

# UNDERSTANDING ODORS IN MARINA TOWN HALL

July 6, 2026

Marina Library

Hosted by:

District 4 Supervisor Wendy Root Askew

Marina Mayor Bruce Delgado



# TONIGHT'S AGENDA

- Welcome and meeting logistics
- Framing the issue
- Panelist presentations
- Q&A - responding to your questions
- Wrap-up and next steps



# HOW TO PARTICIPATE

## In person

- Write your question or comment on a card; cards and pens are at your seat
- Raise your card when it's ready – our staff will collect cards throughout the presentations

## On Zoom

- Share your question in the chat



# RESOURCES WE'LL SHARE OUT

- This meeting will be recorded and posted on Supervisor Askew's website.
- We may not be able to answer every question tonight, but we'll do our best to respond to all of them in a written FAQ after the meeting.
- Leave your name and email on the sign-in form, or private message the meeting host in the Zoom chat, if you'd like to receive a follow-up email.



# SMELL SOMETHING? SAY SOMETHING!

Report odors in Marina:

[mbard.org/submit-a-complaint](http://mbard.org/submit-a-complaint)

(831) 647-9411



# Marina Odors Town Hall

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RICHARD A. STEDMAN  
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL OFFICER

JULY 6, 2026



# Monterey Bay Air Resources District

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Responsible for air monitoring, permitting, enforcement, air quality planning, regulatory development, education and public information activities related to air pollution.

*The mission of the Monterey Bay Air Resources District is to Protect Public and Environmental Health while balancing Economic and Air Quality Considerations.*

Jurisdiction: Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties



# Monterey Bay Air Resources District

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## *Quick Facts*

- ❖ Founded in 1965, Unified in 1974
- ❖ Authorized by California and Federal Clean Air Acts
- ❖ Agency serves a population of 770,000 in 5,000 square miles
- ❖ 11-Member Board of Directors
- ❖ 36 Employees
- ❖ Regulates over 3,000 air pollution sources

# Report Complaints to Us

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Online complaint form

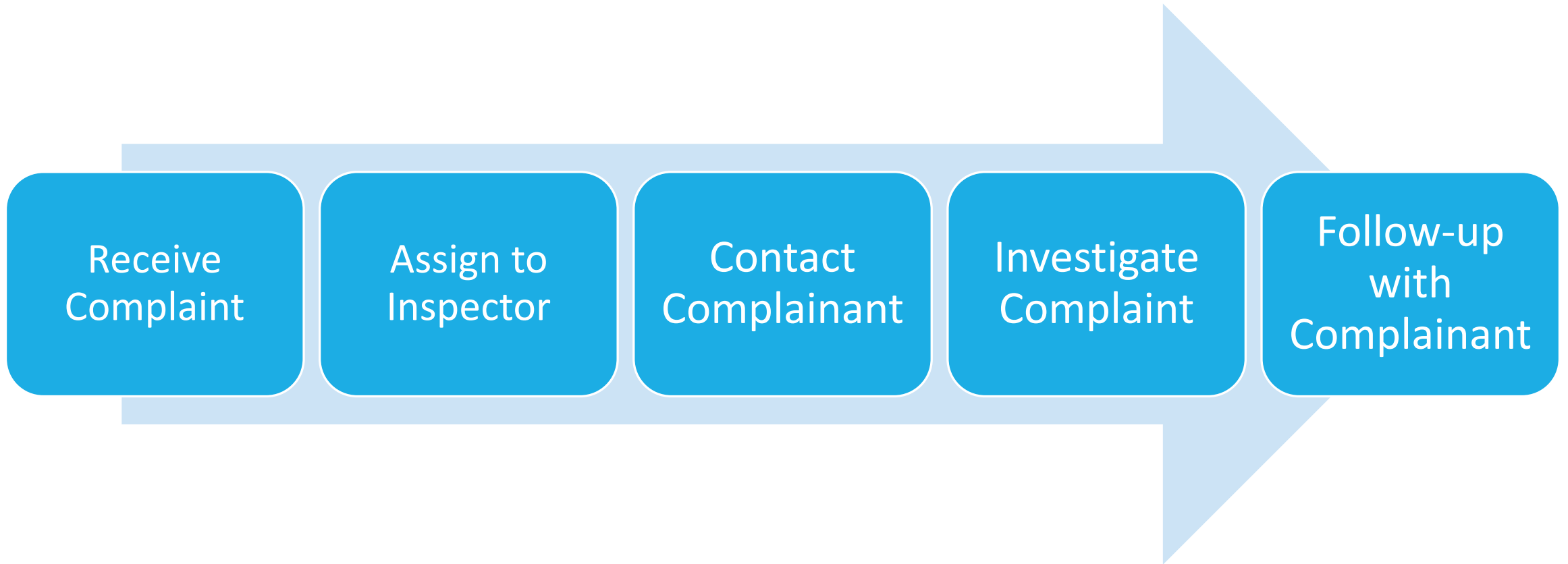
<https://www.mbard.org/submit-a-complaint>

Call: (831) 647-9411

For Odor  
Complaints  
Provide:

- Date of odor
- Time of day
- Duration of odors
- Description of Odor

# Complaint Response



# Complaint Response Marina Odors

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May conduct in-field investigation

