

OrganicsLA Advocacy Toolkit

One of LA's Simplest Climate Actions

When food scraps go into the trash, they create methane that accelerates climate change. When they go into the green bin, they are turned into compost that supports California farms and healthy soils.

This toolkit provides sustainability advocates with practical tools to explain why organics recycling matters and help normalize green bin habits across Los Angeles.



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About This Toolkit

Who Should Use This Toolkit

You do not need to be an expert to use this toolkit. This toolkit is for anyone who wants to help normalize green bin habits in Los Angeles. This includes:

- Community members and neighborhood leaders
- Parents, caregivers, and educators
- PTA members and school volunteers
- Sustainability advocates and local organizations



How to Use This Toolkit

You can use these materials in conversations, newsletters, presentations, social posts, or community meetings. Use this toolkit to learn about:

- Why organics recycling matters
- What goes in the green bin
- Everyday opportunities to be an organics recycling advocate
- How to talk about organic waste recycling
- Resources available to download and share



Why Organics Recycling Matters

When food scraps break down in landfills, they generate methane, a powerful greenhouse gas that accelerates climate change.

When food scraps go into the green bin, they are diverted from landfills and processed into nutrient-rich compost. That compost is used by California farms to build healthier soils and grow fresh food for our communities.

By keeping organic waste out of landfills, Los Angeles reduces methane emissions across the region. Multiplied across millions of households, this is one of the simplest climate actions Angelenos can take.

What Goes in the Green Bin?

- ✓ **Food and green waste:** Peels, rinds, bones, meat, fish, beans, leftovers, dairy, eggshells, coffee grounds, rice, stale bread, stems, flowers, and more.
- ✓ **Food-soiled paper:** Coffee filters, napkins, paper towels, pizza boxes, and more.



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Everyday Opportunities to Be an Organics Recycling Advocate

You don't need to organize an event to make an impact. Many of the best advocacy moments happen during everyday interactions. The table below highlights simple opportunities to start the conversation about organics recycling.



At Home & On Your Block

Block Parties or Neighborhood Meetings:

Set up a small table with flyers, the lifecycle poster, and a sample kitchen pail.

HOA or Tenant Association Meetings:

Include a short 2-minute update about the green bin program during community updates.

Apartment Common Areas: Post the fridge sign or lifecycle image in shared kitchens, laundry rooms, or near mailboxes.



With Friends & Family

Book Clubs, Dinners, or Social Organizations:

Start a casual chat about how easy it is to put food scraps in the green bin—and how it helps LA's farms.

Faith or Cultural Groups: Connect composting to stewardship and community responsibility.

Parent Groups or School Events: Share the "Kids Learn by Example" guide or suggest composting as a classroom or PTA project.



At Work or Professional Circles

Sustainability Teams or Green Committees:

Introduce the program as part of your workplace's waste reduction goals.

Professional Associations: Share the OrganicsLA story in newsletters or green-focused events.

Coworker Conversations: Use the lifecycle image as an easy visual during lunch or staff meetings.

How to Talk About Organic Waste Recycling

People are more likely to take action when the message is clear, practical, and relevant to their everyday lives. The guidance and sample language below can be used in conversations, emails, presentations, or social posts to help make organics recycling feel simple, important, and doable.

Make It Doable	Make It Matter
<p>Focus on simple steps that fit into routines people already have. When the action feels easy, people are far more likely to stick with it.</p>	<p>Food that ends up in landfills releases methane, a powerful greenhouse gas that fuels climate change. Using the green bin keeps food out of landfills and helps protect our planet.</p>
<p><i>“When you’re cooking, just put food scraps in a small kitchen pail. When it’s full, empty it into the green bin.”</i></p> <p><i>“You don’t have to get everything right. Consistent participation matters more than perfection.”</i></p>	<p><i>“When food scraps go in the trash, they rot and release gases that speed up climate change. But when you put them in the green bin, LA turns them into compost that helps California farms grow fresh fruits and vegetables.”</i></p> <p><i>“This is one of the simplest ways households can help reduce climate pollution.”</i></p>

Make It Personal

People respond when the message feels relevant to their own lives and values. Personal experience builds trust and makes the habit feel achievable.

“I started green binning because it was an easy change that actually makes a difference.”

“Once it became part of cooking, it felt totally normal.”

Make It Actionable

Clear calls to action help turn awareness into habit. Use simple, repeatable phrases so people know exactly what to do next.

“Let’s put our waste to work.”

“Green bin habits are one of the easiest climate actions Angelenos can take at home.”

Resources Available to Download & Share

These ready-to-share resources help bring organics recycling to life, showing how small, everyday actions add up to real impact across Los Angeles. All materials are available at OrganicsLA.org or through the links below.



