

# RECYCLING FOOD WASTE TIPS FOR INDIO RESIDENTS!

Indio now has an organic (food scraps) recycling program as required by California law. Scraps collected by Burrtec for Indio residents will be composted at the Coachella Valley and Edom Hill Compost Facilities.

Organic waste in landfills emits 20% of the state's methane, a climate super pollutant 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide. Recycling organics reduces greenhouse gas emission and also helps produce materials that are good for the planet, like compost, fertilizer, and biofuels.

**As all SCSH residents are now required to sort food scraps and yard waste into an Organics bin, this information will help you get the job done!**

**Make sure your waste makes it to the right place  
by putting it in the right bin!**

## Current Bins

**GREEN  
GREEN WASTE ONLY**



**GRAY  
RECYCLABLES ONLY**



**BROWN  
TRASH ONLY**



## Future Bins

**GREEN  
ORGANICS**



**BLUE  
RECYCLING**



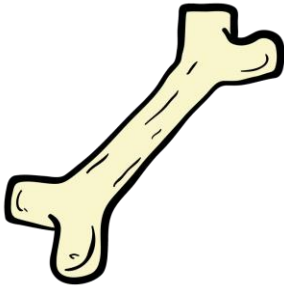
**GREY  
TRASH**



## PUT THESE IN THE GREEN BIN (Currently “Green Waste”) -

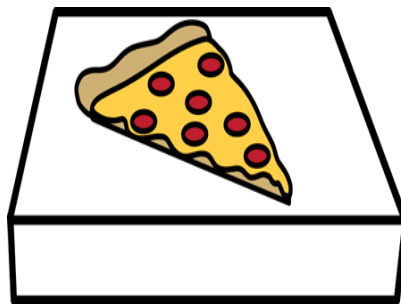
### Food scraps such as:

- Fruits & vegetables
- Cheese, milk & other dairy products
- Meat, bones & eggs
- Bread, pasta, rice & grains
- Tea bags & coffee filters



**Food-soiled paper (compostable only)** – The item should be soiled paper that is **NOT coated with plastic**. Examples include:

- Paper napkins and tissues
- Paper plates and cups
- Paper to-go containers
- Paper food-service wrappers
- Pizza and cardboard produce boxes.



### Yard trimmings

- Grass clippings
- Leaves, flowers & weeds
- Small branches and prunings
- Nonhazardous wood (natural state only, no treated or construction material)

## Tips for Recycling Food Scraps

- **What to Recycle**
  - Items that you normally throw into your garbage disposal can still go there! (or they can be recycled)
  - Food items that you used to put in the trash (corn cobs, bones, banana peels, etc.)
- **Suggested Ways to do This**
  - Put your scraps in a bag
    - Any kind of bag: vegetable, bread, paper, etc. It does not need to be biodegradable.
    - NOTE: DO NOT THROW EMPTY PLASTIC BAGS IN THE GREEN OR BLUE BINS.
    - If you would like to use a compostable bag, there are many available in local stores and online (Google: compostable food waste bags)
  - How often you take the scraps out to the Green Bin is up to you
  - Your Green Bin is collected on the same day as your trash and recycling
  - Tip: In this heat, here's a tip that may sound strange but really works: put your bags of scraps in the freezer until it's time to take them outside and place in the bin

### Compostable Bag of Scraps Kept in Freezer until It's Time to Place in the Bin



## **PUT THESE IN THE BLUE BIN – (Currently “Recyclables Only” and Gray)**

- Clean paper & flattened cardboard
- Glass & plastic bottles, jars, containers
- Food & beverage cans, cartons
- NO plastic bags, film or foam
- Items should be free of food and liquid

**PUT THESE IN THE GRAY BIN (Currently brown)** - but only after reusing these food-related items as much as you can! -

- Plastic bags
- Plastic food packaging or wrap
- Coated or plastic takeout containers
- Foil
- Twist ties
- Rubber bands
- Wire
- Tape
- Grease, oil & other liquids

## **NEW BINS – WHEN WE CAN EXPECT THEM**

### **IF YOU ALREADY HAVE 3 BINS (Green, Recyclables, Trash)**

The City of Indio will provide **new bins** for all trash and recycling services as current carts break or need repair. The new carts will have dark gray bodies with a green lid for organics, black lid for trash, and blue lid for other recycling.