MBARD Emails Other Agencies and Potential Sources:

- Monterey County  
Environmental Health
- Ag Commissioner
- City of Marina
- Regen Monterey
- Monterey One Water
- Keith Day
- Ag Operator (RAMCO)

# Challenges with Odor Complaints

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## Sources

- Proximity of many sources make it difficult to trace odors to specific facilities
- Processes vary over time and space
- Jurisdiction for odors varies depending on the source

## Meteorology

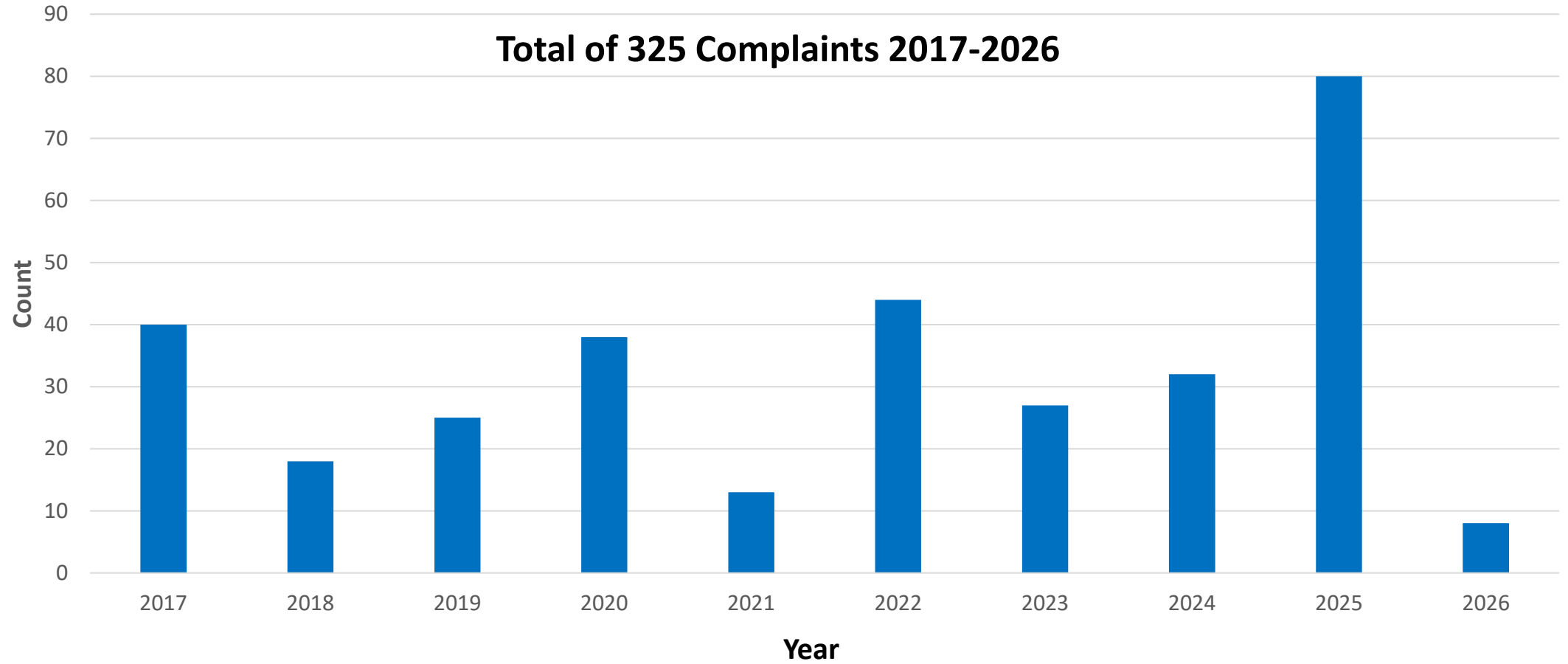
- Wind direction and speed, temperature, humidity, inversion, seasonal fluctuations

