

Eastern Kern Universal Collection Area

Commercial Business Waste and Recycling Service Guide

Proud to Serve Kern County

WM and the Kern County are proud to present this service guide for commercial collection services in the Eastern Kern Universal Collection Area (EKUCA). Services and rates are effective July 1, 2025.

Service Overview

All commercial properties must arrange for containers for both recycling and organic waste recycling (including food waste and green waste). Certain commercial properties may qualify for waivers from these mandatory programs. Some properties may qualify for waivers due to de minimis volumes of organic waste generation or those with severe space restrictions that prevent placement of one or more required containers.

Recycling Collection

In accordance with California's Short-Lived Climate Pollutants regulations under State Senate Bill (SB) 1383, businesses must participate in a recycling program by subscribing to recycling services or, in lieu of service, receiving a waiver exemption from the Kern County Public Works Department.



Organic Waste Collection

Also, in accordance with California's Short-Lived Climate Pollutants regulations under State Senate Bill (SB) 1383, businesses must participate in a program to recycle their organic waste (food waste, food scraps, food-soiled paper, and yard waste) by subscribing to organic waste recycling service or, in lieu of service, receiving a waiver exemption from the Kern County Public Works Department (See below).



To assist businesses in complying with SB 1383, WM is proud to offer recycling and organic waste recycling services to meet your needs. To get started, contact Customer Service to schedule a site visit with a WM Recycling Manager.

Trash Collection

Regardless of the size of your business, WM can create a customized collection program that meets your needs and protects the environment. Trash containers are available in a variety of sizes, including 96-gallon carts, 1.5-, 3-, and 6-cubic yard dumpsters. Roll-off containers and compactor services are also available.



Container Color Transition

SB 1383 requires that collection container be uniform colors across the state by 2036. In the Eastern Kern Universal Collection Area (EKUCA), existing carts and bins will be gradually transitioning to the new color scheme—recycling carts will have a blue lid, recycling dumpsters will have a blue body with black lid, organic waste carts will have a green lid, and trash containers will have a black body with a black lid. We will make these changes gradually to minimize disruption to your service. Please make sure you check the lid or label for instructions on how to use the container correctly and avoid contamination.



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Kern County Public Works – Commercial Generator Waiver Program

State regulations allow Kern County to grant waivers from one or both recycling containers to qualifying businesses. However, only those who have completed a waiver application and received approval from Kern County Public Works can avoid mandatory participation. A site visit to your business is required. If a waiver is not approved by Kern County Public Works, your business will be required to have the mandatory service. There are two (2) types of waivers that can be requested:

De Minimis Waiver

Businesses that generate below a certain amount of organic waste material may qualify if either of the following conditions are met:

The total solid waste collection service is two (2) cubic yards or more per week and organic waste comprises less than twenty (20) gallons per week.

The total solid waste collection service is less than two (2) cubic yards per week and organic waste comprises less than ten (10) gallons per week.

Space Constraint Waiver

Businesses that lack the physical space for a separate or additional organic waste and/or recycling container may qualify if the business is able to demonstrate the space constraints cannot be resolved by changing container sizes or locations. Kern County requires that all applicants for this waiver work with their hauler first, before beginning the waiver process. Proof of working with the hauler is required when completing the application.

If you believe your business may qualify for either of these waivers, please visit www.kernpublicworks.com/organics to complete the online waiver application.

Holiday Schedule

Collection does not occur on the following holidays:

- New Year's Day (January 1)
- Memorial Day (Last Monday in May)
- Independence Day (July 4)
- Labor Day (1st Monday in September)
- Thanksgiving Day (4th Thursday in November)
- Christmas Day (December 25)

When a holiday falls on a weekday, your collection will be delayed by one day for the remainder of the week.

If a holiday falls on Saturday or Sunday, there will be no delay in service.



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Account Management

- You can conveniently and securely manage your My WM account on WM's website, wm.com or **business.wm.com/kern-county**, or through the My WM mobile app for your Apple or Android device.
- WM commercial customers are invoiced for services on a monthly basis. Payments can be made via the web or mobile app, by mail, in-person via a drop box or over the phone:
- Website/Mobile App: **business.wm.com/kern-county** or My WM mobile app
- Mail: Waste Management, P.O. Box 541065, Los Angeles, CA 90054-1065
- Drop-off: 416 N. Dennison Rd., Tehachapi, Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Phone: (661) 947-7197

Monthly Service Rates

Service rates effective July 1, 2025

Trash Service Rates					
Size or Type	Frequency of Collections per Week				
	1	2	3	4	5
96-Gallon Cart	\$60.87				
1.5 Cubic Yard Bin	\$153.25	\$239.49	\$325.73	\$411.97	\$498.21
3 Cubic Yard Bin	\$232.70	\$346.81	\$460.92	\$575.03	\$689.14
6 Cubic Yard Bin	\$394.91	\$595.48	\$796.05	\$996.62	\$1,197.19

Recycle Service Rates					
Size or Type	Frequency of Collections per Week				
	1	2	3	4	5
96-Gallon Cart Every-Other-Week	\$32.69				
3 Cubic Yard Bin	\$161.36	\$314.65	\$467.94	\$621.23	\$774.52

Organic Waste Service Rates	
Size or Type	Frequency of Collections per Week
	1
96-Gallon Cart	\$68.36
Each Additional 96-Gallon Cart	\$64.94

** The trash rates shown above include WM's hauling charges as well as the \$1.00 Kern County monthly administrative fee per commercial unit. They do not include Kern County bin fees, which are set by and paid to Kern County. Bin fees apply only to trash and organics services and vary based on container size.



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Organics | Recycling | Trash

Right Materials - Right Container - Know Which Container to Use

SB 1383 aims to slow climate change by diverting organic materials from landfills, recovering 20% of edible food, and redirecting it to food-insecure Californians. Organic waste in landfills emits 20% of the state's methane, a climate super pollutant that heats 84 times more than carbon dioxide*. (*CalRecycle, <https://calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/slcp>)

What Goes in the Organics Container:



Food Waste



Yard Waste



Produce



Food Soiled Paper,
Coffee Filters & Tea Bags



Meat, Fish & Poultry



Dairy



Bread, Pasta, Rice,
Grains, Coffee Grounds



Do Not Include:

Plastic Bags or Film
Serveware/Utensils
Plastic Containers
Foam Containers
Hazardous Waste
Fats, Oils, or Greases

You may use a paper bag, a compostable bag that meets ASTM D6400 standards or place organic waste loosely in the cart.

What Goes in the Recycling Container:



Plastic Bottles, Cups & Containers



Food & Beverage Cans



Glass Bottles & Containers



Paper & Paper
Cups



Flattened Cardboard &
Paperboard



Do Not Include:

Food Or Liquids
Plastic Bags or Film
Foam Containers
Clothing, Furniture or Carpet
Batteries
Electronics
Hazardous Waste
Yard Waste

Place recyclables directly into your recycling cart - Don't bag your recycling materials.

What Goes in the Trash Container



Foam Cups,
Containers & Straws



Garden Hose



Broken Ceramic
Dishes & Pots



Candy, Snack &
Food Wrappers



Plastic Bags & Film



Diapers



Pet Waste



Clothing & Textiles



Do Not Include:

Organics/Recyclables
Hazardous Waste
Electronics & CFL Bulbs
Batteries, Tires or Paint
Flammable Material



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