



2025 Diversion Plan



WCNX

Waste Connections Inc.



Waste Connections of California, Inc, DBA 'El Dorado Disposal'

According to the agreement between El Dorado County and Waste Connections of California, Inc, dba El Dorado Disposal, Section 19 A (5), “Contractor will provide the County with a strategic plan with specific program goals and objectives to increase Diversion rates consistent with the El Dorado County Solid Waste Management Plan. The plan should be based on the results of the prior year’s activities and include a discussion of that year’s programs, including strengths and weaknesses.”

This diversion plan outlines programs that El Dorado Disposal implemented, and overall progress made in the 2024 calendar year. Additionally, the plan identifies both ongoing programs as well as new programs to be instituted in 2025 that represent a continued emphasis on programs that maximize efforts to increase diversion metrics.

GOAL – Our overall goal is to continue to focus on new and existing recycling programs, to comply with the Solid Waste Management Plan and CalRecycle mandates and to explore new opportunities to divert more tons away from the landfill in partnership with El Dorado County. As we review this plan each year we will need to explore and research new material types, commodities and programs that will help aid us in continuing to fulfill this goal year-after-year.

PROCESSING & DIVERSION – MRF (Material Recovery Facility)

The following describes the current processes in place to sort and divert different commodities from the self-haul customer and the proposed changes:

- A. **Current Self-Haul Operations-** The remodeled MRF is fully operational as of October 2024 and offers the ability for self-haulers to dispose of organics, assorted recycling, Electronic Waste (E-Waste), Construction & Demolition (C&D) and Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) in varying capacities. Self-haul customers are enjoying shorter wait times and improved traffic flow. Employees assess recyclable materials at one of two operational gate houses. Depending on customer needs, the attendant directs customers to drop their sorted recyclables most efficiently, before finishing their visit at the Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) area. Throughout MRF re-construction, all facility operations continued with only a single day of closure in 2024. The MRF design and traffic flow continue to be assessed to ensure customer satisfaction and balance diversion efforts.
- B. **Diversion Program Updates-** The Material Recovery Facility has implemented innovative initiatives to enhance waste management efficiency.

Key updates include:

- **Advanced In-Cab Technology:** New AI-driven cameras in collection trucks presents ability to improve contamination identification and provide more direct education & customer feedback.

- **Community Outreach & Education:** Workshops and outreach inform the public on various ‘best practices’ regarding proper recycling and waste reduction.
- **Local Business Partnerships:** Collaborations aim to foster sustainable practices.
- **Increased Capacity:** Completion of MRF remodel offers potential to increase receiving capacity on certain materials/items, specifically E-Waste and Household Hazardous Waste.

1. The Material Recovery Facility – October 2024 marked the completion of multiple phases of MRF redevelopment. The organics bunker is larger and accommodates more traffic from third party haulers. The refreshed layout allows for a potential increase in volume, specific to organics, which can be expected from the growth of SLCP programs. Construction and Demolition (C&D) processing has also been relocated from our Wetsel-Oviatt location to the MRF, providing opportunity for enhanced and more frequent sorting of C&D materials. Electronic Waste (E-Waste) collection is now located in a larger area allowing for clearer and more seamless separation of electronic materials that have historically ended up in the landfill. A larger Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) facility has already seen an increase in volumes and offers the potential to expand operations in the future.
2. Comingled Recycling – Comingled recyclables are baled along with aluminum and plastics from our three Buy Back Centers. Bales allow for more efficient storage and transfer to recycling facilities where comingled items go through a more refined sorting process.
3. Construction and Demolition (C&D) – The mobile shredder has been in full operation since 2018. Prior to shredding, material is sorted to remove prohibited items as well as recyclable items from the C&D waste. The shredding operation is conducted at the MRF, and the processed material is transported to Potrero Hills Landfill to serve as alternative daily cover.
4. Organics – The MRF has a bunker for commercial and self-hauled organics (green waste/food-waste/livestock manure) and has established partnerships with Ukiah’s C&S Waste Solutions and Napa Recycling’s Yolo County composting facility for AB 1826 and SB 1383 organics-greenhouse reduction compliance. All organics collected from residential and commercial customers is being composted in compliance with SLCP requirements. Green waste is also collected from our Buy Back Centers in El Dorado Hills and Cameron Park and transferred accordingly.
5. Buy Back Centers – El Dorado Disposal operates Buy Back Centers for the California Redemption Program in El Dorado Hills, Cameron Park, and Placerville. These centers provide a convenient solution for residents while promoting recycling initiatives by streamlining the redemption process for California Refund Value (CRV) materials. Additionally, each location offers textile drop-off services. The Buy Back Centers in Cameron Park and El Dorado Hills further enhance their offerings by accepting green waste, cardboard, and various household electronics. El Dorado Disposal strives to continuously improve recycling options, reduce waste, and promote sustainable practices at these facilities.
6. Appliances & Metals – All appliances are evaluated to facilitate refrigerant evacuation and the removal of mercury switches. Once the process is complete, the appliances are