## Odors

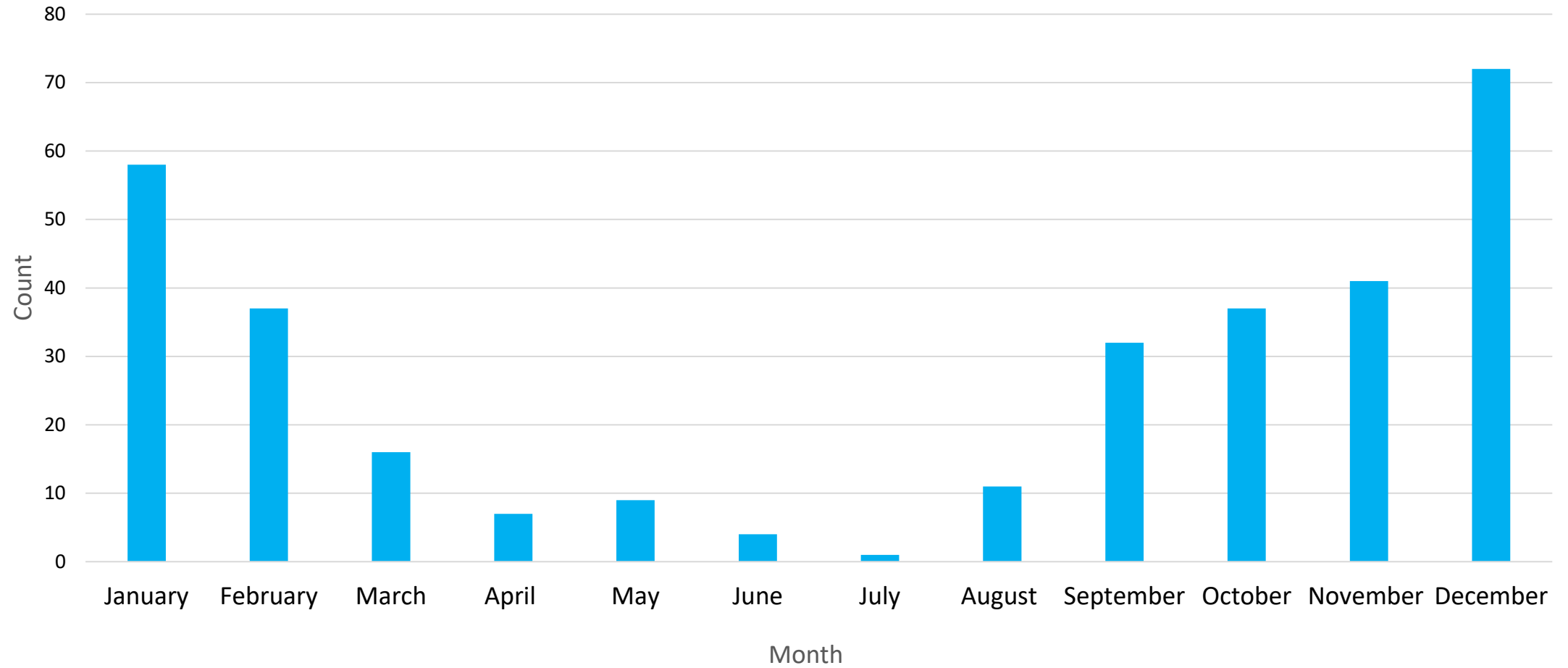
- Humans experience odor characteristics and intensity differently
- No odor detection devices

# Number of Marina Odor Complaints by Year

Total of 325 Complaints 2017-2026



# Number of Marina Odor Complaints by Month



# Inconclusive Nuisance Odors Impacting Marina

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- April 28, 2026

- Field investigation at 9am.
- Inspector identified small pond in the area of the resident, some nearby construction, but no odors were detected at the time of the inspection.
- No odors were detected in the vicinity of the landfill and other facilities off Del Monte Blvd north of Marina.

- April 29, 2026

- Field investigation at 9:45 am wind direction from the west.
- Inspector unable to confirm the presence of composting odors in the area of the complaint or in the vicinity of the landfill and other facilities off Del Monte Blvd north of Marina.

# Confirmed Nuisance Odor Source Impacting Marina

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Late November – Early December 2025

20 Complaints

48 tons Brussel sprouts to compost operation



Questions?

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# COUNTY OF MONTEREY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

## ODORS AND LOCAL ENFORCEMENT AGENCY (LEA) JURISDICTION

**Angeline Hsu- Senior Staff**

**Local Enforcement Agency, Monterey County Health  
Department, Environmental Health Bureau**

**Marina Town Hall**

**July 6, 2026**





# COUNTY OF MONTEREY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

## LEA Solid Waste Facility Permits:

- ReGen Monterey landfill & materials recovery facility
- ReGen Monterey Compost Facility (formerly Gabilan Ag)
- Both facilities have full and separate SWFPs
- SWFPs require facilities to meet State Minimum Standards





# COUNTY OF MONTEREY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

## ReGen Monterey (Monterey Regional Waste Management District) Landfill

- Title 27, California Code of Regulations
- **State Minimum Standards:**

[27 CAAdc T. 27, Div. 2, Chap. 3, Refs & Annos](#)

[Article 1. CIWMB - Operating Criteria](#)

[Article 2. Alternative Daily Cover Material and Beneficial Reuse](#)

[Article 3. Calrecycle - Handling, Equipment, and Maintenance](#)

[Article 4. CIWMB - Controls](#)

[Article 5. CIWMB - Fire Control at Active and Closed Disposal Sites](#)

[Article 6. Gas Monitoring and Control at Active and Closed Disposal Sites](#)

- Nuisance Control- Article I. Operating Criteria, Section 20760:

*Each disposal site shall be operated and maintained so as not to create a public nuisance.*

## Regen Monterey Compost Facility (August 2025)

- Title 14, California Code of Regulations
- **State Minimum Standards:**

[14 CCR Chapter 3.1](#)

[Article 5: Compost Operation & Facility Siting & Design Standards](#)

[Article 6: Compost Operating Standards](#)

[Article 7: Environmental Health Standards](#)

[Article 8: Compost Operation & Facility Records](#)

[Article 9: Composting Facility Site Restoration](#)

- Odor- Article 6. Compost Operating Standards, Section 17867:

*(2) All handling activities shall be conducted in a manner that minimizes odor impacts so as to not cause a nuisance.*



