



Utility Commission Divisional Update – Solid Waste

Utility Commission Meeting Date: July 14, 2025

TO: City of Lompoc Utility Commission

FROM: Keith Quinlan, Solid Waste Manager
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SUBJECT: Divisional Update - June/July 2025

The Solid Waste Summer Edition of the Trash Talk newsletter will be delivered to all businesses and residents in their June Bill. For those that have opted out of receiving a paper bill, the Trash Talk newsletter will be delivered via the email account on file. The Summer Edition will include information on the collection day tips and container placement, How to handle old medications, Changes to accepted materials at the Landfill, and the upcoming Holiday Schedule for Summer 2025.

Solid Waste has submitted the Recycling and Disposal Reporting System (RDRS) 1st Quarter report to the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery or CalRecycle. The Landfill received a total of 9,102 tons of trash for the quarter. Of the 9,102 tons of trash, 7,742 tons or 85% came from the City of Lompoc and 1,360 tons or nearly 15% came from the unincorporated areas of Santa Barbara County surrounding the City and falling within the City's watershed.

Explorer Ecology has provided 101 environmental education presentations to 2,460 students on composting, Waste Reduction, and Food Waste diversion to students at Clarence Ruth, La Canada, Hapgood, Miguelito, La Honda, Fillmore, and Mission Valley schools.

Solid Waste has submitted an application to the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery or CalRecycle's Oil Payment Program for FY 25/26. The Division is expected receive approximately \$6,000 this year, which will be allocated towards the City's used oil and used oil filter recycling program.

Solid Waste and Sanitation (or Collections) has received 6 new sideload Refuse Collection vehicles. The vehicles are with the City's Fleet Division awaiting stickering, plates, fuel cards, and inspection prior to being placed into service. Solid Waste and the Landfill have received a new Landfill Loader and attachments, the unit is currently with Fleet awaiting stickering, registration, and inspection prior to being released and placed into service with the Landfill.

On July 1st, new rates will go into effect at the Lompoc Landfill pursuant to Resolution No. 6581 (23). The Landfill solid waste or trash rate will be \$110.00 per ton and the minimum load fee (up to 500 lbs.) will be \$27.00. Also, on July 1st new Residential and Commercial rates will go into effect per Resolution No. 6581(23). New rates signs have been posted at the scale house and on the Division's website.

The Solid Waste Division has submitted the quarterly Integrated Waste Management Fee to the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration for the second quarter 2025. The total tons disposed of in the second quarter were 9,451 tons, averaging just over 107 tons per day for the 88 operating days in the quarter.

Organic Waste (Food Scrap) & Greenwaste (lawn clippings and yard waste) should now be placed in customers green lid Organics (Greenwaste) containers (green lid container). The Organics collection is expanding the greenwaste collection (currently grass clippings, leaves, branches, and brush/shrubs), to include food scraps into the green lid container. The items acceptable in the Organics container (green lid container) are fruits, vegetables, breads, meats, fish, cheeses, eggshells, pizza, pasta, rice, coffee grounds and tea bags. The following items are NOT acceptable in the Organics container, Plastic bags, plastic wrap, plastic straws, food containers, Styrofoam, bottles, cans, aluminum, trash, fats, oil, or grease and liquids.

The Solid Waste Division has complimentary kitchen counter pails for City of Lompoc residents to recycle their Organic food scraps. The complimentary indoor kitchen pail is available for pick up from the City of Lompoc's Solid Waste Office, located at 1300 West Laurel Avenue, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Monday through Friday) The kitchen pails are also available for pick up at the City of Lompoc Library (501 E. North Avenue, during Library hours), and City Hall Lobby, during operating hours. The kitchen pail is a 1-gallon capacity kitchen counter container, available while supplies last. The kitchen pail provides a convenient way to collect your food scraps before depositing them in your Organics (Green lid) container. Helpful tip, line the bottom of the Organics container with yard waste, leaves, or grass clippings before placing food scraps to prevent the materials from sticking to the bottom of your Organics container.