

Setting up organics recycling at home

Hennepin County environmental education



Steps to setting up organics recycling

- You're signed up and ready to participate in organics recycling. Great!
- Some steps you may need to take to get started:
 - Make space for your cart
 - Figure out your set up room-byroom
 - Get the supplies you need



Make space for your cart

- Where will you put it:
 - Near your other carts
 - In your garage
 - Somewhere else?



Need more room?

- Downsize to a smaller garbage cart
- Many cities and haulers offer the option to downsize your garbage cart
 - Can help make space for a new organics cart
 - Can save you money



Inside the home: start with the kitchen

- This is where the most organics recycling is generated
- In the kitchen, you generally need:
 - A collection container
 - Compostable bags



Choose your collection container – there are many options







Larger container



Small countertop container Fancier metal container

Bowl on your kitchen counter



Choose the location – make it work for you







Under the sink is more hidden

Paired with recycling and trash bins helps ensure things end up in the right place



A larger container can hold more



Keep a container in the fridge or freezer

- Good for wetter organics like fruits, vegetables and meat
- Reduces pests and smells and helps compostable bags last longer



Expand to other rooms

- Collect organics in the bathroom, bedrooms, office
- Remember items like tissues, paper towels, cotton balls, hair, and pet fur are accepted for organics recycling







Have well-labeled bins

- Help everyone in your household know what goes where
- Order labels at <u>www.hennepin.us/</u> <u>recycleeverywhere</u>



Empty your organics often

 This will reduce pests, smells and make sure your compostable bags don't break down



Try different brands of compostable bags

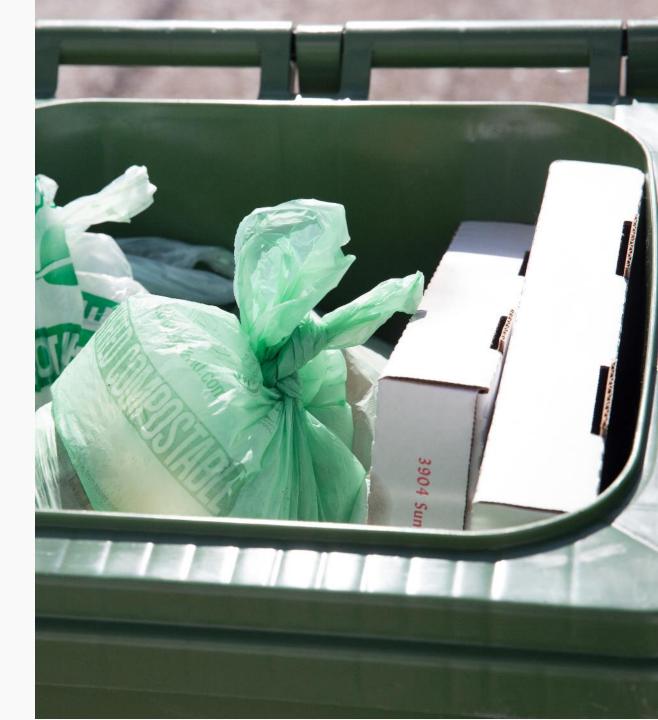
- Each brand will perform differently – so try a few and find what works for you
- Look at your grocery or home goods store, or order online
- Look for the BPI logo on compostable plastic bags
- Remember paper bags work, too!





Know what items need to go in compostable bags

 Some programs allow you to put larger items like pizza boxes from delivery and paper egg cartons into the cart without being bagged



Thanks for organics recycling!

Learn more at <u>www.hennepin.us/residents/</u> recycling-hazardous-waste/organics-recycling