# COUNTY OF MONTEREY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

## ReGen Monterey (Monterey Regional Waste Management District)

- Report of Disposal Site Information, RDSI (Joint Technical Document, JTD)
- Design and Construction (leachate, LFG)
- Environmental Controls
  - ✓ Nuisances (odors, vectors)
  - ✓ Leachate
  - ✓ Drainage

### **Current Practices:**

- Use daily cover (soil and ADC)
- Bury odiferous waste quickly
- Contain and control leachate
- Capture landfill gas

## ReGen Monterey Compost Facility (August 2025)

- Report of Composting Site Information (RSCI)
- Odor Impact Minimization Plan (OIMP)
  - ✓ Odor monitoring and data collection
  - ✓ Complaint response
  - ✓ Site meteorological conditions
  - ✓ Design considerations
  - ✓ Operating procedure minimize odors

### **Current Practices:**

- New materials are processed
- Food waste covered with wood chips
- Odor control product
- Remove ponding water
- Wind direction
- **New Process: Covered Aerated Static Pile**



# COUNTY OF MONTEREY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

## Contacts

Maria Ferdin- Supervisor

[ferdinme@countyofmonterey.gov](mailto:ferdinme@countyofmonterey.gov)

831-755-8915



# OFFICE OF THE AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER



Juan Hidalgo  
Agricultural Commissioner  
County of Monterey  
1428 Abbott Street  
Salinas, CA 93901  
831-759-7325

Ken Allen  
Chief Deputy Agricultural  
Commissioner  
County of Monterey  
1428 Abbott Street  
Salinas, CA 93901  
831-759-7325

# Local Protection

Agricultural Commissioners implement various state programs locally that protect communities, agricultural workers, agriculture, and our landscapes.

## Agricultural



### PEST PREVENTION

Our insect trapping and plant inspection programs prevent the introduction or spread of new, exotic and destructive pests.



### PESTICIDE USE ENFORCEMENT

We ensure the safe use of pesticides through training, outreach, inspections, and investigations.

### FOOD QUALITY CONTROL

We regulate organic growers, certified producers, farmers' markets and egg handlers to ensure compliance.



### CROP STATISTICS

Every county creates an annual crop report which details the quantity and value of crops, livestock and poultry production.



### PEST MANAGEMENT

We manage numerous programs to protect California from insect, disease, weed and vertebrate pests.



## Weights & Measures Programs



### SCALE INSPECTIONS

We ensure accuracy by inspecting and testing all commercial scales used to determine value.

### QUANTITY CONTROL

We inspect packaged commodities to ensure accuracy with labeling and stated weight, which includes test purchases.



### PRICE VERIFICATION

We conduct point of sale system inspections to protect consumers and ensure they receive the advertised price.

# Limited Role in Agricultural Matters

A vibrant, stylized mural of a farm scene. On the left, a yellow tractor is partially visible. In the center, a wooden truck is loaded with green leafy vegetables. To the right, a wooden crate is filled with red tomatoes and green leafy vegetables. In the foreground, there are more green leafy vegetables, a large red tomato, and a bunch of purple grapes. The background features a large green leaf and a yellow sun. The entire scene is set against a light-colored wall with string lights hanging from the top.

- Oversight limited to state mandated programs in the Food and Agricultural Code
- No oversight over water issues
- No oversight over use of fertilizers
- No oversight over Ag Labor wages
- Does not make recommendations on pest control to growers
- Consulting body on various Ag relates issues
  - Land use policy
  - Right to Farm Regulations

An aerial photograph showing a coastal area with a mix of green agricultural fields, brownish-tan soil, and a body of water on the left. A road or canal runs through the center of the land.

## Agricultural Production:

- Strawberries
- Lettuces
- Artichokes
- Broccoli
- Brussels Sprouts
- Various row crops

## Ag can generate odors from:

- Use of fertilizers (compost, manure)
- Use of pesticides
- Natural decomposition of certain crops after harvest (broccoli, brussels sprouts, cabbage, various brassicas)
- Composting on site (very few growers do this)

## Agricultural odors from the above sources are short lived:

- Compost/Manure: a few days – applied prior to planting
- Pesticide odors: a few hours – generally limited to the area treated or adjacent areas
- Crop decomposition: a few days – generally crop is disced 2-3 days after harvest eliminating most odor
- Composting on site: several hours to days – generally generated when turning compost pile, and dependent on size and number of compost piles and frequency of turning

## Ag Commissioner Role and Response to Odor:

- No regulatory oversight over odor issues related to agriculture but...
- Office investigates if odor originating from ag sources
- Contact grower to understand source of odor if any
- Increase awareness with grower if odor issues are identified that are like to persist
- Collaborate with other agencies on identifying source of odor
- Responding back to community members that reported odors to our office

# Right to Farm

## County Ordinance 16.40.005

- Promotes protection, conservation, and enhancement of agricultural productive land
- Minimize potential conflict between agricultural and non-agricultural land use
- Generally recognized farming practices and standards are protected under the right to farm
- Ag Commissioner investigates public complaints and try to work with growers to find a solution when possible

Thank you.

