

New Rules for Restaurants in Santa Cruz County



Frequently asked questions:

Why is the County doing this?

To reduce litter, protect the environment, and to reduce contamination in our local compost operation.

Does this take effect in the cities?

Not yet. Just in the unincorporated areas of the county.

How do I know if a product meets the standards?

Check the web site www.bpiworld.org.

If my product says “biodegradable,” “compostable,” or has a recycling symbol on it, is that good enough?

No, many products are advertised this way that do not meet the standards.

Where can I get new supplies?

Most food service supply companies can help. Coast Paper in Santa Cruz is a good local source. Or go to www.bpiworld.org.

What if I don't use up all of my current supplies by January? Can I get an extension?

The new rules take effect January 1. Excess supplies can often be returned to the supplier. Businesses with unusual circumstances can contact the County.

I get all my supplies from the corporate warehouse (for chains). What do I do?

The rules apply to chains as well as local businesses. Full compliance is expected.

How can I start compost collection service?

Contact GreenWaste Recovery at 426.2711 or customerservice@greenwaste.com

What are the penalties for violations?

Fines from \$100 to \$500.

Where can I get more information?

Online at www.santacruzcountyrecycles.org, or call the County at 454-2160.