A publication for County of Santa Cruz Green Waste Recovery Commercial Customers



Spring 2023

# **CELEBRATE EARTH DAY 2023**

Earth Day celebrates the earth and our environment. What can you do to protect and promote our planet earth? From planting a garden to doing a cleanup at a school playground, or right in your own neighborhood, it's easy and fun to make a difference. Invite your employees, family and friends to participate in these Earth Day events happening in Santa Cruz and Watsonville areas:



#### SAVE OUR SHORES CLEANUPS

Saturday, April 22nd

- Cowell Beach 9-11 AM
- San Lorenzo River Levee 10 AM-12 PM
- ◆ For more information and to register



Saturday, April 22nd

Cooper Street • 12-4 PM • www.scearthday.org

#### **EARTH DAY WATSONVILLE 2023**

Sunday, April 23rd

Watsonville Plaza • 12-4 PM

- Participate in games and activities relating to climate action and climate solutions
- Learn about local resources to reduce their carbon footprint and become more resilient to climate change
- Be inspired to take part in our local efforts to make Watsonville more resilient to climate change





### Trash Overflow? AUDIT TIME!

Check your bins to make sure your team is not contaminating trash with recycling and food scraps; these items have a place of their own.

Set yourself up for success! Set up **Sorting Stations** inside the business, break room and/or kitchen to make it easy to place recycling in the blue recycle container and food scraps in the green organics container. If any help or training is needed, call **831-454-2160** and ask for a Trash Twin, or email **zerowaste@santacruzcounty.us** 



Contact GreenWaste, P.O. Box 11089, San Jose, CA 95103-1089

We at GreenWaste "Think Differently" and appreciate your suggestions and comments. Please call us today and let us know how we are doing at (800) 665-2209 or (831) 426-2711, or visit us on the web at www.greenwaste.com

## Short-Lived Climate Pollutants Law SB 1383 Now in Effect

Across the State, we are working toward a 75% reduction in food and yard waste sent to landfills and a 20% increase in edible food recovery. Organic materials decomposing in the landfill create methane gas, and in order to reduce organic materials in the landfill, all businesses are required to collect and place food scraps in their green organics container along with any yard trimmings. Shifting food scraps and yard waste from the landfill will help put carbon back into the soil to help prevent climate change.



In addition to diverting organic materials to composting programs, State law also requires edible food generators to send surplus edible food to food recovery organizations. To determine if your business is required to participate, visit calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/slcp/foodrecovery/donors/

# **CONSPICUOUS CONTAINERS AB 827**



Businesses must provide organic/food scrap collection and recycle containers services for employees, tenants, contractors, and customers. To reduce contamination, businesses must periodically inspect the waste stream and must provide education to all the above-mentioned parties how to properly sort materials into the correct containers. Have a few grabbers and gloves for employees to correctly sort any waste that was put in the wrong can.

A container with mixed waste such as recyclables, food scraps, and trash may be turned away from the landfill due to contamination. The Zero Waste Team at the County of Santa Cruz Public Works can assist you in staff training and brief you on how to sort and reduce your materials. Request training at zerowaste@santacruzcounty.us

## **WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

Take our survey:



https://forms.gle/4VbUjEUe3BppAek19



# THANK YOU FOR HELPING STOP ILLEGAL DUMPING

Use the My Santa Cruz County app to report illegal dumping





