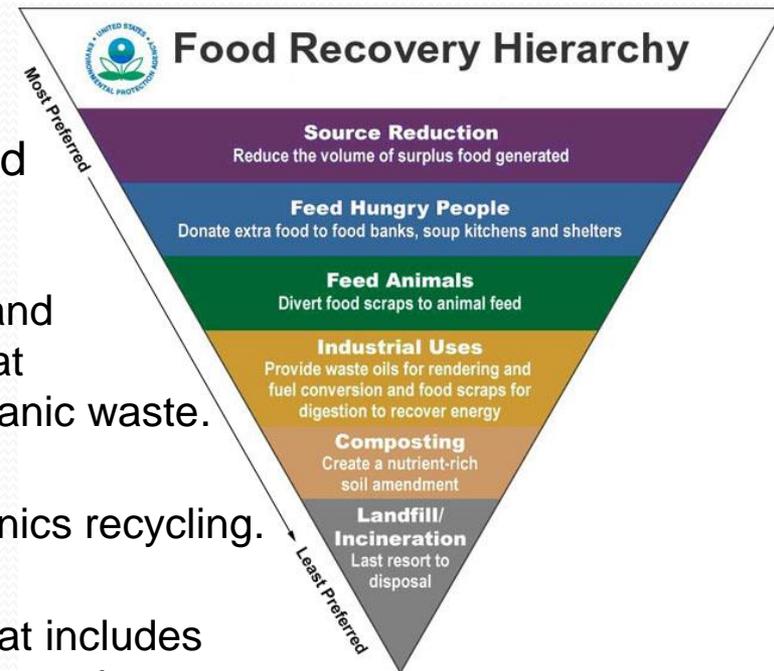
- The law requires that businesses arrange for recycling services for the following types of organic waste:
  - Food waste
  - Green waste
  - Landscape and pruning waste
  - Nonhazardous wood waste
  - Food-soiled paper



# How to Comply?

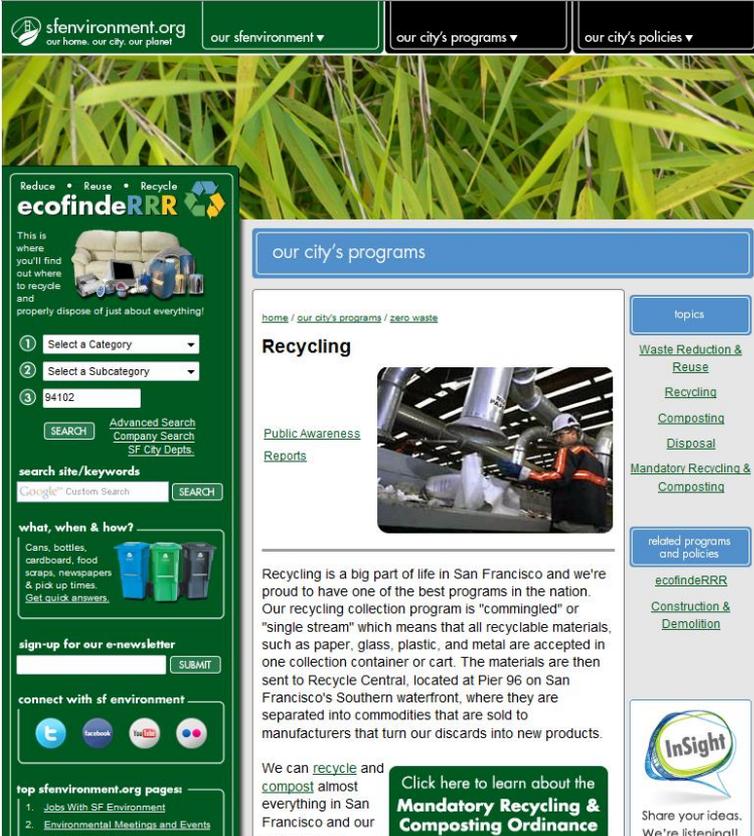
Take one or any combination of the following actions to recycle organics, provided that the action is in compliance with local ordinances and requirements:

- Source-separate organic waste from other waste and subscribe to an organic waste recycling service that specifically includes collection and recycling of organic waste.
- Recycle organic waste onsite, or self-haul for organics recycling.
- Subscribe to an organic waste recycling service that includes mixed-waste processing that specifically recycles organic waste.
- Sell or donate the generated organic waste.
  - ❖ Food bank and food rescue programs



