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For Immediate Release

Public Works Seeks To Help Businesses Comply With State Assembly Bill No. 827

Businesses will be required to make composting and recycling bins accessible to customers

Kern County, CA – July 1, 2020 – Kern County Public Works wants to remind businesses that [State Assembly Bill \(AB\) No. 827](#) will take effect on July 1, 2020. As an effort to help the public develop better recycling and sorting habits, the State of California has passed Assembly Bill No. 827, which revises AB 341 and AB 1826, to state that businesses are required to provide organics (compost) and recycling bins wherever there is public access to the business. This new bill will impact the following groups:

- Commercial entities that subscribe to trash services of 4-cubic yards or more of commercial solid waste per week, which are entities subject to AB 341.
- Commercial entities that subscribe to combined trash and recycling services of 4-cubic yards or more of waste per week, which are entities subject to AB 1826. There is also the strong possibility that the state may be lowering this threshold to 2-cubic yards as early as January.

These new compliances could have a positive effect on many businesses. "All over the world, and especially with young consumer groups, businesses showing their support and willingness to go green through reducing, reusing, and recycling, is of increasing importance to consumers when making their decision of which businesses to support," said Christine Williamson, Waste Management Specialist. "The state is putting a lot of pressure on county agencies to produce high compliance recycling numbers," as it's California's goal to divert 75 percent of solid waste from landfills by 2020.

The bill will also require commercial entities to place educational signage next to the clearly marked organics and/or recycling bins to help customers distinguish what items belong in which bin. There is an exception to the bill – full service, or commonly known as "dine-in," restaurants are exempt, as servers in these establishments are likely to separate the waste on behalf of the customers.

Kern County Public Works is here to support local businesses, rather than hinder them. They encourage any business subject to these laws to reach out to Public Works for support and guidance, including waste audits and consultations.

About Kern County Public Works

The [Kern County Public Works](#) Department is responsible for the planning, design, construction, maintenance, and operation of roads, bridges, traffic signals, sanitary landfills, recycling centers, wastewater treatment plants, public transit center, and other publicly-owned facilities. The department strives to provide quality public services including road permit inspection, building permit inspection, building plan check, code compliance, engineering and surveying review of proposed land development, solid waste disposal, hazardous waste disposal, wastewater treatment, public transportation, and community outreach. For more information, visit www.kernpublicworks.com and follow [@KernCountyPublicWorks](#). For media wishing to make special coverage arrangements, please contact Zechariah Garcia at 661-862-8928.

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