

SB 1383 Edible Food Recovery Requirements at Large Events



Senate Bill (SB) 1383 and Large Events

All events in California with 2000+ attendees/day are required to donate edible food that would have otherwise been disposed. **It is the event organizer's responsibility to ensure that the maximum amount of edible food is recovered (i.e. donated instead of thrown away) by food facilities and food vendors at their event.**

"Edible food" means food intended for people to eat but not sold because of surplus, appearance, age, grade, freshness, etc. It includes prepared food, packaged food, and produce.

Why Donate Food?

Recovering food at your event allows the event to be in compliance with state law SB 1383, help feed communities in need, receive tax deductions through donations, and avoid financial penalties for noncompliance.



SB 1383 Edible Food Recovery Requirements at Your Event

1. Donate the maximum amount of edible food that would otherwise be disposed at the event.
 - Arrange donation through a written agreement with a **food recovery organization or service (FRO)**.
 - Arrange for food facilities and food vendors operating at the event to donate their surplus recoverable food.
2. Maintain the following **SB 1383 food recovery records**: A list of each FRO that receives food donations from your event, a copy of the contract or written agreement with each FRO, the dates and times that food was collected or self-hauled, and the quantity of food donated in pounds per event.

Local FROs to Partner With To Recover Food At Your Event

The following organizations have experience rescuing food from events like yours. Please contact them before your event to coordinate availability, the types of food they accept, and transportation logistics.

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| <p>Noel Community Organization 141 W. Victoria St., Long Beach (562) 335-1330 noelcommunityorganization.org</p> | <p>Salvation Army - ARC 1370 Alamitos Ave, Long Beach (562) 218-2355 longbeacharc.salvationarmy.org</p> | <p>Christian Outreach in Action 515 E. 3rd St., Long Beach, CA 90802 (562) 432-1440 coalongbeach.org</p> |
| <p>Food Finders 10539 Humboldt St., Los Alamitos (562) 283-1400 x105 foodfinders.org</p> | <p>FoodCycle LA Submit this form or email help@foodcyclela.org (323) 894-4010 foodcyclela.org</p> | <p>Catholic Charities 123 E. 14th St., Long Beach LB Service Center (213) 251-3432 catholiccharitiesla.org</p> |

Have questions or need more information? Visit longbeach.gov/donatefood or call 562-570-2869



To request this information in an alternative format or to request a reasonable accommodation, please contact Department of Public Works at lbrecycles@longbeach.gov or 562-570-2850. A minimum of three (3) business days is requested to ensure availability. Reasonable attempts will be made to accommodate requests made within less than three (3) business days.



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Steps to Recover Food at Your Event and Comply with SB 1383

1. Well before your event date, contact the FRO of your choice (see list on page 1).
 - **Confirm the types of food the FRO accepts, the types and volume of food you expect to have for donation, and arrange the date and times for donation drop-offs or pick-ups.**
 - Mutually **sign a written agreement or contract.** [Template](#) is available at longbeach.gov/donatefood.
 - Submit the food donation information requested in the **Pre-Event Form**.
2. Work with the FRO and food vendors to set up a **food recovery plan** that facilitates safe redistribution.
 - Include a food recovery clause in vendor contracts such as, "In accordance with California state law SB 1383, any vendor selling or providing food at the event is prohibited from throwing away edible food and must instead donate any surplus recoverable food. The event operator will provide guidance on how vendors can participate in the food recovery mandate during the event."
 - Establish a staging area for vendors that can include labels (to indicate date and contents), food-safe containers and transport bags, refrigerated and shelf-stable storage space, and a scale for tracking weights.
3. Before and during the event, **share event-specific information with food vendors on how to participate in the food recovery mandate.**
4. Collect SB 1383 records from all food donation at the event, including from vendors.
 - Use CalRecycle's recordkeeping tool.
 - Prepare for inspection by having the records available at the event.
5. After the event, submit the food donation info requested in the **Post-Event Form** and retain the records.

Additional Considerations

- Events are subject to inspection for compliance with the food recovery requirements beginning 1/1/24.
- **What about food safety?** Donated food must meet food safety requirements of the California Retail Food Code (CalCode). For guidance, check out the [California Safe Surplus Food Donation Guide](#).
- **Worried about liability?** The California Good Samaritan Food Donation Act and the federal Bill Emerson Food Donation Act protect donors from civil and criminal liability so long as the food was donated in good faith and fit for human consumption. Businesses, persons, and nonprofits are all covered.
- **Looking to reduce food waste at your event?**
 - Ask vendors to consider cutting prices on unsold food at the end of the day.
 - Treat staff to leftovers.
 - Publicize your efforts through signage or by hosting a waste-cutting challenge for attendees.
 - Proper food storage keeps food fresh longer.

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@LBRecycles

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