

Organics Recycling Guide



All food



- Fruits and vegetables
- Meat, fish, and bones
- Cheese, yogurt, and other dairy products and non-dairy alternatives
- Eggs and egg shells
- Pasta, beans, and rice
- Bread and cereal
- Nuts and shells

Certified compostable products



Look for the BPI logo on certified products. Only items with this logo are accepted.

Food-soiled paper



- Pizza boxes from delivery
- Napkins and paper towels
- Paper egg cartons

Other compostable household items



- Coffee grounds and filters
- Cotton swabs with paper stems
- Hair and nail clippings
- Houseplants and flowers
- Chopsticks, toothpicks, and popsicle sticks

Not accepted: Glass • plastic and Styrofoam™ • food wrappers • produce stickers • diapers • animal waste • products not certified compostable



Learn why it's important to compost the right things and find a detailed list of accepted and not accepted items at hennepin.us/organics#what-to-compost



Tips for collecting organics at home



Use a kitchen pail and line it with a paper bag or certified compostable bag. Consider a vented container that allows moisture to evaporate, which will reduce odors and help your compostable bags last longer.



You can keep “wet” organics in your refrigerator or freezer, or place paper towels or newspaper at the bottom of your container. This all helps to slow the decomposition of food, reduce odors, and prevent flies.



Focus on collecting food. Food scraps are the most common material in the trash and the most nutrient-rich material in the composting process.



Keep non-compostable materials out. Receiving organics free of contamination allows local composters to produce clean, nutrient-rich compost that people want to purchase and use. If you aren't sure if an item is compostable, put it in the trash.



Label your containers so everyone in your household knows how to sort their waste. Order free labels for your recycling, organics recycling and trash bins at hennepin.us/organics. Remember to collect organics (and recycling) throughout your home, including in the bathrooms, bedrooms, and office!

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