

County of Orange

Recycling News Fall 2025

Proudly serving the communities of: Coto de Caza, Cowan Heights, Emerald Bay, Ladera Ranch, Las Flores, North Tustin, Orange Park Acres and the Canyons



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choose paperless billing. Be sure to update your contact info so you never miss important service updates!



Recycling



Organic



Trash

Senate Bill 1383

Since January 1, 2022, all Orange County residents are required by state law (SB 1383) to separate food waste from trash and place it in their green organics cart along with yard waste. Each household should have three carts: one for trash, one for recycling, and one for organics.

To align with statewide standards by 2036, all carts will eventually have uniform colors:

- Green lid for organics (food and yard waste)
- Blue lid for recycling
- Black lid for trash

These changes will happen gradually. When you receive new carts, remember to “Check the Lid” for correct sorting guidelines.

Need to replace a broken cart? Contact WM Customer Service at wm.com/support or cslosangeles@wm.com.

Senior & Low-Income Discounts Available

Qualifying seniors are eligible to receive a discount of approximately 10% off their waste collection bill.



How do I qualify for the Senior Discount?

- Must provide proof of 65 years of age or older
- Must be head of household
- Must use 35-gallon carts only

How do I qualify for the Low-Income Discount?

- Must provide proof of low income by being enrolled in “California Lifeline” telephone program or CARE/FERA program, or by submitting a copy of utility bill showing a low-income discount
- Must have name on utility bill or another low-income program
- Must be head of household

For more information and to receive a copy of the Senior/Low-Income Discount Form, please visit home.wm.com/orange-county.

Pumpkins, Pie, and Planet-Friendly Practices!

As we enjoy the flavors of fall and festive pumpkin carving, let’s not forget about sustainability! Leftover food and pumpkin scraps can be



composted instead of heading to the landfill, reducing methane emissions and enriching soil. Be sure to remove candles or decorations before placing pumpkins in your green lid organics container. Small changes like this help us celebrate the season responsibly and reduce waste.



For More Information visit
home.wm.com/orange-county



Leftover Thanksgiving Cooking Oil? Recycle It!

Don't pour it down the drain—Orange County residents can recycle up to 5 gallons of used cooking oil at any of the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Centers below:

Anaheim - 1071 N. Blue Gum Street | Anaheim, CA. 92806

Irvine - 6411 Oak Canyon | Irvine, CA. 92618

Huntington Beach - 17121 Nichols Street - Gate 6, Huntington Beach, CA. 92647

San Juan Capistrano - 32250 Avenida La Pata | San Juan Capistrano, CA. 92675

The centers listed above are open Tuesday - Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Closed holidays and rainy days).

For smaller amounts, cool the oil, seal it in a container, and mix with kitty litter or sawdust before placing it in the trash.

Learn more: oclandfills.com/hazardous or call (714) 834-4000.

Holiday Tree Recycling

WM will collect and recycle Christmas trees, starting on December 26, for three (3) consecutive weeks at no additional charge. Trees will be collected at the curb and picked up by special flatbed trucks. After the three-week period, you may cut your tree and place the pieces in your green waste cart with the lid completely closed.

- Trees taller than six (6) feet must be cut in half.
- Please remove all decorations including tinsel, lights, ornaments and tree stands.
- Flocked trees will be collected but not recycled.



Free Bulky Item Pick-Ups

Residents in Unincorporated Orange County are eligible for three (3) free bulky item pickups per year, with up to four (4) items per pickup. Accepted items include furniture, appliances, or up to 20 bags of trash or green waste. Electronic waste—such as TVs, computers, monitors, and DVD players—is also accepted.

To schedule a pickup, visit home.wm.com/orange-county. Please book at least two business days before your regular collection day.

Weekly Organics Recycling

Please remember recycled food scraps can also go into your yard trimmings in your existing green waste container. Continue to Recycle Right – Here is a list of acceptable/unacceptable items:



Food Waste



Produce



Food Soiled Paper, Coffee Filters & Tea Bags



Meat, Fish & Poultry



Dairy Products and Eggshells



Bread, Pasta, Rice, Grains, Coffee Grounds



Yard Waste (Grass, Leaves, Brush, & Tree Branches) and Sawdust

Do Not Include:

Plastic Bags
Plastic Bags or Film
Food Packaging Material
Serveware/Utensils
Plastic Containers
Foam Containers

Hazardous Waste
Fats, Oils, or Greases
Glass | Metal | Rubber
Silverware/Dishware
Animal Waste
Soil or Rocks

Holiday Schedule

WM observes the following holidays.

New Year's Day | Memorial Day | Independence Day Labor Day | Thanksgiving Day | Christmas Day

Residential collection service will be delayed one day following the above holidays. If a holiday falls on a Saturday or Sunday, there will be no delay.



For More Information visit
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