

Tips for Collecting Kitchen Scraps

For convenience, keep a container in or near your kitchen to collect kitchen scraps. Empty this container into your yard cart as needed.

Possible containers:

- countertop kitchen scrap containers. Visit www.composters.com/kingcounty for discounts on containers.
- green compostable kitchen bags are widely available. Visit www.recyclefood.com for retail locations in your community.
- used paper bags (Fill and put in cart.)
- reusable plastic or metal container with a tight fitting lid. **Do not put plastic of any kind in your cart.**

Food scraps must be placed in the curbside yard waste cart provided by your garbage service provider.

To avoid odor and fruit flies, you can

- empty food scraps into the yard waste cart daily
- wrap food scraps in newspaper or collect them in green compostable kitchen bags
- rinse kitchen container frequently
- line kitchen container with a used paper bag or towel
- sprinkle baking soda in kitchen container
- layer shredded paper, food scraps and yard waste in your cart

For more help with odors or flies, call King County Solid Waste Division at **206-296-4466**.



Food Scrap Recycling

Yard waste customers can put food scraps in the yard cart at no extra cost!

Food scraps and food-soiled paper make up more than 30% of residential garbage!

You can recycle fruit, vegetables, meat, bones and dairy scraps, and food-soiled paper with your yard trimmings in the yard waste cart provided by your garbage service provider

Collection Schedule

Check with your garbage service provider for a schedule of curbside yard waste pickups. Visit King County's web site at www.metrokc.gov/dnrp/swd for information about your garbage service provider.

If You Have Extra Yard Waste

Put extra yard waste (**no food scraps**) that doesn't fit in the cart in any of these:

- Reusable polywoven bags
- Paper yard waste bags
- Bundles (*Limit 4'x 2'*). Tie with fiber twine. **No wire, nylon or plastic cord.**
- Cans with handles and lids (32 gal, 65 lb limit).
 - Label cans "yard waste."
 - Fill loosely.

No plastic bags.



Where Does Yard Waste Go?

Yard and food waste is processed into compost and sold at home and garden stores. Visit www.cedar-grove.com for more information.



Natural Yard Care Advice

Contact The Garden Hotline for advice about how to use compost and other natural yard care products at 206-633-0224 or help@gardenhotline.org.



Not a Yard Waste Customer?

Subscribe to curbside yard waste service:
Contact your garbage service provider. Visit our web site for information about the provider in your community.
www.metrokc.gov/dnrp/swd

Yard and Food Scrap Recycling



YES!

Yard Waste

- Grass and leaves
- Weeds
- Plant Trimmings
- Houseplants
- Branches
(under 4' long, 4" diam.)

Food Scraps

- Meat, fish, poultry, bones
- Dairy products (yogurt, cottage cheese, etc.)
- Fruit and vegetable scraps
- Bread, pasta and grains
- Eggshells, nutshells
- Coffee grounds and filters
- Leftovers
- Tea leaves and bags

Food-Soiled Paper

- Greasy pizza delivery boxes
- Coffee filters with coffee grounds
- Paper towels and napkins
- Uncoated paper plates and cups
- Uncoated paper food wrap
- Uncoated paper food bags
- Paper grocery bags containing food scraps
- Paper egg cartons
- Paper berry cartons

Uncoated food soiled paper does not have a shiny surface.

When in doubt throw it out.

Contamination increases the cost of recycling.

King County
Department of
Natural Resources and Parks
Solid Waste Division

NO!

- Absolutely no plastic**
 - No plastic-coated cartons (milk, ice cream, etc)
 - No plastic-coated paper or cups
 - No plastic bags
 - No plastic food wrap
 - No plastic food containers
 - No Styrofoam food containers
 - No plastic-coated food take-out containers
- Grease or liquids**
- Pet waste**
- Diapers**
- Soil, rocks**
- Stumps**
- Branches over 4'x 4"**
- Lumber or fencing**
- Metal, glass**
- Hazardous waste**



This material available in alternate formats and other languages from King County Solid Waste Division at 206-296-4466, 1-800-325-6165, ext. 6-4466, TTY Relay: 711, www.recyclefood.com