

Why Recycle Food Scraps?

Food scraps are one of the largest components of trash sent to landfills and incinerators. However, food scraps are not trash, but rather a valuable resource that can be turned into useful compost.

What Is Compost?

Compost is a soil amendment which enriches our soil. When purchasing a bag of potting soil or observing your landscaper putting down "dirt" or mulch, you are using compost.

Compost benefits our landscape by maximizing plant growth, prevents soil erosion and mitigates the frequency of water, fertilizer and pesticide use.

By recycling your food scraps you are reducing waste and creating compost - a double win!

Recycling food scraps into compost captures nutrients and energy and returns them to our environment. When food scraps are sent to a landfill or incinerator this resource is completely lost. In a landfill, food scraps create methane, which is a potent greenhouse gas that traps CO₂ and contributes to global warming. When sent to an incinerator, food scraps reduce the efficiency of the incinerator due to their water content and therefore do not burn well.

Composting food scraps turns that story around! Instead of wasting energy burning food scraps, or creating methane gas in landfills, composting food scraps produces a useful and valuable product that closes the loop on your food cycle, resulting in cleaner soil, water and air.

THANK YOU for your participation in Dobbs Ferry's Food Scrap Recycling Program and keeping our community GREEN!

Village of Dobbs Ferry

Food Scrap Recycling Guide



Food Scrap Recycling It's Easy!

Here's How To Do It:

1. **COLLECT** your food scraps in a countertop pail. Although not required, you may line your pail with a compostable bag - *please no plastic bags*.

Compostable bags are available for purchase (roll of 25 bags for \$2.00/roll) at the Dobbs Ferry DPW.

Please bring cash or check payable to Village of Dobbs Ferry.



2. Most residents will fill the countertop pail with food scraps 3-4 times per week. Therefore it is suggested that residents also have a larger bin to **TRANSFER** food scraps into for weekly storage. This larger bin can also be used for transportation of food scraps to the Dobbs Ferry DPW. Anything that holds around 5-6 gallons and has a lid will work. It is recommended that food storage bins be kept indoors – either in the house or in the garage.



3. **BRING** your transportation bin to the Food Scrap Recycling drop-off bins at the Dobbs Ferry DPW to dispose of your food scraps as often as needed.

All material collected is brought to a commercial composting facility where it is turned into compost.

Drop-off Location and Hours:

The Food Scrap Recycling drop off-bins are located at the Dobbs Ferry DPW (1 Stanley Avenue). The drop-off site is open **Monday-Friday 7:30a-3:30p (All Year);**

Saturday-Sunday 6a-9:30a, (April-November only).

There is no charge to drop off food scraps.

Accepted Items:

- ALL FOOD, including:
 - Fruits and Vegetables (remove stickers, bands, ties)
 - Meat and Poultry (bones ok)
 - Fish and Shellfish (shells ok)
 - Dairy Products
 - Bread and Pasta
 - Rice and Grains
 - Egg Shells
 - Chips and Snacks
 - Nuts and Seeds
 - Leftover, Spoiled and Expired Food (cooked ok)
 - Coffee Grounds (paper filters ok)
- Tea Bags (no staples)
- Tissues and Napkins
- Cut Flowers
- Compostable Bags (no plastic bags)
- BPI Certified Compostable products



Items Not Accepted:

- Plastic bags, plastic packaging and wrappers are never allowed in the bins. Plastic does not biodegrade and therefore will contaminate the compost. Use only compostable bags, paper bags or no bags.
- Baby/Hand wipes are never allowed in the bins. They are synthetic, do not biodegrade and will contaminate the compost.
- Please no pet waste or yard waste.
- If unsure about an item, please email before putting in the bin. **Composting@dobbsferry.com**

Starter Kits:

Starter kits can be purchased at the Dobbs Ferry DPW (1 Stanley Avenue) for \$20 (**cash or check**). Kits include one 2-gallon countertop pail, one 6-gallon home storage & transportation bin and one roll of 25 compostable bags for your pail.

QUESTIONS? Composting@dobbsferry.com