

RESIDENTIAL FOOD SCRAP COMPOSTING PROGRAM

April is the start of the season for Residential Food Scrap Composting Programs in your community. If your town participates in a ride along food scrap composting program that allows you to add food scraps to your landscape waste (serviced April-November), we want YOU to take advantage of this environmentally beneficial service today! Please see below the simple and easy guidelines for how to compost your food scraps.

Why Compost Food Scraps?

It's Easy! Collect food scraps into a container & set out as part of your community's seasonal landscape waste collection program.

It rides along free with your landscape waste! As part of the sticker program or subscription option, please call your hauler if you have questions.

Reduces garbage and preserves landfill space.

Reduces greenhouse gas production at landfills.

Creates compost - a great soil amendment!

What Happens to My Food Scraps and Landscape Waste?

Food scraps and landscape waste that is collected curbside is taken to a permitted compost facility where the food scraps and landscape waste are processed into a final compost product.

Composting food scraps and landscape waste reduces the amount of waste dumped into our landfills and helps reduce greenhouse gas production. Compost can be used on your lawn, in your garden or landscape project, and to suppress weeds, conserve water and increase soil health.

How to Compost Food Scraps:

Collect acceptable food scraps in your kitchen collector. Do not use plastic or biodegradable bags to line your collector.

Empty the food scraps into a rigid curbside landscape waste container (line with a brown paper landscape waste collection bag if needed).

Set out your landscape waste and food scraps on the regularly scheduled waste collection day.

Tips to Reduce Possible Odors or Pests: You may want to line your kitchen container with newspaper, paper towels or a paper bag, empty frequently, wash after use, sprinkle with baking soda, keep container closed.

What can be composted?

Visit our Household Compost Guide here:
www.swalco.org/compostguide

Fruits and Vegetables

Coffee grounds, tea bags & filters

Bread, rice, pasta, cereal, grains, nuts & shells

Meat, poultry, seafood (including shells and bones)

Dairy & Eggs (including shells, no liquids)

Paper products (including clean or dirty paper towels, plates, napkins, egg cartons & pizza boxes)

Plants, cut flowers, leaves, grass, branches, weeds

DO NOT INCLUDE:

Plastic (including plastic bags), Styrofoam, glass, diapers, metal, liquids, grease, oil & pet waste

For more information on composting at home, visit IllinoisComposts.org