County of Monterey  
Agricultural Commissioner's Office





**Marina City Council**

June 16, 2026

# ReGen Monterey

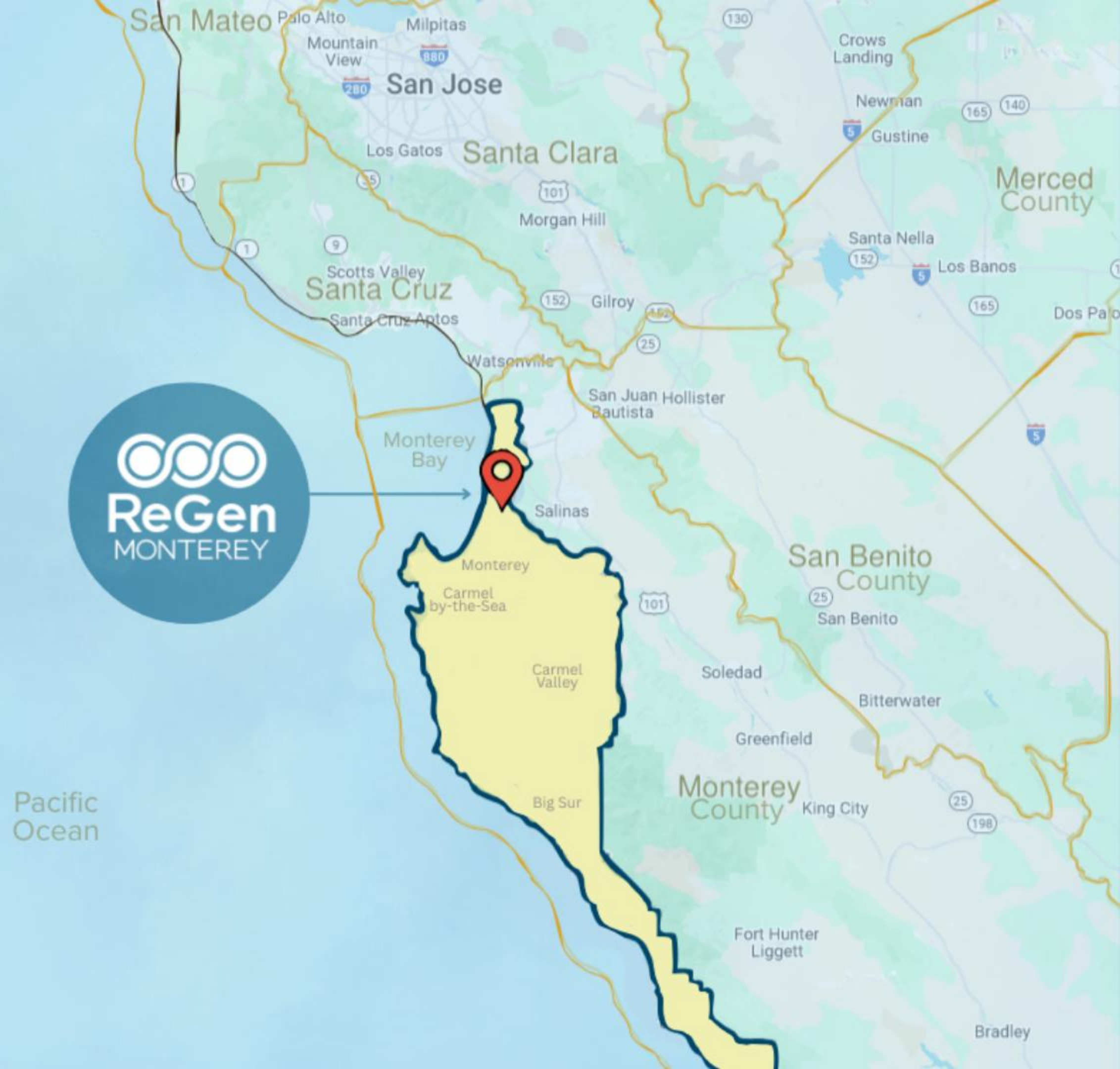
Seventy-Five Years of Public  
Service and Innovation

**Felipe Melchor**

General Manager



- Service area: 853 square miles
- District population: 170,000
- Special district with a Board of Directors consisting of representatives from member agencies
- Member agencies include Monterey, Carmel-by-the-Sea, Del Rey Oaks, Marina, Pacific Grove, Sand City, Seaside, Pebble Beach and unincorporated areas of Monterey County





- “One stop shop” for 800+ customers a day
  - 315-acre Landfill
  - Materials Recovery Facility (recycling plant)
  - Compost yard
  - Free Household Hazardous Waste (HHW), Electronics and Recycling Drop-Off Centers
  - Landfill Gas-to-Energy plant
  - Last Chance Mercantile reuse store
- 140 employees
- \$58.6 million budget



ReGen  
MONTEREY

Monterey  
One Water







“Doing more to waste less”