stored in the metal recycling area before being transferred. El Dorado Disposal continues to prioritize metal recovery efforts and has seen an increase in scrap metal volumes.

7. Glass – EDD collects glass separately at Buy Back Centers and transports it to a Ming’s Recycling. With the introduction of a new glass collection initiative, the state has expanded its acceptance to include empty wine and liquor bottles, so we expect increased glass volumes in the coming year.
8. Carpet – EDD partners with CARE Carpet Recycling to deliver an affordable carpet recycling program to residents. Staff meet with CARE representatives to discuss best practices on loading containers and check in regularly to assess program effectiveness.
9. Mattresses – EDD partners with the California Mattress Stewardship Council to provide free mattress collection and recycling for residential customers. Staff regularly meets with the Mattress Stewardship Council to assess program effectiveness.
10. Tires – Vendor constraints limited our ability to recycle tires in 2024, however EDD identified a new vendor that can accept tires both on rims and off the rim. Tire recycling continues to be a frequent commodity brought into the MRF and a priority for EDD on the diversion front.
11. Pressure Treated Wood (PTW) – In 2021, California mandated that Pressure Treated Wood be separated from the MSW, Organics, and C&D waste streams. In turn, there is specific requirements to the handling and disposal of PTW. The MRF has created a PTW bunker and takes the material to Kiefer Landfill.
12. Textiles – In 2024, EDD implemented textile recovery boxes, which provide the ability for residents to dispose of clothing, fabric, shoes, bedding, and accessories at our three recycling center locations, as well as our MRF. EDD collaborates with a third-party vendor who recovers the textile materials and diverts them from the landfill.
13. Electronic Waste (E-Waste) – In early 2024, EDD started working with a new electronic waste vendor. This vendor allows for the acceptance of several added items that were previously not accepted. Most notable, small household electronic devices like kitchen appliances, computer components, speakers, vacuums, and a variety of other items are now accepted, free of charge for recycling. Future public education will advertise the expanded acceptable items as E-Waste volumes continue to increase.
14. Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) – In 2024, the MRF completed construction of a new HHW building, providing a larger facility for both residential and commercial customers to properly dispose of their household hazardous waste. HHW generated from a commercial business must have a Hazardous Waste Account with the MRF and will be charged. The updated HHW facility allows for a more efficient and safe recovery process.

C. **2025 Proposed Projects**

1. Community Education Center – A community education center will host school and community groups for recycling and waste reduction education sessions.
2. Commercial E-Waste – EDD is working with its E-Waste recycling partner to increase current volume capacity and enable a new commercial E-Waste program. Historically, commercial E-Waste was not feasible due to space limitations.

3. Solar Panel Recycling – Solar panels can now be accepted by our vendor, who is capable of either repairing or refurbishing panels. Once a gate price can be established and approved, the MRF will be able to accept panels from the public.
4. C&D – The completion of the MRF remodel in 2024 provided increased opportunity for Construction and Demolition (C&D) sorting and recovery. In 2025, EDD is confident that we will be able to utilize the current sorting line to improve the C&D diversion. By optimizing processes, we aim to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills. Our team is actively seeking collaboration with local construction companies to ensure that materials like concrete, wood, and metals are properly sorted into designated roll-off boxes. As we move forward in 2025, continuous training and engagement with stakeholders will be crucial to achieving our ambitious diversion goals and setting new standards in waste management practices.

