

Compost Cart Tip Sheet

YES:



NO:

- Plastic, glass, or metal
- Glossy paper plates or glossy paper
- Leftover cooking oil

Frequently Asked Questions:

Why did I receive a Compost Cart?

Compostable materials such as yard and food waste waste comprise about 25% of all landfill waste in Lake County. Composting conserves water and reduces greenhouse gas emissions. For more information visit: www.deerfield.il.us/compost

Will fruit flies or odor be an issue?

No more than with your normal trash. In fact, because food scraps are collected separately, they can be emptied into your compost cart daily if needed. Scraps can also be stored in a fridge or freezer until you're ready to dispose of them.

Why aren't plastic bags accepted?

Plastic bags are not accepted because the contents of these carts is turned into compost, which is used to grow plants and food. It is vitally important that plastics, chemicals, metal, and other contaminants are kept out. Only BPI compostable liners may be used instead of plastic bags. See the other side for details.

Collecting Food Waste



- 1. Select a Container.** It doesn't need to be fancy. An empty coffee can or any old container with a lid will do. Or get a counter-top bin made especially for collecting food scraps.

Keep your bin in a convenient location, like under the sink, on the counter, or in your freezer.

- 2. Collect as You Go.** Toss food waste into your container as you cook and clean up.

You can put scraps directly into the container, or line it with a paper bag or BPI certified compostable liner. Only BPI certified liners are accepted, look for the BPI logo. Never use regular plastic bags (see FAQ to understand why). BPI liners are available at the local Whole Foods and at various online retailers.



- 3. Empty Container as Needed.** Toss the food scraps into your Compost Cart.

Set your cart out by 7 AM EVERY WEEK, on your normal collection day, whether it's full or not.

TIPS FOR KEEPING YOUR CART FRESH:

- * Place old newspapers or a pizza box at the bottom of your cart
- * Use a paper lawn and leaf bag to line your cart
- * Layer food scrapes between yard waste
- * Rinse out your cart periodically with a hose and a few drops of dish detergent. Air dry.

For more information:
www.deerfield.il.us/compost
847-945-5000



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