

PRESENTATION



Item #: 6.d

Meeting Date: September 20, 2024

To: Board of Directors
From: Franco Guzman
Approved by: Felipe Melchor

Subject: Presentation of School Outreach and SB 1383 Compliance in 2023-2024

RECOMMENDATION
Information Only.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The Communications team has conducted outreach to school districts to help them comply with [SB 1383 California's Short-Lived Climate Pollutants: Organic Waste Reductions](#) law, which requires Californians to separate their organic waste from their trash to reduce methane emissions from landfills ([SB 1383 Lara, Chapter 395, Statutes of 2016](#)). Organic waste includes food scraps and yard trimmings. When this material decomposes in landfills, it rots and creates methane—a potent climate pollutant. ReGen Monterey has been working to educate the community about diverting organics from our landfill. This program allows us to produce valuable compost for local farms, save limited landfill space, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Local education agencies including K-12 public and charter schools, school districts, and county offices of education are required to participate. **Beginning on January 1, 2024, the state of California will begin to enforce SB 1383.** ReGen Monterey is here to help schools with compliance and avoid penalties.

Schools are required to comply with SB 1383 by subscribing to an organic waste hauling service and implementing a kitchen and lunchroom waste sorting station. Organic waste will be transported to ReGen Monterey's site for industrial composting. Schools are not responsible for composting their organic waste, but they are encouraged to compost the material in their school garden, science classes, etc. for educational purposes.

Our Communications and Public Education team has made great strides with several schools on the Monterey Peninsula. We would like to continue the momentum to introduce and improve these sorting programs to all school districts in our service area. Our hope is that local students become environmental advocates for life, and bring this knowledge back home, teaching their families how to separate their recycling, trash, and organics properly.

Physical Address

14201 Del Monte Blvd.
Salinas, CA 93908

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 1670
Marina, CA 93933

Phone / Fax

831-384-5313 PHONE
831-384-3567 FAX

Web / Social

ReGenMonterey.org
@ReGenMonterey

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