



# GreenWays

THE QUARTERLY RESIDENTIAL NEWSLETTER FROM GREENWASTE OF PALO ALTO **SPRING 2022**

## SENATE BILL 1383: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

California Senate Bill 1383, which took effect January 1, 2022, created state-wide goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by limiting organic waste, such as food, from being disposed of in landfills. Landfills are the third largest producers of methane in California, responsible for 20% of the state's methane emissions. SB 1383 aims to decrease the amount of organic waste going to landfills and increase the recovery of edible food to not only fight the production of greenhouse gases, but feed people!

**Palo Alto already meets most of these requirements through its existing Zero Waste programs and ordinances. To be fully compliant, Palo Alto will have to take the following actions:**

- » Establish an edible food recovery program, including a new ordinance requiring food generating businesses, like grocery stores to recover the food they generate to feed people instead of disposing of it.
- » Increase City procurement of products made from recovered organic waste (e.g., compost, mulch, and energy derived from organic waste).
- » Adjust the Zero Waste enforcement program to incorporate the new monitoring and compliance requirements.



As a resident, please continue placing all your food scraps, yard trimmings, and food soiled paper in your green compost collection containers. These materials are processed at a local anaerobic digester to create renewable energy and rich soil amendment.

For more information, visit [www.cityofpaloalto.org/SB1383regulations](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/SB1383regulations), email [zerowaste@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:zerowaste@cityofpaloalto.org), or call (650) 496-5910.

## GREENWASTE HIGHLIGHTS

- **CITY WIDE YARD SALE - JUNE 4:** Donating, buying, or selling reusable items is one of the best ways to reduce waste and keep usable items out of the landfill.

To sign up for a sale location, register at [www.paloaltoonline.com/yardsale](http://www.paloaltoonline.com/yardsale) or call (650) 496-5910. Registration opens April 1, 2022.

A full-page ad with sale locations and merchandise will be available in the June 3, 2022 edition of the Palo Alto Weekly.

Maps and sale listings also available online by May 31, 2022, at [www.paloaltoonline.com/yardsale](http://www.paloaltoonline.com/yardsale).

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **COMPOST BASICS WORKSHOP:** Saturday, April 23, 10am-12pm  
Lucie Stern Community Center, Community Room  
1305 Middlefield Rd, Palo Alto
- **WORM COMPOSTING WORKSHOP:** Sunday, May 22, 10am-12pm  
Lucie Stern Community Center, Community Room  
1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto

for program  
information

**ZERO WASTE PALO ALTO**  
650.496.5910  
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find us on  
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# ZERO WASTE EARTH DAY TIPS

Earth Day began in 1970 from the birth of the modern environmental movement as a response to the vast amounts of leaded gas, industrial pollution, and sludge that were being produced.

Held every year on April 22, the world comes together for this international holiday to celebrate the earth, the environment, and ways we can protect it. This year's theme is "Invest in Our Planet".

Here are some Zero Waste centered ways you can invest in our planet:

- » Brush up on essential zero waste practices such as waste reduction, switching to reusables, and properly composting and recycling. Check out the Zero Waste Toolkit at [www.cityofpaloalto.org/wgwtools](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/wgwtools) for more information and tips.
- » Start composting in your backyard! Palo Alto residents can receive a free compost bin by attending a compost workshop. The compost workshop schedule can be found online at [www.cityofpaloalto.org/compost](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/compost).



- » Give your reusable furniture, books, CDs/DVDs, and clothing a second life by donating these items to local donation centers. Nearby donation centers can be found at [www.resource.stopwaste.org](http://www.resource.stopwaste.org). These items can also be donated through the Palo Alto residential Clean Up Day program. For more information, visit [www.greenwasteofpaloalto.com/cleanupday](http://www.greenwasteofpaloalto.com/cleanupday).
- » Become a Zero Waste Block Leader in your neighborhood! Zero Waste Block Leaders are "experts" who help answer recycling and reuse questions, provide information to neighbors on ways to reduce household waste, and help Palo Altans act on moving closer to zero waste. Find more info at [www.cityofpaloalto.org/zwbl](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/zwbl).
- » Participate in local Earth Day events!



## NEW FOODWARE REQUIREMENTS

The City of Palo Alto is amending its existing Disposable Foodware Ordinance to better meet California Assembly Bill 1276 requirements for single-use disposable foodware.

These requirements help reduce unnecessary waste and litter, protect local watersheds and oceans, and encourage Zero Waste.

### Currently required in Palo Alto:

- » All disposable utensils, straws, stirrers, drink plugs, and other small foodware provided must be reusable or compostable.
- » Single-use disposable foodware accessories must be provided upon request or via a self-serve station.

### Beginning June 1, 2022:

- » Foodware or condiments cannot be bundled or packaged together. This eliminates the extra waste created when providing customers with a spoon and a knife when they only needed a fork.
- » Third-party delivery platforms and restaurants must list individual foodware items and condiments in their menu for customers to "opt-in" for online orders.
- » Condiments must only be provided upon request or via a self-serve station or refillable dispenser, except at drive-thru windows where employees may ask the customers' preferences.

For more information on Palo Alto's Disposable Foodware Ordinance, visit [www.cityofpaloalto.org/foodware](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/foodware).



## COMPOST GIVEAWAY STATION

It's time to start your plantings for your spring garden!

With FREE compost available for Palo Alto residents at the Eleanor Pardee Community Garden, you can treat your plants to good quality compost that improves your soil and enhances your garden's health and vitality!

### LOCATION:

Eleanor Pardee Community Garden, 851 Center Road

### HOURS:

Tuesday – Sunday,  
9am – 4pm

### GUIDELINES:

- » Bring your own shovel and containers to put the compost in
- » Only one car is allowed at the compost pile at a time
- » Pickup limited to 96 gallons worth of compost per week
- » Drive carefully – gardeners and pedestrians are in the area to enjoy the garden
- » Compost is available while supplies last



Since the first delivery in June 2020, over 1,400 cubic yards of compost have been distributed to and used by Palo Alto residents!