COLLECTION AND HAULING

The following describes the current and proposed recycling programs offered to County residents and businesses:

Program Updates and 2025 Proposed Projects

A. Current Collection Diversion Programs:

1. Commercial Food Waste Program (AB 1826 & SB 1383) – In 2025, the expansion of commercial food waste recycling continued to align with the requirements of SB 1383, transitioning from the thresholds set by AB 1826. The Sustainability team is currently re-evaluating businesses that were previously exempt under AB 1826 and are initiating services for moderate food waste generators. New educational materials have been created to assist in onboarding these businesses, focusing on promoting proper recycling and organic waste sorting. EDD conducts hands-on training and outreach for business owners, restaurant operators, and property managers to guide them in effectively participating in this program. The food waste initiative has expanded to include two routes, servicing commercial food waste five days a week, enabling the inclusion of food-generating businesses across broader areas of the county. EDD's commercial food waste drivers also provide valuable feedback on contamination levels, allowing the Sustainability Team to reach out to commercial customers with educational resources to maintain clean waste streams.
2. Curbside Green Waste Program Changes – EDD continues to offer additional green waste curbside pickup. To participate in the bi-annual, Spring and Fall Green Waste Cleanup Events, EDD requires paper compostable bags for participating areas. All residents are to call ahead to schedule a curbside green waste pick up and redeem their vouchers.

3. Curbside Organics Program (Senate Bill 1383) – Residential organic programs had their most successful year in 2024, accounting for the majority of the over 24,000 tons of organic food and yard waste composted through EDD operations. New residential and multifamily education has been developed to assist in continuing efforts to inform residents of these changes. Waste and Service Guides have been sent to all residential customers. This information is also sent in all New Customer Welcome Packets as well as annual voucher mailings.

Household Hazardous Materials?



**Pesticides • Paint • Flammable Liquid
CFL Bulbs • Fluorescent Tubes
Acids • Cleaning Products
Automotive Oils and Fluids
Oxidizers Solid/Liquid**

Batteries (± ends must be taped with clear tape only)
Medications (narcotics & insulin not accepted)

Residential customers can drop off Hazardous Waste at the Material Recovery Facility located at 4100 Throwita Way, Placerville. FREE drop off available Friday – Sunday, from 9:00 – 4:00 PM. HHW will be closed when attendants take lunch between 11:30AM – Noon *Times may vary, limits apply.

Bulky Items?



Furniture and appliances are available for pickup by appointment. Household residents can call El Dorado Disposal, or schedule online, to make arrangements to pick up furniture and appliances. Multifamily residents can contact their Property Managers to schedule removal.

Curbside Battery Collection

All batteries are PROHIBITED in your carts! They cause fires!

Residential customers can contact customer service for free battery removal service.

Acceptable Batteries:

- Alkaline Batteries
- Lithium Batteries
- Rechargeable Batteries



***Positive & Negative ends must be taped with clear tape. No duct tape.**

Non-Acceptable Batteries:

Lead Acid- Wet Cell- Automotive Batteries (Please take to Household Hazardous Waste)

Curbside Oil Collection



El Dorado Disposal offers residential customers curbside collection of used motor oil and oil filters. Contact customer service to schedule a free container and pickup.

- Drained oil filters must be placed in a zip-lock type bag and sealed.
- Please place filter next to your used oil at the curb for pick up on your regularly scheduled garbage day.
- Up to 2 gallons of used motor oil may be recycled at the curb.

www.ElDoradoDisposal.com
(530) 626-4141 or (916) 985-1162
customerservice4030@wcnx.org



Residential Waste Guide



Route reviews, assessing the performance and contamination of residents on identified routes, continue to be done quarterly for all jurisdictions. This provides the Sustainability Team with information to target individual and area specific education. The “Oops” tag program continues to educate and reduce contamination through drivers tagging carts with contamination. This program runs on all routes and for all commodities. Customers have also noted that a limiting factor in recycling organics is the issue of wildlife. Bear-resistant carts have recently become available with green lids, making compliance with SB 1383 capable in areas where bears are prevalent. EDD is informing the public of this new option, and it has been well received.