### **IF YOU NEED A GREEN BIN (Green Waste/Organics Only)**

Contact Burrtec Customer Service at 760-340-2113. They are open M – F, 8 am – 5 pm. You can also email them at [customerservice@burrtecdesert.com](mailto:customerservice@burrtecdesert.com).

## Stuff that Goes in NO BINS!!! - Household Hazardous Waste Disposal

Improper disposal of household hazardous wastes (pouring wastes down the drain, into toilets, on the ground, into storm drains, or putting them out with the trash) has the potential to cause physical injury to trash workers; contaminate groundwater; contaminate wastewater treatment systems; and present hazards to children and pets if left around the house.

### Examples of **Hazardous Waste** Items that should NEVER be put in bins -

<b>HOUSEHOLD</b>	<b>CLEANING</b>
Chlorine Bleach Nail Polish Remover Deodorizer/Air Freshener Disinfectant Medicine, sharps Fluorescent Tubes/Bulbs Household Batteries Electronic Waste – TVs, computers, phones, etc.	Aerosol Cans Floor & Rug Care Products Aluminum Cleaner Furniture Polish Ammonia Toilet, Tub, & Tile Cleaner
<b>WORKSHOP &amp; HOBBY</b>	<b>OUTDOOR</b>
Household Batteries Caulking; Roof Coating Paint Stripper Gun Cleaner Paint Thinner/Turpentine; Paint Latex/Oil Based	Fertilizer Slug & Snail Poison Fungicide Weed Killer/Herbicides Insecticides/Pesticides Pool Chlorine
<b>GARAGE</b>	<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>
Antifreeze Engine Degreaser Transmission & Brake Fluid Auto Batteries Gas, Diesel Fuel Used Oil and Filters	Kerosene/Lamp Oil BBQ & Camp Size Propane Tanks Lighter Fluid

For more information, check out the [City of Indio's Household Hazardous Waste webpage](http://www.indio.org/departments/public-works-department) (go to [www.indio.org/departments/public-works-department](http://www.indio.org/departments/public-works-department) and then click on the link to “household hazardous waste disposal”) where you will find

- A list of items that SHOULD NEVER be thrown into any of your bins
- A list of HHW Collection Events Dates and Locations.
  - All events are on Saturdays from 9 am – 2 pm.
  - The closest events to us happen in Indio, La Quinta, Coachella, and Cathedral City.
  - They appear to occur 2 to 4 times a year, depending on the city.

- **Information about the nearby permanent HHW Collection Facilities, including**
  - Palm Springs **PHHWCF**, 1100 Vella Road
    - Only open on **Saturdays** that are not on a holiday or near one! Examples of closures in 2023: October 7 (Columbus Day is on Monday), November 11 (Veterans Day is on the previous Friday).
    - Open June – September: 7 am to Noon
    - Open October - May: 9 am to 2 pm
    - For complete list of closures, go to [rcwaste.org/about-us/holiday-schedule](http://rcwaste.org/about-us/holiday-schedule)
  - **ABOP (Antifreeze, Batteries, Oil, Filters, and Paint) Drop-off Collection Center**
    - Only those items may be dropped off here.
    - Located at the Waste Transfer Station off Dillon Road, 87-011 Landfill Road, Coachella, CA 92236; 760-863-4094
    - Drop Off times - M-F: 8 am – 5 pm; Saturdays: 8 am – Noon
- Locations for recycling old cans of paint.

### **Online Sources for Info**

Indio Sustainability Website - [indioorganics.org](http://indioorganics.org) (Note: You cannot get to this page from the City's website.)

Riverside County Department of Waste Resources - [rcwaste.org/household-hazardous-waste](http://rcwaste.org/household-hazardous-waste)