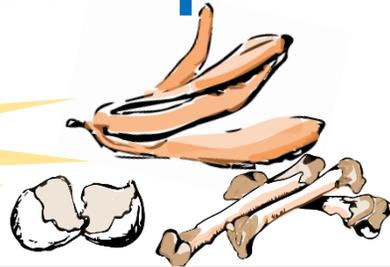


What can you do with your food scraps?

It's as easy as 1-2-3!



1

Curbside collection.

By July 1, 2017, your curbside trash & recycling hauler must offer food scrap collection; **or**

2

Drop-off. By July 1, 2017, transfer stations & trash drops must offer food scrap collection (some farms also accept them); **or**

3

Compost at home!

Managing your food scraps at home is simple and low-cost. See reverse for more details.

Note: Whichever management strategy you use, be sure to **keep non-compostable things OUT** of your food scraps—even little things like produce stickers can be a big problem for farmers and gardeners who use the finished compost.



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Backyard basics

Manage food scraps & yard waste at home

Composting: Mix 1 part food scraps (“greens”) with 3 parts dried yard waste (“browns”) to produce rich compost for your garden. Choose one of many **commercially-produced bins**, or **build your own bin** using pallets, scrap wood, and ¼” wire mesh. Your local solid waste management entity (find yours at 802recycles.com) or garden store may have bins for purchase, or DIY plans.

Solar digester: In-ground solar digesters like the Green Cone break down food scraps, and even meat and bone. Digesters nourish nearby down-gradient plants, but do not produce compost. Don't put yard waste in a digester—it doesn't need any “browns.” Your solid waste management entity or garden store may have digesters available.

Feed your chickens: The gals love food scraps and will reward you with delicious eggs. Compost the scraps they don't eat with manure for a great garden amendment.

Vermicompost: Let worms do the work. You can use a commercial or DIY vermicompost container, which are small enough (and clean enough!) to keep in your kitchen.

 **Worried about animals?** If you manage your food scraps at home, you don't have to include meat & bones (take them to a drop-off or put in the trash). If you do compost at home, always cover newly-added scraps with a *thick* layer of “browns,” and mix often.

Need help? Got questions? Call us!

802-828-1138

Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation



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