# AB 1826 City/County Requirements

- ▶ Jan 2016 - Implement program
  - Outreach, education, monitoring
  - Organics recycling program
  - May include mandatory recycling via policy or ordinance, franchise agreement or contract, or requiring material to go through MRF
- ▶ Aug 2017 - begin reporting in Annual Reports on ed., outreach, monitoring
  - Including # regulated businesses and # complying; if available, tonnage diverted; facility availability and plans to address barriers



The screenshot displays the website for San Francisco Environment (sfenvironment.org). The top navigation bar includes links for 'our sfenvironment', 'our city's programs', and 'our city's policies'. The main content area is titled 'our city's programs' and features a 'Recycling' section. This section includes a search bar with three steps: 'Select a Category', 'Select a Subcategory', and 'S4102'. Below the search bar is a 'what, when & how?' section with images of recycling bins and text: 'Cans, bottles, cardboard, food scraps, newspapers & pick-up times. Get quick answers.' There is also a 'sign-up for our e-newsletter' form and a 'connect with sf environment' section with social media icons for Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, and LinkedIn. The main text area describes the recycling program as 'commingled' or 'single stream' and mentions 'Recycle Central' at Pier 96. A sidebar on the right lists 'topics' such as 'Waste Reduction & Reuse', 'Recycling', 'Composting', 'Disposal', and 'Mandatory Recycling & Composting'. At the bottom, there is a call to action: 'Click here to learn about the Mandatory Recycling & Composting Ordinance' and an 'InSight' logo with the text 'Share your ideas. We're listening!'.

# CalRecycle Resources

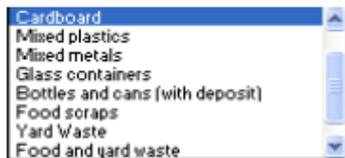
- ✓ Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling (MORe):  
<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/recycle/commercial/organics/>
- ✓ Waste Management for State Agencies:  
<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/stateagency/>
- ✓ CalRecycle Staff and State Agency Contacts:  
<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/StateAgency/Reporting/Contacts.aspx>
- ✓ Mandatory Organics Recycling Frequently Asked Questions:  
<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/StateAgency/WMReport/FAQ.pdf> --  
Questions and answers developed in response to state agency inquiries
- ✓ Steps to Implementing a Successful Waste Reduction Program:  
<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/StateAgency/Assistance/4RsGuide/default.htm>
- ✓ FaCIT— facility directory : <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/FacIT/Project>
- ✓ Commercial Climate Calculator: <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/climate/calculator/>
- ✓ Cool California: <http://www.coolcalifornia.org>
- ✓ California Green Business Program: <http://www.greenbusinessca.org>

# Landscaping Practices

[Management Memo No. 15-06, State Buildings and Grounds Maintenance and Operation](#) (PDF, 157 KB), issued by DGS on Oct. 15, requires "a minimum 3-inch layer of mulch shall be applied on all exposed soil surfaces of planting areas" and other drought-related orders.

- Please see [CalRecycle Compost and Mulch Producers](#) for a list of permitted compost and mulch producers, searchable by county

# Commercial Climate Calculator



Commercial Climate Calculator

## 1. General Business Information

Enter general business information in yellow cells (Step 1.1, required)

Select business type, then fill in yellow cells below

Business Name	<input type="text" value="Example"/>	Full-Time Employee	<input type="text" value="64"/>
Business Sector	<input type="text" value="Wholesale Durables"/>	<a href="#">Click to know your business sector? What here for display</a>	
County	<input type="text" value="Orange"/>		

Select your current recycling programs (select one column) (Step 1.2, required)

No Program	One or More Program(s) (select both boxes if applicable)						
<input type="checkbox"/> Don't currently have recycling	<input type="checkbox"/> Have mixed recycling (all recyclable materials go in one bin) <span style="float: right; font-size: small;">Scroll down</span>						
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Have separate material program(s) (check box and then select material(s) below)						
	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Select: <input type="text" value="Cardboard"/></td> <td style="width: 50%;">Select: <input type="text" value="(select material from list)"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Select: <input type="text" value="(select material from list)"/></td> <td>Select: <input type="text" value="(select material from list)"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Select: <input type="text" value="(select material from list)"/></td> <td>Select: <input type="text" value="(select material from list)"/></td> </tr> </table>	Select: <input type="text" value="Cardboard"/>	Select: <input type="text" value="(select material from list)"/>				
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Select: <input type="text" value="(select material from list)"/>	Select: <input type="text" value="(select material from list)"/>						

Have you entered all of the required information? (error check for Steps 1.1 and 1.2)

Yes, you have entered all of the required information  
Please proceed to the next question below.

