



WHY RECYCLE ORGANICS?

About 30 percent of garbage is comprised of organic material. Organic materials will be taken to an industrial composting site and turned into nutrient-rich compost. When compost is added to soil, it reduces the need for fertilizers and pesticides, and increases water retention, allowing for more efficient use of water. The compost will be used primarily by commercial landscapers, in road construction projects and in gardens.

Organics recycling reduces the amount of trash produced at home, which could save you money if you reduce the size of the cart you need for trash collection.



SITE LOCATIONS AND HOURS:

- Valley View Park—201 East 90th Street
- West Bush Lake Park—95th Street and West Bush Lake Road
- Tuesdays, 4 – 7 p.m.
- Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Organics can also be dropped-off at South Hennepin Recycling and Problem Waste Drop-off Center at 1400 West 96th Street West. For hours of operation, visit blm.mn/HennCoDropOff.

Organics from small businesses are NOT accepted at the City locations. Organics from small businesses are ONLY accepted at the Hennepin County drop-off site and are limited to no more than five bags per day.

CERTIFIED COMPOSTABLE BAGS AND FOODWARE:

Only certified compostable products are accepted. Compostable bags can be purchased at local grocery stores, hardware stores and online. Items without the certification may be lined with plastic or other noncompostable material. Avoid purchasing products without the certification or those labeled as “degradable,” “biodegradable” or “made from plants.” When purchasing bags and compostable foodware, look for the following labels.

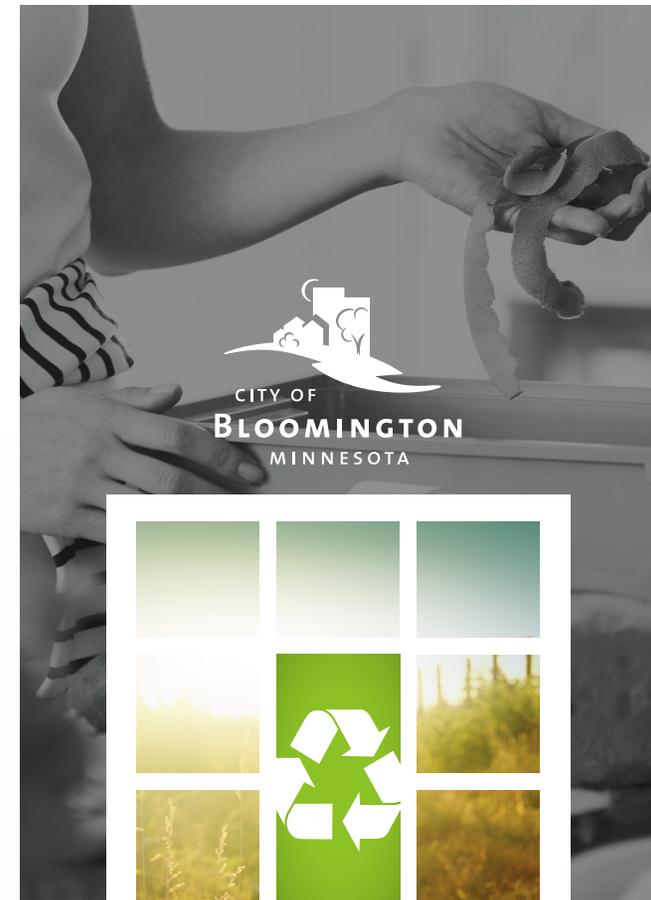


Compostable



blm.mn/organics

(04/2018)



Organics Recycling In Our Community

blm.mn/organics

QUESTIONS:

Call: 952-563-8760

Email: maintenance@bloomingtonmn.gov

ITEMS ACCEPTED:

FOOD SCRAPS

- Fruit and vegetables
- Meat, fish and bones
- Dairy products
- Eggs and egg shells
- Pasta, beans and rice
- Bread and cereal
- Nuts and shells



NONRECYCLABLE PAPER

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

CERTIFIED COMPOSTABLE PRODUCTS

- Compostable paper and plastic cups, plates, bowls, utensils and containers
- Look for the BPI or Cedar Grove logos when purchasing these items

OTHER COMPOSTABLE ITEMS

- Coffee grounds and filters
- Hair and nail clippings
- Cotton balls and swabs with paper stems
- Houseplants and flowers
- Tea bags
- Wooden items such as chopsticks, popsicle sticks and toothpicks



ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED:

Animal and pet waste, litter or bedding; cleaning or baby wipes, diapers and sanitary products, dryer lint and dryer sheets, fast food wrappers, frozen food boxes, gum, grease or oil, household trash, products labeled "biodegradable," microwave popcorn bags, recyclable items (cartons, glass, metal, paper, plastic), Styrofoam, yard waste such as leaves, grass clippings, sod, branches, stumps and logs.

Weekly yard waste collection is available through subscription or on call service with the Garbage and Recycling program. For more information, visit blm.mn/yard-waste.

Yard waste may be taken to local compost sites for proper disposal. For more information, visit blm.mn/HennCoYardWaste.

TIPS FOR ORGANICS RECYCLING:

PREVENT ODOR

Use a pail with a vented lid, keeping your container in the fridge or freezer, rinse your pail periodically and drop off your organics at least once each week.

ADDRESSING FRUIT FLIES

Fruit flies come from fruit peels whether in your fruit basket, trash can or organics container. Keep your organics container in the fridge or freezer to help prevent fruit flies.

COLLECT AROUND THE HOUSE

Collect toothpicks, cotton balls and houseplant trimmings from the bathroom, living room, kitchen and all parts of your home.

LABEL YOUR CONTAINER

Label your container so everyone in the household knows how to sort their waste. A free label is provided when you sign up for the program.



HOW TO GET STARTED:

1. Sign up online or by phone to drop off.
 - All Bloomington residents, including those living in apartments, condos or townhomes can sign up.
2. Place an organics container in a convenient location.
 - Use an ice cream bucket, coffee container or yogurt tub, or purchase a kitchen countertop organics container.
 - Line your container with a paper bag or certified compostable bag.
 - Using bags makes it easier to transport the organics from your home to the drop-off location and helps reduce odor and pests. Loose food scraps are not accepted.
3. Collect food and nonrecyclable paper products.
 - A list of acceptable and unacceptable items is listed on the left.
4. Tie the bag shut and bring to the most convenient drop-off location.
5. Repeat!