Gas leaf blowers are prohibited.

Están prohibidos los sopladores de hojas de gas.

Gas is out.

Electric is in.



SCAN FOR INFORMATION ON REBATES:

www.burlingame.org/leafblowers

MULTIFAMILY EV CHARGING

Get EV charging stations for little to no cost at your property. WestLight offers free design assistance and rebates for installing EV chargers. Other Burlingame commercial properties have benefitted from this program and over 70 EV stations have been installed locally!

Contact PCE at 650-542-8479 to find out how to start the program at your property. PenCleanEnergy.com/EVR



COMMERCIAL COMPOSTING

All businesses and buildings are required to compost.

Call Recology to sign up for composting service: 650-595-3900.

If your business does not generate organic waste, apply for a waiver at RethinkWaste.org/Waiver.

Businesses that do not compost or have a waiver will receive a notice of violation with future penalties.



COMPOSTABLE PLASTICS ARE NOT ACTUALLY COMPOSTABLE.
AND WHY YOU SHOULD AVOID THEM.

In recent years, the demand for eco-friendly packaging has driven many businesses to adopt "compostable" plastics such as utensils, cups, bowls, and plates made from bioplastics like PLA (Polylactic Acid). These are often marketed as sustainable alternatives to traditional plastic and often feature green labels and compost symbols that make them appear environmentally responsible. This is often referred to as "greenwashing." In most cases, compostable plastics do not break down in local composting systems, and their use often creates more problems than they solve.





Why Local Compost Facilities Reject Compostable Plastics

While the term "compostable" suggests these products will break down harmlessly in the environment, that is only true under very specific industrial conditions. Compostable plastics like PLA require high heat (above 130°F), consistent moisture, and a controlled microbial environment to break down. These conditions are not present in backyard compost piles or many industrial composting facilities. As a result, most compostable plastics:

- Do not break down fast enough at the facility. Composters often screen out materials that do not fully decompose within their required 30–60-day cycle.
- Look like regular plastic. It's difficult to visually distinguish compostable plastics from conventional ones, which increases contamination risk.
- Damage trust and product quality. Consumers expect finished compost to be clean of contamination and plastic-free. Finding bits of "compostable" forks or lids in compost undermines credibility and usability.

Better Alternatives for Businesses, Consider These Alternatives:

- Durable, reusable dishware whenever possible.
- Paper-based or fiber products.
- Clear signage and waste sorting
- Education to help staff and customers dispose of materials correctly.
- Reusable San Mateo County is working to eliminate our county's single-use food ware by championing a reusable culture. To learn more, visit: **reusablesanmateocounty.org.**
- For no cost technical assistance, contact Recology at **GreenYourBiz@Recology.com** or call (650) 595-3900.



