

Enhanced Waste Management Services in Hawaiian Gardens

Waste Resources (WR) took over the City of Hawaiian Gardens franchise in late 2019. In 2021, the agreement was updated to include elements of Senate Bill 1383, which allowed for new and expanded programs and services. In 2022, the City converted to a mandatory three-container system for all cart and bin customers and converted the green container to accept mixed organics. Blue-lid recycling carts were delivered with a tag that showed people what went in the blue and green containers. Extra recycling carts are free for residents, but only the first extra organics cart is free. There is a charge for additional carts.

Kitchen pails to collect food waste in the home are now available. Food waste and food-soiled paper are bagged by customers and placed in the green container. At WR's material recovery facility, the material is debagged and either converted into a slurry for off-site anaerobic digestion or processed in the on-site aerobic digester that makes a pre-compost.

Regarding bags, WR likes a clear bag so sorting crews can quickly identify contaminants or items that will damage their processing equipment. This also benefits customers who do not have to put food scraps in the freezer to keep odors down or devise creative ways to keep vermin at bay. The switch to a mandatory three-container system has seen organics collection jump over 25 percent in one year.

In 2024, WR started hosting compost giveaways. With continuous public education efforts through various media, we hope to continue this upward trend to divert more and dispose less.

In addition to the above, WR provides Hawaiian Gardens with other typical program elements:

- Bulky item collection five times per year, six items per pickup.
- Separate Christmas tree collection runs for four weeks after Christmas.
- E-waste collection is included in the bulky item program.
- Free pre-paid postage mail-back sharps kits for residential customers are limited to four per year.
- Free valet service for disabled residents.
- Senior discounts for trash service.
- Free collection of solid waste for all City facilities and City-sponsored events.
- Edible Food Recovery program assistance.
- Neighborhood cleanup events throughout the year.

For more information on the City of Hawaiian Gardens' residential services, visit <https://wasteresources.com/residential/hg/>.





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