4. Commercial Recycling Outreach (Assembly Bill AB 341) – The Sustainability Team is nearing complete compliance with AB 341, California’s commercial recycling mandate. Efforts continue in 2025 to increase commercial recycling volumes as there is a great deal of recyclable materials available for capture. Businesses under the 4yard/week threshold are also being encouraged to participate in recycling, despite not being required. These customers are incentivized by the promise that clean recycling will decrease trash

RECYCLING

RECICLAJE MESCLADO



Paper
Junk Mail, Newspaper, Magazines,
Cardboard, Paper Bags

Papeles
Correspondencia Publicitaria, Periodicos,
Revistas, Carton y Bolsas de papel



Metal Cans & Foil
Latas de metal y aluminio



Glass Jars & Bottles
Frascos y Botellas de Vidrio



Plastic Bottles (Lids Removed)
Botellas de plástico (tapas quitadas)

(530) 626-4141
(916) 985-1162

NO

PLASTIC BAGS • LIQUIDS • SCRAP METAL • FABRIC
CARTONS • STYROFOAM • SHREDDED PAPER
BOLSAS DE PLASTICO • LIQUIDOS • CHATARRA • ROPA
ENBAZE DE CARTON • POLIESTIREÑO • PAPEL MOLIDO • COMIDA

NO



volumes, saving businesses money. Contamination of commercial waste is an identified issue, and efforts to grow all recycling programs are needed. Conducting more in-person education with commercial businesses will be needed to achieve this goal. The Sustainability Team has been reaching out to more commercial business about recycling requirements and contamination reduction. New bin stickers with large education have been rolled out to new accounts and customers that have a large volume of contamination, such as multifamily dwellings.

5. School Recycling Outreach – The Sustainability Team is in the process of updating and developing new visual resources and presentations aimed at enhancing school outreach and education regarding the AB-1826/SB-1383 organics program. Furthermore, the team is collaborating with EDC Environmental Management and 'Breathe California' to establish organic and recycling strategies for the upcoming 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years. With this collaborative effort, EDD plans to initiate organics recycling at 10 schools starting in the 2024-2025 academic year.
6. Expand Large Venue Recycling & Organics Programs – The Sustainability Team engages with event managers upon request to discuss strategies for waste diversion at events accommodating over 2,000 attendees. During the EDH CSD's 2024 Concert in the Park series, the team provided valuable insights and educational materials to establish a successful organics and recycling program in collaboration with CSD personnel. Additionally, the team partnered with the event coordinators of the '20 Mile Taste' in 2024 to develop an event that featured entirely compostable and recyclable waste.
7. Residential Recycling Outreach – EDD rolled out the “Oops” cart tagging program in late 2019, which provides direct feedback to residents on contamination or prohibited items in their containers. This program is customer education focused and is designed to update and educate the residents in placing the right items in their recycling or organics' cart. Route reviews, assessing the waste contents of residents on an identified route(s), continue to be done quarterly for organic waste and monthly for recycling waste, for all jurisdictions. Additionally, when a driver identifies contamination and leaves a tag on a customer's cart, the Sustainability team is provided with information to target individuals and areas with specific education, via educational phone calls and/ or emails. The “Oops” tag program continues to educate and reduce contamination with increasing enforcement efforts on residential customers.
8. C&D Recycling – All contractors are entitled to a 6-yard roll-off box designated for trash alongside every C&D roll-off box they order. EDD provides guidance to contractors on what materials can be recycled within the C&D bin. Operations Supervisors also engage with contractors to discuss C&D recycling and tackle any contamination issues as they arise. Additionally, EDD has updated contractor signage for roll-off boxes and revised the roll-off agreement to include comprehensive details about accepted and non-accepted materials for C&D recycling. The company is collaborating with EDCO to enhance outreach efforts to contractors regarding C&D recycling, aiming to minimize contamination and ensure compliance with Green Code by allowing only recyclable materials in the C&D bins. Furthermore, EDD regularly reviews its C&D separation processes to identify areas for improvement.

9. Residential Livestock Manure Recycling Program – As part of El Dorado Disposal’s green waste service expansion, livestock manure may be included with green-waste/food-waste, or self-hauled to the EDD MRF.
10. Compost Procurement Program – EDD initiated compost procurement contracts in 2023 for the City of Placerville, and 2024 for El Dorado County, to meet their requirement of organics recovery, set by SB-1383. In 2024, El Dorado Disposal delivered 586 tons of organic compost to farms and the Placerville collection site. With the CalRecycle set procurement targets set 100% for 2025, EDD is prepared to help all jurisdictions meet their procurement goals and provide compost to residents. To meet these goals, additional community collection sites will need to be identified, allowing for the public to have more access to valuable compost.



