

*A Timeline of California Waste and Recycling Regulations & Export Policies**

1989 - AB 939 established the California Integrated Waste Management Act which required each city or county plan to include an implementation schedule which shows a diversion of 25 percent of all solid waste from landfills by January 1, 1995; and, diversion of 50 percent of all solid waste by January 1, 2000. Diversion was to be accomplished through source reduction, recycling, and composting activities.

January 2012 - AB 341 was signed and established a new statewide goal of 75 percent recycling through source reduction, recycling, and composting by 2020.

October 2014 - Governor Brown signs AB 1826, requiring that on and after January 1, 2016, local jurisdictions across the state implement an organic waste recycling program to divert organic waste (organics) generated by businesses (including multifamily residential dwellings that consist of five or more units) based upon the amount of waste they produce.

September 2016 - Governor Brown signed SB 1383, establishing targets to achieve a 50 percent reduction in the level of the statewide disposal of organic waste from the 2014 level by 2020 and a 75 percent reduction by 2025. An additional target of SB 1383 is that 20 percent of currently disposed edible food is recovered for human consumption by 2025.

January 2018 – China banned the import of most plastics and other materials headed for its recycling processors, which had handled nearly half of the world's recyclable waste for the past quarter century. This change in China's import policies that has a profound impact on recycling efforts in California. Mixed paper and most grades of plastic were banned. In 2017, the U.S. sent more than 200,000 tons of mixed paper and about 75,000 tons of scrap plastics to China.**

SOURCES:

* <https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Laws/>

** <https://www.waste360.com> "China's Changing Import Regulations—What Does It All Mean?" (link to <https://www.waste360.com/legislation-regulation/chinas-changing-import-regulations-what-does-it-all-mean>)

<http://www.crrcnorth.org/CrisisMediaKit.aspx>