



# Residential Food Scrap Composting Program

## WHY COMPOST FOOD SCRAPS?

There are many reasons to recycle food scraps, including:

- 1. It's easy!** Collect food scraps into a container and set out as part of your community's yard waste collection program.
- 2. Reduces garbage and preserves landfill space**
- 3. Reduces greenhouse gas production at landfills.**
- 4. Creates compost.** Food scraps help to create a nutrient rich soil amendment that improves soil health and function. Compost rebuilds soils, protects topsoil from erosion, conserves water and attracts earth-worms and other helpful organisms.

## HOW TO COMPOST FOOD SCRAPS & TIPS TO REDUCE ODORS & PESTS

- 1. Collect scraps** in your kitchen collector. Do not use plastic or biodegradable bags to line your collector.
- 2. Empty foods scraps** into your rigid yard waste container.
- 3. Set Out** your rigid container (no Kraft bags) at the curb on regular yard waste collection day.

**Tips to Reduce Odors and Pests:** You may want to line container with newspapers or paper towels/bags, empty frequently, rinse after use (with vinegar or dish soap solution), sprinkle with baking soda, keep container closed.

## WHAT CAN BE COMPOSTED?



- **Fruits and Vegetables**  
(includes unpainted holiday pumpkins)

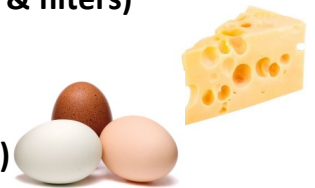


- **Leftovers/kitchen scraps** (includes coffee grounds, tea bags & filters)



- **Breads, grains, pasta and cereal**

- **Meat, poultry, seafood** (including shells and bones)



- **Dairy and Eggs** (including shells; no liquids)



- **Paper Products** (includes paper towels, plates, napkins, egg cartons and pizza boxes)



**DO NOT INCLUDE:** Plastic, Styrofoam, glass, diapers, metal, liquids, grease, pet waste, or oil.

For more information on backyard composting, how to and sales, visit [swalco.org](http://swalco.org). June 2018.