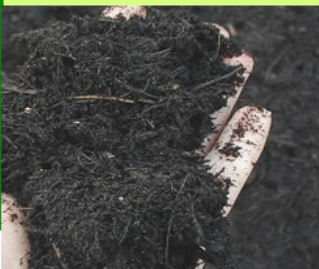




Food waste is accepted at the City of San Diego's Miramar Greenery for a discounted tipping fee. It is processed into a rich compost product for use as an amendment to improve soil texture and increase both nutrients and water holding capacity.

**Benefits of Compost:**

- Helps save money by conserving water and reducing the need to purchase commercial fertilizers
- Improves soil health and fertility
- Prevents erosion
- Helps the environment by recycling valuable organic materials and extending the life of the Miramar Landfill



# How to Implement A Commercial Food Waste Composting Program (single generator)



City of San Diego Environmental Services Department  
[www.recyclingworks.com](http://www.recyclingworks.com)

## Step 1: In the Kitchen

Assign food waste containers in the kitchen.



Different colored containers make it easier for staff to separate food waste, recyclable commodities and trash. Place containers in easily accessible areas.



## Step 2: What Goes In The Food Waste Container

- All food waste, soiled paper towels and napkins.
- **No** biodegradables plates, cups and utensils accepted.

**YES**

- All fruits, vegetables
- All pasta, grains, bread, coffee grounds, cheese, pastry, rice, beans
- All trimmings and cooked meat poultry, seafood, shellfish, bones, eggs
- All coffee filters, paper towels and soiled paper

**NO**

- Oil, grease, and fats
- Plastic bags and films
- Cans
- Glass
- Packing and cardboard
- Paper and biodegradable, plates, cups and utensils

## Step 3: Outside Storage



Once the kitchen bins are full, take the load to an outside dumpster, roll-off or compactor, or any other "end dump" containers.

Compactors can be adapted to have a mechanical arm that lifts the 32 gallon indoor containers eliminating the risk of staff injuries.



After emptying the indoor containers, rinse them thoroughly before putting them back in the kitchen to avoid undesirable odors.

The hauler will clean the outdoor containers.

Drains should have a special drain cover to capture the food scraps rinsed from the containers to avoid clogging the drain and being in violation of Storm Water regulations



## Route Participant Expectations

The City of San Diego Environmental Services Department can provide free technical assistance for your program.

For more information call 858-694-7000

[www.recyclingworks.com](http://www.recyclingworks.com)

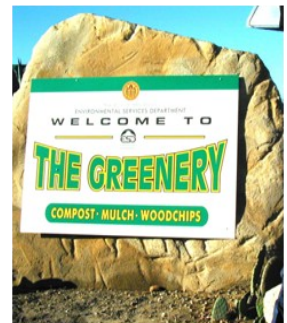


Above pictures courtesy from food waste programs at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Sea World San Diego, and SDSU

- Fulfillment of training requirements
- All food waste collection bins must be properly labeled
- Dumpsters must have "FOOD WASTE" stenciled on front
- Permanent probation regarding contamination
- Commitment to hauling schedule

### To Start Your Program

- Schedule a preliminary meeting with Environmental Services (ESD) Staff
- Complete all site preparations, label all bins and post signs
- Schedule staff training conducted by ESD staff
- Conduct two follow-up staff trainings within 1<sup>st</sup> year
- Follow-up staff training as needed



Composting food waste at the Miramar Greenery