11. Curbside Battery & Oil Service – EDD offers residential customers free curbside pick-up services of batteries, small E-Waste, and used motor oil and filters. In 2024, EDD introduced the battery bag as a new and improved receptacle for curbside battery collection. Metrics have already shown that there is a positive trajectory of residential battery disposal through the service, along with the significant reduction in truck fires and MRF fires. Residential customers must request a battery bag to contain all their batteries and small E-Waste and then must schedule a pick-up date. Residential customers may also request a motor oil jug for used motor oil, bag their oil filters if they are disposing of them and additionally schedule a pickup date. At the end of 2024, this service was also made more accessible and efficient for customers by being available on the El Dorado Disposal APP, on the Waste Wizard online, and shared via education through social media.

BATTERIES CAUSE FIRES

KEEP OUR COMMUNITY SAFE

NEVER THROW YOUR BATTERIES IN THE TRASH OR RECYCLING

For Proper Disposal Information: ElDoradoDisposal.com or (530) 626-4141

12. Vouchers – EDD is continuing all voucher programs, making changes to voucher date ranges to simplify scheduling for customers. Efforts are being made to make vouchers digital, reducing waste and providing cost savings to customers. Vouchers include curbside service for hard to handle items such as bulky items, E-Waste, specified HHW, additional green waste pick-ups as well as MRF drop off vouchers for general waste and green waste.

B. 2025 Proposed Projects:

1. Expanding E-Waste – EDD has started sending material to a new E-Waste vendor that now accepts additional materials. Small electronics and household appliances can now be sent to recyclers along with cords. MRF staff will be identifying these materials and recovering any electronics that could be sent to recyclers. This recycler can also accept solar panels, a commodity that EDD has not previously been able to accept. The solar panel program will require a gate charge and allow for self-hauled panels into the MRF.
2. Green Waste service expansion – EDD is working with jurisdictions, fire safe councils, and community members, to find ways to reduce green waste and improve defensible spaces. Voucher programs, community cleanups and curbside pickups will be promoted to residents in the effort to grow program performance.
3. Residential Recycling Outreach – EDD will focus on recycling education with community and local government groups to bring awareness to the changes in recycling markets and accepted material. The Sustainability Team and managers will be available to present the “State of Recycling,” “Recycling 101”, and other Recycling workshops to educate the community about these changes that impact how residents recycle. EDD will be supporting this effort with more recycling education on social media. These presentations are available in an online format or can be scheduled as an in-person presentation upon request.
4. Contamination Reduction Programs – EDD is committed to improving our “Oops” Tag program, which offers an important opportunity to promptly educate our customers when contamination is detected. To enhance this initiative, EDD will utilize email notifications, automated call blasts, and text messages. Additionally, we are integrating advanced technologies that will enable our team to identify and assess the contents and contaminants of containers in our trucks more efficiently. This data will be linked to customer accounts, thereby bolstering our customer service and sustainability efforts while providing essential insights to enhance customer education.
5. Route Reviews – Route reviews will expand in 2025 to include the capability to track performance data for recycling and organics programs, which can be evaluated to minimize contamination. This will enable identification of specific routes with high contamination levels, allowing for targeted education in those areas. Additionally, this data will help pinpoint where educational efforts are necessary and which types of community outreach are effective in increasing diversion and reducing contamination. Waste audits conducted at the MRF will provide a clearer understanding of contamination levels in larger waste volumes. This valuable data, collected throughout the year, can be analyzed over time to reveal seasonal, geographic, and annual trends regarding the types and volumes of contamination.
6. Education Center and Mobile Education Outreach – EDD’s new MRF Administration building was completed in 2024, and the education center is currently being developed.

The center will be specifically designed for structured educational activities, school group presentations, field trips, and tours. The first school field trip to take place at the MRF Education Center will be in 2025.

7. Community Gardens and Composting – The Sustainability Team is creating partnerships with local entities to provide education, outreach, and demonstrations in creating and maintaining community gardens and various types of composting systems and tools. Educational materials, demonstrations, tours, and presentations are available upon request.
8. Community Event Outreach – The Sustainability Team plans continue efforts at community events to reach more of our customer base with updated educational materials. We continue to see value in face-to-face conversation about best practices as well as clarifying some of the more dynamic questions or concerns. In April of 2025, EDD also is planning to host a community Composting Event to promote procured compost.
9. Technology Improvements – Trucks are equipped with new AI technology to assist with more timely and accurate identification of contamination.