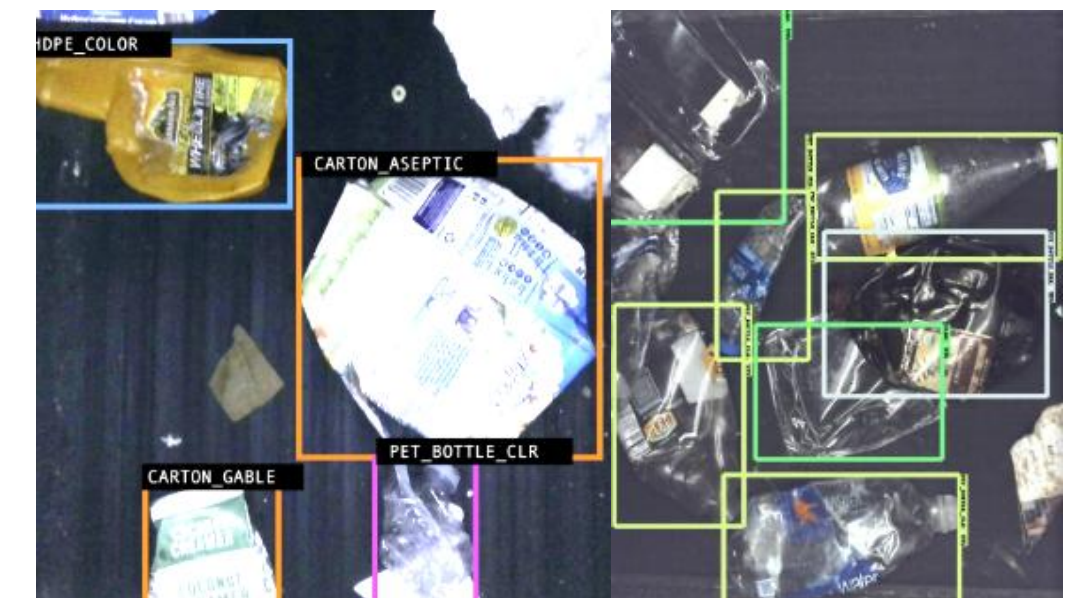
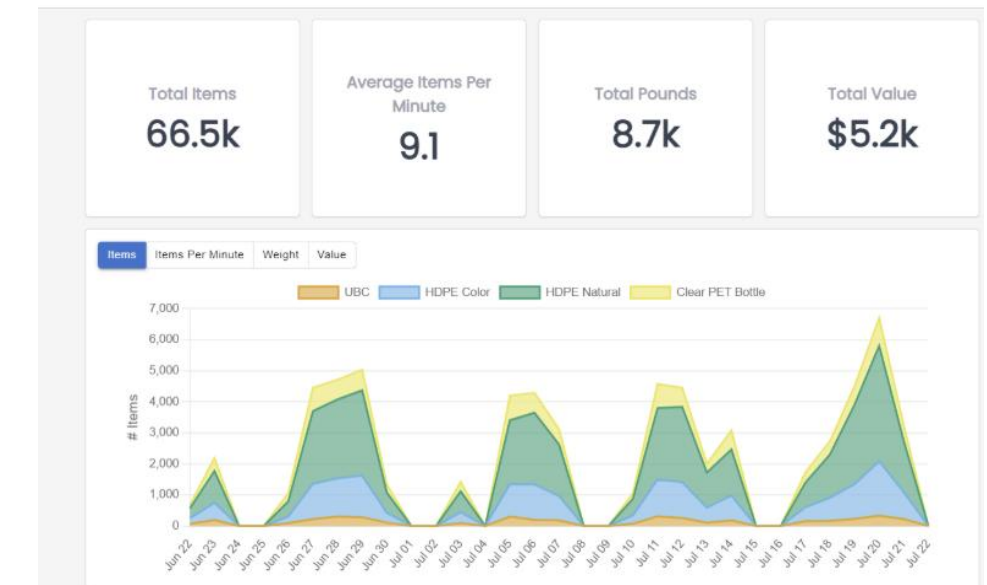




## Covered Aerated Static Pile (CASp) Project



- \$8.7M project to transition from traditional windrow composting to advanced CASp composting system
- Real-time automation and monitoring manages airflow, temperature, and irrigation simultaneously
- Result: accelerated composting process, lower emissions and reduced odors.
- Advances SB 1383 compliance while supporting a circular local economy — 100% of finished compost goes back to local farms.



- Six advanced optical sorters identify materials by composition, color and shape, sorting up to 700 items per minute.
- 30 MRF employees combine operational expertise with technology to sort 250+ tons a day, maximizing material recovery, reducing contamination and ensuring quality control for commodities.
- First MRF facility to introduce Glacier AI-powered material analysis and vision systems. Technology identifies and quantifies materials remaining in the waste stream, providing data on commodity value, recovery opportunities and contamination.



- Delivers real-time feedback on compaction, location, elevation, fill amounts, exclusion zones, and team positioning for efficiency and safety
- Builds on the expertise of veteran operators — augmenting decades of hands-on experience with precision data.
- ReGen holds 100+ years of remaining landfill capacity. GPS-guided compaction helps preserve a limited community resource.



