

GUIDE TO CURBSIDE COMPOSTING



WHY COMPOST?

When you compost, you can reduce what you are sending to the landfill by about 50 percent! It's even easier than recycling!

HOW TO COMPOST

1

Choose a convenient spot like the countertop or fridge to place a kitchen pail. Place food scraps and compostable paper products in your indoor bin.



TIGHT LID, IN THE FRIDGE

Afraid of smells and bugs? Your compost won't be any smellier or buggier than your trash! Same stuff, different bin! Try keeping it cool, and keep a tight lid to avoid any issues.

WHAT PAPER GOES WHERE?

Compost cart:

Dirty or thin paper, like paper towels, napkins and tissues.



Recycling cart:

Clean paper, cardboard and cartons.



Trash cart:

Plastic-lined receipts, to-go containers, plates and wrapping paper.



2

Empty your scraps into your brown cart — loose and free! If you bag your food scraps, use paper bags or certified BPI compostable “bio bags.” No other bags are accepted.



3

Add yard trimmings directly into your brown cart. Make sure it all fits with the lid closed. Keep it closed at all times! Put your cart out by the curb weekly on trash day, even if it isn't full.

A BETTER COMPOST BIN!

Commercial compost has better chemistry than backyard composting! So, dairy, bones, meats, etc. are no problem — put them in your curbside compost collection.

COMPOST

INCLUDE THE FOOD, PLANTS AND PAPER TOO!



YES!

All foods (raw, cooked, scraps) and plant trimmings



Leave produce bags/stickers OUT of your collection.

YES!

Compostable paper products (paper only – no plastic lining)



MATERIALS CAN BE COLLECTED LOOSE AND FREE!

If you choose to bag your food scraps, use only paper bags or certified BPI compostable “bio bags.” No other type of bags will be accepted.

NO! KEEP PLASTICS OUT



Plastic bags and wrappers



Plastic-coated (shiny) take-out boxes and plates



To-go hot and cold drink cups



The N.C. Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service (DEACS) is a non-regulatory division of N.C. DEQ offering technical and financial assistance to businesses, manufacturers, local governments, institutions, economic developers and citizens in environmental management. For questions, call 1-877-623-6748. www.recyclenc.org

