

IWMA Resource Allocation Program Rules

The San Luis Obispo County Integrated Waste Management Authority (IWMA) is a government entity formed through a Joint Powers Authority, governed by a 9-person Board of elected officials from cities of Arroyo Grande, Atascadero, Grover Beach, Morro Bay, Paso Robles, Pismo Beach, San Luis Obispo, County of San Luis Obispo and one member representing the twelve (12) Community Service Districts.

These jurisdictions formed the IWMA in 1994 to plan and implement regional solid waste and hazardous waste programs. The IWMA Board oversees the IWMA office and its mission to manage hazardous waste, universal waste, solid waste, green/food waste, and recycling for its member jurisdictions.

Resources for Residents

Food Scrap Pails are available to all residents in IWMA jurisdictions free of charge! Food Scrap Pails should be used to collect food scraps and food soiled paper, and to dump organic contents into the resident's curbside green organic waste cart. Contents are then sent to a local digestion facility and converted into usable compost. Pails are available in a larger, countertop size, or a smaller size that clips onto your kitchen trash can.

The receipt of a Food Scrap Pail does not require a signed Resource Allocation Agreement. We encourage residents to take advantage of this program, or to use their own countertop food scrap pail to make proper disposal of organic waste more convenient.



Countertop Food Scrap Pail



Food Scrap Trash Can Insert

Resources for Commercial Use

The IWMA provides a limited number of resources for commercial use, including green organics and blue recycling bins of varying volumes. These resources are color-coded to meet Recycling and Organic Recycling mandates set by the state of California. Customers and employees of a commercial entity in San Luis Obispo County must have access to recycling, organic waste (including food waste) and trash receptacles. To help commercial entities complete their three-bin system, organic and recycling containers are supplied in various sizes by the IWMA free of charge.

Upon receipt of IWMA supplied resources, customers are expected to adhere to the rules for these containers as set by the IWMA.

IWMA-supplied bins come labeled with guidance about what can and cannot be disposed of in each bin. These labels must be visible by users of the containers, or if space necessitates the labels be hidden, the bins should be accompanied by posted signage detailing the materials that belong in each bin.

The IWMA supplies two colors of bin: green for organic waste (including food waste) and blue for recycling. Recipients of IWMA bins must use green bins for organic waste only, and blue bins for recycling only. The IWMA does not distribute garbage bins for indoor commercial use, and it is in violation of these rules to intentionally use IWMA supplied bins for garbage disposal.

Customers of the IWMA resource allocation program must take proper care to prolong the period of usability for IWMA-supplied materials. This includes, but is not limited to, washing and sanitizing bins regularly, emptying bins frequently to prevent overflow, and using a solid tight-fitting bin cover where necessary.

Commercial entities issued bins by the IWMA must educate employees on the proper sorting techniques for waste. This could consist of staff trainings or the distribution of paper/electronic handouts. Managers should identify the most commonly disposed of items in the workplace, and ensure their staff knows how to sort these properly.

If a commercial entity no longer requires use of an IWMA resource, or requests an alternate size of a resource, the customer should contact the IWMA to arrange return of the item(s).

Distribution of commercial resources requires a signed IWMA Resource Allocation Agreement.

Please read these rules and the IWMA Resource Allocation Agreement thoroughly, and request only the resources your business requires.

Please see below for a catalog of compost and recycling bins offered by the IWMA. The IWMA cannot always guarantee stock of all materials, as some materials may be supply-limited.

Green Organics 13-gallon Tote with Lid



Blue Recycling 23-gallon "Slim Jim" Bin

Green Organics 23-gallon "Slim Jim" Bin



Blue Recycling 7-gallon Bin

Green Organics 7-gallon Bin



Blue Recycling 3-gallon Bin

Green Organics 3-gallon Bin

