

Organics Guide



Compost these:

All Food

- Fruit & vegetables
- Meat, fish & bones
- Dairy products
- Eggs & eggshells
- Pasta, grains, & beans
- Bread & cereal
- Dough & pastries
- Nuts & shells



BPI Certified Compostable Products

- Cups, plates & bowls
- Utensils & straws
- Bags
- Containers
- Bamboo products



Other Compostable Household Items

- Plant trimmings
- Hair & nail clippings (undyed & not painted)
- Cotton balls (no chemicals)
- Wooden items like chopsticks, Popsicle sticks & toothpicks



Food Soiled Paper

- Napkins & paper towels
- Facial tissues
- Delivery pizza boxes
- Paper egg cartons (remove stickers)
- Coffee grounds & paper filters



Leave these out:

- refrigerated & frozen food boxes
- products labeled biodegradable
- milk & other beverage cartons
- fast food cups, wrappers & boxes
- microwave popcorn bags
- wax & parchment paper
- pet waste, litter or bedding
- diapers, wipes & sanitary products
- grease, oil or liquids
- clothing
- dryer lint & dryer sheets
- produce stickers
- Styrofoam™
- straws
- K-CUPS™
- candy wrappers
- yard waste

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Organics are a resource, not a waste!

- Organics are natural materials that completely break down to make compost.
- Organics include all food scraps, moldy food, some non-recyclable and food-soiled paper products, and BPI certified compostable products.
- These materials make up about 30% of the trash generated in Anoka County, where they can break down in landfills and emit methane gases.
- Instead of throwing organics away, those materials can be separated and processed into compost – a soil amendment that improves soil quality and reduces the need for fertilizers.

Know before you go

- Please bag all organics in BPI-certified bags prior to coming to a drop-off site.
- Do not use metal or plastic twist ties to seal the bag; simply tie a knot to close the bag.
- Bagging your organics helps prevent odor, pests, loose debris in the container and makes a more pleasant experience for everyone.
- Local composting facilities do not have the capability to sort out items that don't belong, so carefully review the lists of accepted and unaccepted items (see reverse side).
- **When in doubt throw it out.**

Questions about the program?

- Visit AnokaCountyMN.gov/organics to learn more and to find a drop-off site near you.