

CURBSIDE COMPOSTING TIPS



These tips will help make curbside composting easy and eliminate the "yuck" factor.

Having the right INDOOR container to collect your kitchen scraps is essential to making composting a habit and not a chore.

We recommend a ceramic or steel container with a tight-fitting lid. You can also use a reusable plastic bucket like a large margarine or potato salad tub. Or try using a compostable box/container, such as a:

- Cereal box without the inside liner bag
- Compostable PLA from take-out food or boxed lettuce, etc.
- Bagasse container from take-out food (make sure you are NOT using a container that is plastic-coated; avoid a shiny take-out box).
- Cardboard box, waxed ok
- Paper bag

How to minimize flies and pests from your OUTDOOR curbside compost cart:

Mix it: Layer your food scraps with your yard debris to absorb odors and moisture.

Cool it: Keep your bin inside the garage or at least out of the sun.

Close it: Make sure the lid is clicked shut. Keep a cinder block or other weight on top to deter smaller animals. Or hook a bungee cord across the top of the lid.

Rinse it: Give your bin a good rinse from time to time and let the water seep into your yard.



If you're finding that warm weather is making your INDOOR compost collection container stinky or a fly attractant, try these tips:

Empty it: Empty your indoor compost bin daily or every other day.

Line it: Place a small amount of shredded paper, newspaper or a paper towel on the bottom of the container to absorb moisture. Or use a paper bag or compostable plastic bag to line your bin.



Wrap it: Wrap meat or fish scraps in their original butcher paper or newspaper before placing them in the bin. Wrap vegetable scraps in used newspaper or paper towels.

Clean it: Rinse off any visible mold or stuck-on food scraps after emptying. Clean your bin with dish soap once a week. Sprinkle in some baking soda to absorb odors.

Chill it: Refrigerate or freeze food scraps until your collection day, especially meat or fish scraps.

Protect it: Fruit flies love citrus and melon scraps and banana peels. Empty these from your bin daily. Rub vinegar on the rim of your bin to guard against fruit flies. If they've already arrived, create a simple trap—find instructions at www.ecocycle.org/compost.

Skip it: For the really moldy, unknown container from the back of your refrigerator, empty it directly into your outdoor bin or use your garbage disposal.

*Need more composting?
Tell your city or county officials, and your hauler, that you'd prefer to have weekly compost collection and every other week trash collection.*

