

# COMPOST

food scraps, fruit, vegetables, meat & bread  
food-soiled paper, napkins & paper plates



# LANDFILL

plastic wrappers, bags, utensils, straws, masks,  
gloves, drink pouches, sauce packets, snack trash



# RECYCLE

clean paper, plastic containers,  
aluminum foil, bottles & cans



**Our award-winning program provides free resources and assistance to all public and private K-12 schools.**

For field trips and truck visits, contact:  
[recyclecoordinators@RepublicServices.com](mailto:recyclecoordinators@RepublicServices.com)

**Contact:**

Ruth Abbe  
RecycleSmart School  
Recycling Program  
(415) 235-1356  
[ruth.abbe@abbeassociates.com](mailto:ruth.abbe@abbeassociates.com)



To learn more, visit:  
[RecycleSmart.org/schools](https://RecycleSmart.org/schools)

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CONCORD, CA  
PERMIT NO. 122

**Republic Services**  
441 N. Buchanan Circle, Pacheco, CA 94553  
925.685.4711 | [RepublicServices.com/RecycleSmartCA](https://RepublicServices.com/RecycleSmartCA)



# Recycling and Composting at School





## Food Donation

RecycleSmart and White Pony Express were awarded a food recovery grant from the State of California (CalRecycle) to increase food donation in Contra Costa County. White Pony Express offers free, as-needed food rescue services. White Pony Express can dependably pick up and safely distribute your surplus fresh and prepared foods within 24 hours, supporting our highest-need neighbors: isolated seniors, students and their families, veterans, and the unhoused.

White Pony Express partners with schools! Even if your school does not have food to donate on a routine schedule, become a partner today so that you always have a resource when you have surplus edible food available.

Learn more, visit:

[WhitePonyExpress.org/Food-Rescue](http://WhitePonyExpress.org/Food-Rescue)  
(925) 322-0604



## Food Share

Prevent waste of unwanted food at your school. RecycleSmart provides food share carts, bins, and signs. Contact us for help implementing a food sharing program.

## Free Resources for Schools:

- **Wastebusters Award Program**
  - For leadership schools that reach a 75% recycling rate
- **Student Internships and Scholarships**
  - For high schools, with scholarships for seniors
- **Site Assessment Visit**
  - Site visit to assess current container locations and service levels to provide recommendations for increasing diversion
  - In-depth classroom waste inspection with school green team
  - Visual waste sorting inspection forms and materials for students, site leads, or volunteers
- **Signs, Guides, and Posters**
- **Green Team Training and Support**
- **Custodial, Food Service Department, and Staff Support**
  - Procedures and best practices
  - Training and professional development
- **School Assemblies**
- **Lesson Plans and Activities**
  - Kahoot! computer learning games
  - "How to Sort" lesson plan
- **Supplies**
  - Aprons, grabbers, brooms and dustpans
  - Various sizes of classroom, custodial and outdoor recycling, organics and landfill bins
  - Food share carts, bins, and signs
- **Zero-Waste Meal Support**
- **Assistance Transitioning from Single-Use to Reusable Foodware**
- **Field Trips to:**
  - Recycling Processing Facility
  - Transfer Station or Landfill

## Composting is now the Law in California!

SB 1383 represents an enormous statewide effort to reduce climate pollutants. Organics, such as food scraps, landscape trimmings, and uncoated food-soiled paper, may no longer be landfilled in California. Additionally, excess edible food must be donated to feed people.

### SB 1383 requirements for schools:

- **Educate staff and students on methods for preventing organic waste**
  - Ensure that staff sorts materials correctly into the three containers (recycle, organics, landfill)
- **Provide containers and signage for three streams**
  - recycling (blue)
  - organics (green)
  - landfill (gray/black)
- **Inspect bins for contamination**
  - If contamination is found, inform staff, and instruct staff on how to properly sort all three streams
- **Have a written agreement with a food recovery organization to recover edible food**
  - Keep records of those agreements, and keep records of the type of food, frequency of collection, and pounds of food donated per month