Do you have any information about the amount, cost, or type of your current trash or recycling? (Step 1.3, optional)

**NO:** [Click here to evaluate the benefits of recycling or eliminating your trash](#)  
**YES:** [Click here to enter current trash information that is different than industry averages.\\*](#)  
[Click here to enter current recycling information that is different than industry averages.\\*](#)

\* The estimates provided in the calculator for your trash quantity, cost, and makeup are based on the best available information for your business sector. However, these estimates reflect average trash data for businesses with varying levels of recycling and in different regions of the state. The averages may not accurately represent your business's trash.

### 4. Future Benefits of Recycling & Reduction



Check out the benefits (Step 4.1, required)

Use the table below to evaluate the benefits you can achieve by reducing your current trash that is landfilled. To use this table:

Review the "Current" section of the table, which is based on the information about your business, trash, and recycling that you have already entered.

Enter a new, higher recycling rate and/or enter the percent of your trash that you would like to reduce in the yellow action cells in the "Future Actions" section (refer to the Glossary and Guidelines pages for more information about these two types of actions).

The "Results" section and bar charts below the table summarize the trash, cost, and footprint savings<sup>1</sup> for you!

Evaluate Future Actions: Example

[Click here for guidelines about actions](#)

[Recycling and waste reduction are different; click here for details](#)

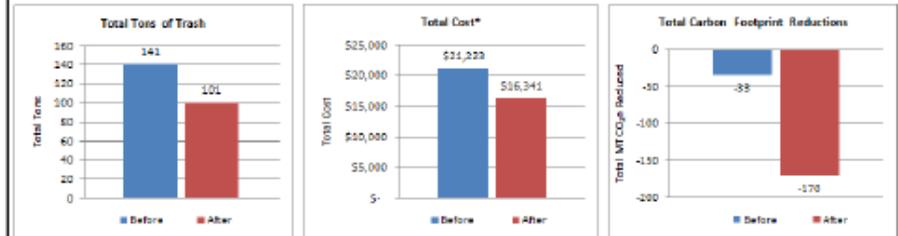
Materials	Current				Total Cost Savings <sup>1</sup>	Current Footprint (Reduct)	Future Actions		Results		
	Annual Trash Tons	Annual Recycling Tons	Annual Total Material Tons	Annual Recycling Rate %			Increase Recycling Rate to %	Reduce % of Total Material	Additional Trash Reduced Tons	Additional Cost Savings <sup>1</sup>	Additional Footprint Reductions
Cardboard	7.0	9.8	17.2	56%	\$789	\$5.1	75%	3.3	\$271	31.57	
Paper	13.5	0.0	13.5	0%	\$0	0.0	10%	3.3	\$187	30.03	
Mixed Metals	20.0	0.0	20.0	0%	\$0	0.0	50%	13.3	\$1,887	71.55	
Mixed Plastics	0.0	0.0	0.0	0%	\$0	0.0		0.0	\$0	0.00	
Glass	3.9	0.0	3.9	0%	\$0	0.0		0.0	\$0	0.00	
Food Scraps	2.1	0.0	2.1	0%	\$0	0.0		0.0	\$0	0.00	
Yard Waste	0.0	0.0	0.0	0%	\$0	0.0		0.0	\$0	0.00	
Wood (pallets, etc.)	45.2	0.0	45.2	0%	\$0	0.0	50%	22.6	\$2,358	45.72	
Other	45.3	0.0	45.3	0%				0.0	\$0	0.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>141.4</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>151.0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>\$789</b>	<b>\$5.1</b>		<b>40.3</b>	<b>\$4,885</b>	<b>136.7</b>	

Source: reduction cost savings  Enter the amount of money that you will save each year by not paying to send materials to landfill.

If you enter your local service rates and you would like to enter these into the calculator for more accurate cost savings results, click here.

Saves \$/year

What do your savings look like?



\*Note: Cost savings in the "Evaluate Future Actions" table include the savings you achieve by not having to pay the cost of disposal for materials that you move out of the trash. Costs in the "Total Cost" graph above reflect your estimated current and future disposal and recycling costs.

What do my carbon footprint savings mean?

MT CO<sub>2</sub>e stands for metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent. This is the standard unit used to measure a carbon footprint. Tons of carbon dioxide, methane, and other greenhouse gases are all accounted for and converted to MT CO<sub>2</sub>e. These gases are emitted when you dispose and recycle.

