New York
Food Waste Law

6 NYCRR Subpart 361-3

WhatBusinesses Need to Know — Now

CleanRiver® RECYCLING SOLUTIONS

WHAT CHANGED?

Food waste is no longer optional — it is regulated. New York State requires large generators to divert organic waste from landfill and send it to approved recycling facilities.

DONATE FOOD	REPURPOSE SCRAPS	NO LANDFILL
1st priority: Separate & donate all excess edible food	Compost, digest, or convert remaining food scraps	Food waste must not go to landfill if a recycler is nearby

UNDERSTANDING THE THRESHOLD

The threshold determines which businesses must comply, based on **weekly food waste generation at each location**. As thresholds drop, more businesses are impacted.

Before 2026 — Active now	From January 2027 (NEW!)	From 2029
2 TONS / WEEK	**1 TON / WEEK**	**0.5 TON / WEEK**
Within 25 miles	Within 25 miles	Within 50 miles

EXPANDED DISTANCE REQUIREMENT

APPLIES IF A RECYCLING FACILITY IS WITHIN 50 MILES (measured in a straight line)

BEFORE (2022–2026)	NOW (from January 2027)
25 MILES	**50 MILES**
from organics recycler	from organics recycler — doubled

KEY IMPACT:

Only 37% of covered businesses met the 25-mile rule.
The 50-mile expansion brings the vast majority of NY generators outside NYC into mandatory compliance

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CleanRiver®
RECYCLING SOLUTIONS

WHO IS IMPACTED

APPLIES ACROSS ENTIRE OPERATIONS — NOT INDIVIDUAL LOCATIONS

- LARGE FOOD SERVICES
- CAMPUSES & UNIVERSITIES
- AIRPORTS & VENUES
- HOTELS & SUPERMARKETS
- FOOD PROCESSORS
- CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES
- SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT
- CORPORATE CAMPUSES

FOUR OBLIGATIONS FOR DESIGNATED GENERATORS

01 DONATE
Separate & donate all excess edible food first

02 RECYCLE
Compost, digest, or convert remaining food scraps

03 TRAIN
Train all staff & maintain records of training

04 SEPARATE
Install source separation bins at every station

ACCEPTED RECYCLING PATHWAYS

Composting	Anaerobic Digestion	Animal Feed	Land Application	Rendering
Aerobic decomposition at a permitted composting facility	Conversion to biogas and digestate at a permitted facility	Directed to licensed animal feed operations	Applied to agricultural fields as soil amendment	Processing by a licensed rendering facility

THE REALITY — Most waste systems are not built for compliance

- Poor source separation at the bin
- High contamination rates
- Systems not scalable as regulations evolve

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WHO IS COVERED & WHAT THEY MUST DO

CleanRiver® RECYCLING SOLUTIONS

EXEMPTIONS & WAIVERS

Permanently Exempt

- New York City (own local law)
- Hospitals & medical centers
- Nursing homes & adult care
- K-12 elementary & secondary
- schools Farms (on-site use only)

ONE-YEAR WAIVER AVAILABLE

- Gross income under $300,000
- Recycling costs 10%+ more than
- disposal Must reapply annually
- Submit supporting docs to NYSDEC

ANNUAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- **Deadline:**March 1 each year, for the prior calendar year
- **What to report:**Total food scraps generated, amounts donated, and amounts
- recycled **Failure to file:**Is itself a violation of 6 NYCRR Part 360
- **10+ locations:**Request a batch entry spreadsheet from NYSDEC
- **Threshold calc:**Annual average per location — not across your full portfolio

8-STEP COMPLIANCE ACTION PLAN

1. **Check DFSG List** — Verify your NY locations on the NYSDEC Designated Food Scraps Generator list
2. **Find Recycler** — Use NYSDEC Organics Resource Locator — confirm facility within 50 miles
3. **Setup Donation** — Partner with a food bank. Call Feeding NY State: 518-930-7000
4. **Redesign Bins** — Source separation begins at the bin — intuitive, standardized, scalable
5. **Hire Transporter** — Engage a licensed food scraps transporter from the NYSDEC county list
6. **Train Staff** — Train all relevant staff and keep records of dates, content & attendees
7. **File Report** — Submit annual report by March 1 — track tonnage donated and recycled
8. **Build for 2027** — Design infrastructure that adapts as thresholds drop — Transition Ready™

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HOW CAN YOU PREPARE YOURSELF?

The CleanRiver Transition® bins is the only bin you'll ever need—designed to adapt with your evolving recycling program, **protecting your investment for the long term**

TRANSITION READY®
PROTECT YOUR INVESTMENT

Transition seamlessly **from a single to a multi-stream collection,** all **without the need to replace the entire unit**

CONNECT WITH A CONSULTANT TODAY

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