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 earthworms 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. October 2017