

EDIBLE FOOD DONATIONS REQUIRED

California Senate Bill 1383 requires certain businesses across the state to participate in a food donation program for the recovery of edible food. This initiative is necessary in order to preserve landfill space and reduce greenhouse gas emissions - methane specifically - that results from the decomposition of food waste.

Donating edible food is a sensible way businesses like yours can reduce food waste by supporting local nonprofit organizations, food pantries, and feeding members of the community. SB 1383 requires certain businesses to develop a food donation program to maximize this resource.



Is My Business Required to Donate Edible Food?

Edible food generators are categorized as either Tier 1 or Tier 2 commercial businesses and are required to establish a food donation program by the dates listed below. The City of Torrance is available to help identify whether your business falls under the Tier 1 or Tier 2 designation.

Exemptions apply for some businesses depending on square footage, number of seats, etc.

TIER 1 BUSINESSES

Required as of January 1, 2024

Grocery Stores and
Supermarkets

Wholesale Food Vendors

Food Distributors

Food Service Providers

TIER 2 BUSINESSES

Required as of January 1, 2024

Restaurants

Large Venues and Events

Hotels

State Agency Cafeterias

Health Facilities

Local Educational Agencies

STEPS TO COMPLY:

1

Establish food donations with a food recovery organization or service

Local organizations are available to accept food donations

2

Donate all edible food that is fit for human consumption

No edible food may be discarded in the trash/compost

3

Keep all necessary records on site to demonstrate compliance with SB 1383

See Recordkeeping Requirements Checklist below

What Food Can Be Donated?

Food that is fit for consumption can and should be donated. This includes food that is still edible but was not able to be sold because of surplus supply, appearance, age, freshness, grade, etc. Do not attempt to donate any food that is spoiled or otherwise unfit for consumption, or has been opened from its original packaging (unless individually wrapped) as it is not "edible".

FOOD DONATION IS SAFE & LEGAL!

So long as you donate in good faith, your business is protected by California's Good Samaritan Food Donation Act & the Federal Good Samaritan Food Donation Act.

Recordkeeping Requirements Checklist

Tier 1 & Tier 2 businesses must keep the following records:

- A copy of contracts or written agreements with a food recovery service or organization
- A list of each food recovery service or organization that collects/receives edible food
- The name, address and contact information of the food recovery service or organization
- The types of food donated
- The established frequency of food donation(s)
- The quantity of food donated (must be tracked by pounds per month)

CAREIT

SHARE IT WITH CAREIT!

Businesses with edible food to donate can utilize the FREE app, Careit, in partnership with the City of Torrance, to find a local food recovery organizations and track donation activity for State reporting. Download at www.careitapp.com



For more information, scan the QR code or contact the City of Torrance Department of Public Works, Sanitation Division:

www.TorranceCA.Gov/PublicWorks

(310) 781-6900