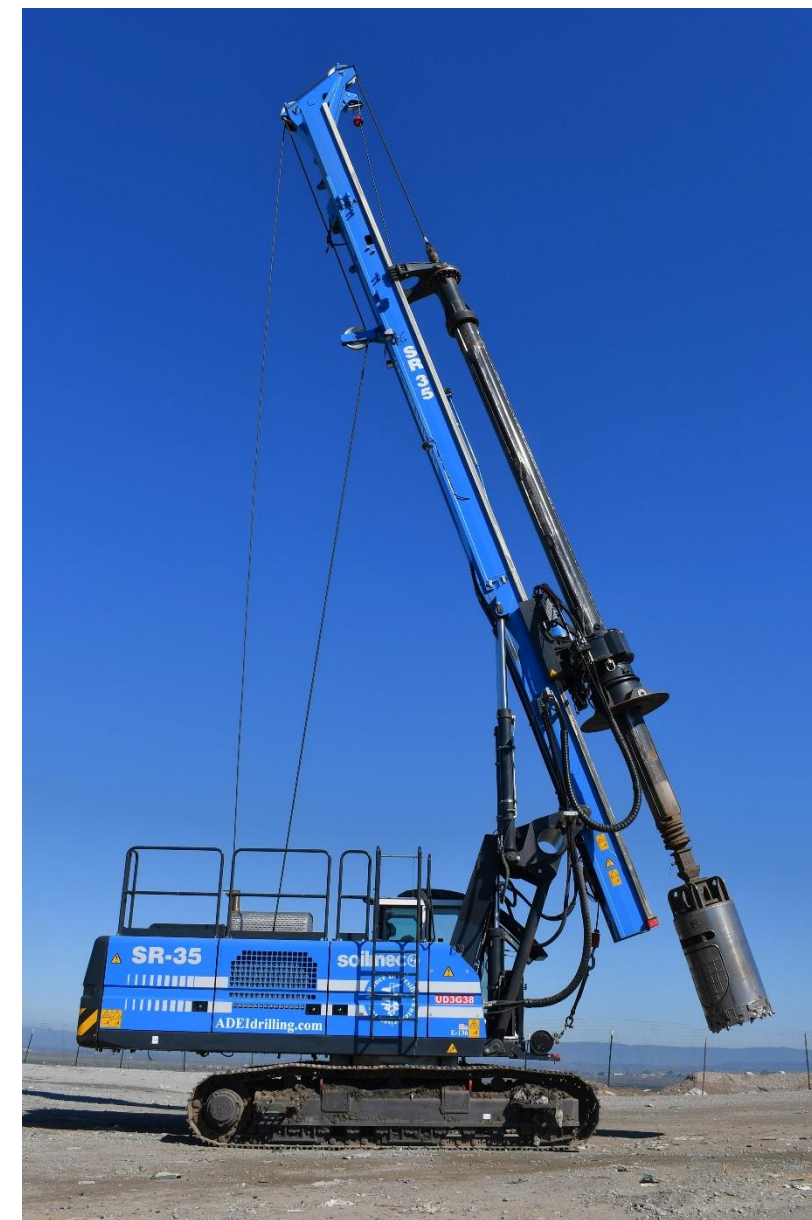
- \$800K investment installed automated well technology across 100+ landfill gas collection wells
- Full implementation projected to cut emissions equivalent to removing 13,000 vehicles annually
- Reduces labor-intensive manual well inspections while enabling ReGen to exceed current methane capture regulations

## A Hub for Methane Research and Environmental Transparency



- ReGen's public mission drives a higher standard: transparency, environmental stewardship, and accountability to the communities we serve
- ReGen Monterey has opened its doors as an active research site, hosting university scientists and the California Air Resources Board, conducting independent methane emissions studies.
- Drone-mounted laser sensors map methane concentrations, emissions and verifying gas collection performance

## A Hub for Methane Research and Environmental Transparency



- Research findings are shared with the California Air Resources Board (CARB), supporting statewide climate goals
- Independent, third-party data validates ReGen's environmental performance and reinforces our commitment to transparency

## Keeping Local Power Local with Central Coast Community Energy (3CE)



- In addition to powering our own facilities, ReGen provides 3 MW of electricity from our landfill gas-to-energy facility directly to 3CE
- ReGen delivers steady, around-the-clock power, complementing variable sources like solar and wind
- Public-public partnership keeps locally produced renewable energy in the community — advancing climate action and affordability

## Oversight, Compliance and Commitment



- ReGen operates under strict oversight from local, state, and federal agencies — covering air quality, water protection, and public health:
  - Monterey County Health Department
  - CalRecycle
  - Monterey Bay Air Resources District
  - California Department of Toxic Substances Control
  - California Air Resources Board
  - Occupational Safety and Health Administration
  - State Water Resources Control Board

## The Future of Landfill Gas at ReGen



- Landfill gas-to-energy plant has been in operation for more than 40 years
- Ongoing analysis underway to determine optimal future use of methane
- Balancing regulatory compliance obligations with long-term economic opportunity

# 75<sup>th</sup> ReGen MONTEREY





## ReGen Monterey

14201 Del Monte Blvd.  
Salinas, CA 93908  
831-384-5313

ReGenMonterey.org  
@ReGenMonterey

ReGen Monterey  
is the public name of  
Monterey Regional Waste  
Management District

For more information, please contact:

Felipe Melchor  
*General Manager*

[FMelchor@ReGenMonterey.org](mailto:FMelchor@ReGenMonterey.org)