Full-Cycle Journey of Los Angeles' Organics

Use this visual to show what happens after food scraps leave the green bin, from collection to compost to California farms. It's especially effective for social media, presentations, or conversations with people who want to understand the real-world impact of their actions.

[Download a print-ready version here.](#)



Fridge Sign: "What Goes in the Green Bin"

A simple, everyday reference that removes guesswork. Post it on a refrigerator, near kitchen bins, or in shared spaces to help people quickly check what belongs in the green bin.

Download print-ready file:

[English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Korean](#)



Professor Green 24/7 Personal Organics Expert

Your personal organics expert who helps residents get clear answers about organics recycling, food waste, and what belongs in the green bin.

He is available 24/7 on your smartphone by texting "hello LA1" to 213-263-6238 or by visiting www.lacitysan.org/professorgreen.



OrganicsLA
Every peel, stem, eggshell, crust, and soiled napkin in the green bin helps LASAN create compost that nourishes the soil at California farms to grow fresh food for our communities.

3 Small Steps, Big Impact

- 1 Collect your food scraps into a kitchen pail. You can request a free kitchen pail at OrganicsLA.org or use your own.
- 2 Empty your pail into your green bin. Please keep plastic and compostable bags out.
- 3 Roll out your green bin on collection day *if needed.

What Goes in the Green Bin?

- ✓ **Food waste:** Peels, bones, meat, fish, beans, leftovers, dairy eggshells, coffee grounds, rice, stale bread, stems, and more.
- ✓ **Food-soiled paper:** Coffee filters, napkins, paper towels, pizza boxes, and more.

Let's put our waste to work. GREEN Bin it, LA.

Questions? Ask Professor Green!
Text "hello LA1" to +1 (213) 263 6238
Interact online at lacitysan.org/professorgreen

Professor Green is your personal organics expert, available 24/7 on your smartphone and on LASAN's website.

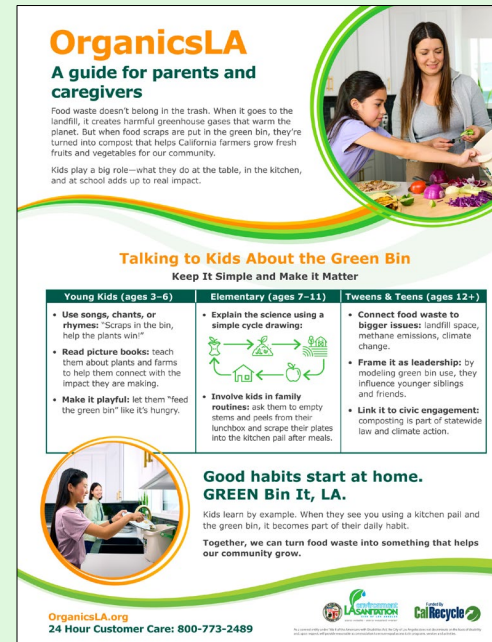
OrganicsLA.org
24 Hour Customer Care: 800-773-2489

OrganicsLA Overview Flyer

A clear, one-page introduction to organics recycling in Los Angeles. Ideal for emailing, handing out, or posting in community spaces to explain the program, why it matters, and how to participate.

Download print-ready file:

[English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Korean](#)



OrganicsLA
A guide for parents and caregivers

Food waste doesn't belong in the trash. When it goes to the landfill, it creates harmful greenhouse gases that warm the planet. But when food scraps are put in the green bin, they're turned into compost that helps California farmers grow fresh fruits and vegetables for our community.

Kids play a big role—what they do at the table, in the kitchen, and at school adds up to real impact.

Talking to Kids About the Green Bin
Keep It Simple and Make It Matter

Young Kids (ages 3-6)	Elementary (ages 7-11)	Tweens & Teens (ages 12+)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use songs, chants, or rhymes: "Scraps in the bin, help the plants win!" • Read picture books: teach them about plants and farms to help them connect with the impact they are making. • Make it playful: let them "feed the green bin" like it's hungry. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the science using a simple cycle drawing: • Involve kids in family routines: ask them to empty stems and peels from their lunchbox and scrape their plates into the kitchen pail after meals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect food waste to bigger issues: landfill space, methane emissions, climate change. • Frame it as leadership: by modeling green bin use, they influence younger siblings and friends. • Link it to civic engagement: composting is part of statewide law and climate action.

Good habits start at home. GREEN Bin It, LA.

Kids learn by example. When they see you using a kitchen pail and the green bin, it becomes part of their daily habit. Together, we can turn food waste into something that helps our community grow.

OrganicsLA.org
24 Hour Customer Care: 800-773-2489

A Guide for Parents & Caregivers

A family-friendly guide that helps parents and caregivers talk to kids about food waste and the green bin, showing how simple habits at home can turn scraps into climate action across Los Angeles.

[Download a print-ready version here](#)