It can be difficult to visualize what a MT CO<sub>2</sub>e really means. For this reason, your additional and total future emission reductions, including your current estimated emission reductions and any reductions from future actions, are shown below in easier-to-understand terms.

	Saving	Additional	Total	metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> e is roughly equal to:
Annual cigarette emissions from	26	32	32	U.S. cigs.
Emissions from the electricity use of	17	31	31	U.S. homes over a year.
Emissions from	318	395	395	barrels of oil consumed.
The carbon dioxide captured by	3,504	4,353	4,353	tree seedlings grown over 10 years.

# CoolCalifornia (ARB)

The image shows two side-by-side screenshots of the CoolCalifornia.org website. The left screenshot displays the 'Small Business' section, featuring a navigation menu, a search bar, and a main content area with a collage of business-related images and a text block about the importance of small businesses. Below the text are four call-to-action boxes: 'Calculate Your Footprint', 'Apply Now!', 'What You Can Do', and 'Funding Wizard'. The right screenshot displays the 'Carbon Footprint Calculator' section, featuring a navigation menu, a search bar, and a main content area with a heading 'CARBON FOOTPRINT CALCULATOR Enterprise Edition Beta' and a row of six icons representing different categories: Introduction, Transportation, Facilities, Procurement, Summary, and Take Action. Below the icons are links for 'terms of use', 'Documentation', 'FAQ', and 'Tell us what you think!'.

**CoolCalifornia.org** Simple steps for a sustainable future

Sign In | Sign up | Calculator | All Communities

Keyword Search:  **GO**  
[Advanced Search](#)

HOME | DASHBOARD | INDIVIDUALS | SMALL BUSINESS | LOCAL GOVERNMENT | SCHOOLS | COMMUNITY CHALLENGE | ABOUT US

Home > **Small Business**

## SMALL BUSINESS

EMAIL THIS SHARE THIS

California small businesses are an important driver of California's economy. All businesses use energy, produce goods and services, and have employees who commute/travel for work. These activities produce greenhouse gas emissions. To facilitate voluntary greenhouse gas emission reductions in a cost effective way, resources on our site have been developed to help small businesses save money and limit their environmental impact.

**CALCULATE YOUR FOOTPRINT**

- Create a business profile to save your footprint
- Use the calculator
- Looking for a quick look? Use the widget

**APPLY NOW!**

**SMALL BUSINESS award** Application deadline is February 29, 2012.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO**

- Tips and actions to help you reduce your footprint
- Get an energy makeover for your business
- See what other businesses are doing

**FUNDING WIZARD**

Search for rebates and incentives for projects!

**CoolCalifornia.org** Simple steps for a sustainable future

Sign In | Sign up | Calculator | All Communities

Keyword Search:  **GO**  
[Advanced Search](#)

HOME | DASHBOARD | INDIVIDUALS | SMALL BUSINESS | LOCAL GOVERNMENT | SCHOOLS | COMMUNITY CHALLENGE | ABOUT US

## CARBON FOOTPRINT CALCULATOR

Enterprise Edition Beta

INTRODUCTION | TRANSPORTATION | FACILITIES | PROCUREMENT | SUMMARY | TAKE ACTION

[terms of use](#) | [Documentation](#) | [FAQ](#) | [Tell us what you think!](#)

# California Green Business Program

## California Green Business Program

Staff login



HOME

FIND GREEN BUSINESSES

APPLY TO BE A GREEN BUSINESS

Start a program

Resources & FAQs

Green Tips

About Us

Contact Us

## Look what we've achieved!

Click on the bars to find out how much we have saved:

Average Annual  
Business Savings

or

Annual Savings for  
all Businesses

### 01 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Saved

This year, the California Green Business Program has saved **822,677** metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> with a total savings of **\$3,083,277**.

That's the equivalent of planting **43,583** acres of urban trees a year for ten years.



2 8 0 0

Number of Certified Green Businesses in California today

## Find Green Businesses

Looking for efficient businesses that incorporate green practices and consciously conserve resources? Select from the criteria below to find specific Green businesses near you!

Type of Business: All



City: All



## Apply to Be a Green Business

Grow with us! **Green** business is **smart** business. Find out how to incorporate green practices in to your own business and discover how to conserve resources and become more efficient.

Apply now to join the program!



## **For More Information:**

**Contact your Local Assistance and Market Development Liaison:**

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/LGCentral/Reports/Contacts.aspx>

**CalRecycle's web page at:**

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/recycle/commercial/organics/>