# Marina Odors Town Hall: *Update from M1W*

July 6, 2026

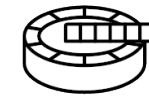


**Monterey One Water**  
Providing Cooperative Water Solutions

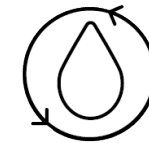
# Monterey One Water (M1W)



## Providing Cooperative Water Solutions



**Wastewater** ..... 1990  
Capacity: 29.6 MGD



**Non Potable Reuse** ..... 1998  
Capacity: 29.6 MGD



**Potable Reuse** ..... 2020  
Capacity: 7.6 MGD

# Odor Study Recommendations: M1W

*Study determined the most significant odor impacts were downwind of the ReGen composting facility and M1W's sludge drying beds*

- 01 Barriers/ windbreaks
- 02 Food waste – controlled enclosures
- 03 Source point solutions
- 04 Odor patrols
- 05 Sludge drying beds

# Odor Study Recommendations: M1W Action

Keith Day  
Compost Facility

ReGen

Upgrade of Regional  
Treatment Plant

Solids Handling &  
Resource Recovery  
Improvements

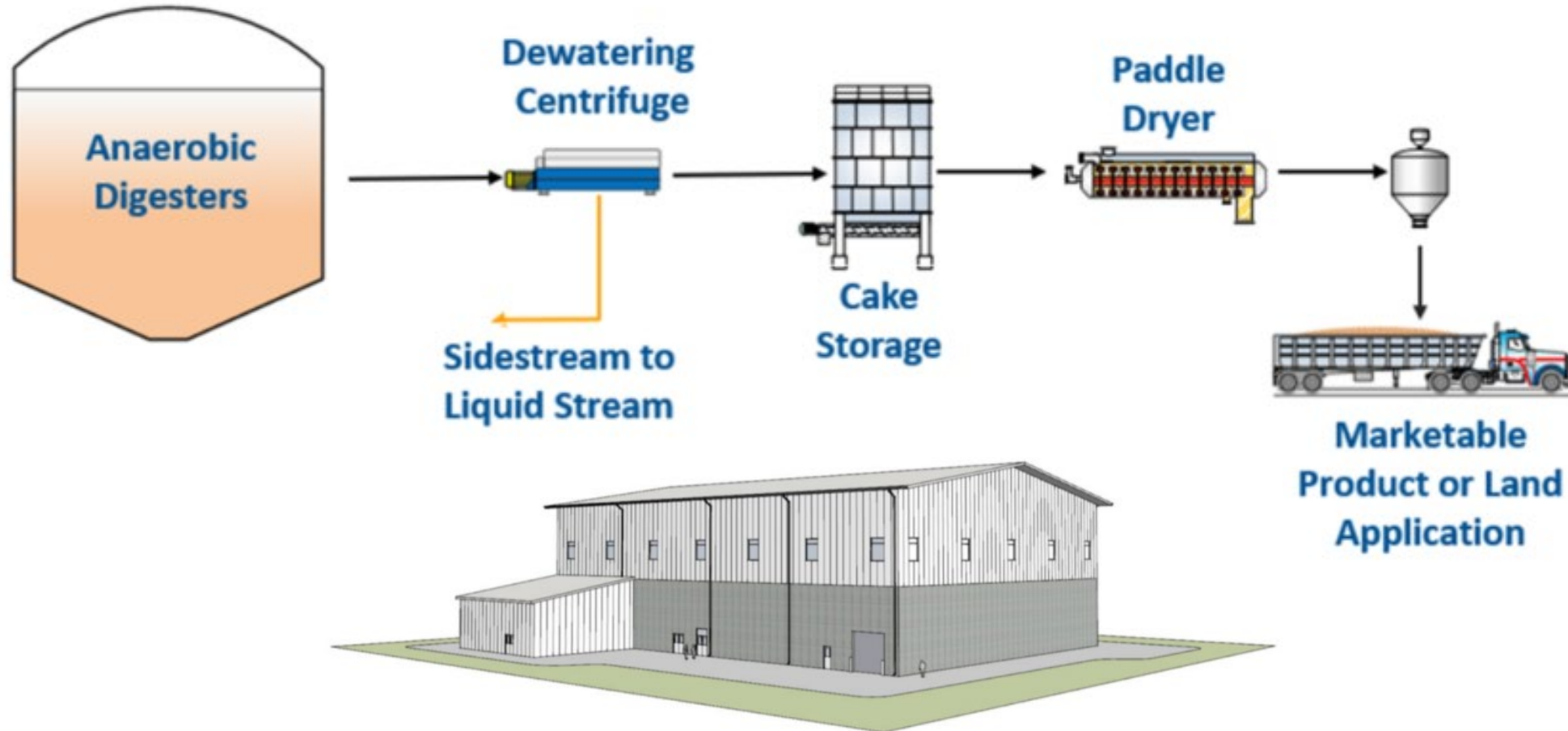
Food Waste Receiving &  
Co-Digestion Facility

● = Odor control system



# Solids Handling & Resource Recovery Improvements

**Status:** In design; estimated completion 2031



# SMELL SOMETHING? SAY SOMETHING!

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# THANK YOU!

Subscribe to our newsletter:  
[wendyrootaskew.com/newsletter](http://wendyrootaskew.com/newsletter)

