

Portland Curbsider

Bureau of Planning and Sustainability

July 2022 – June 2023

Include the food!



Adding food scraps to your green bin makes a ton of difference. 400,000 tons to be exact. That's how much nutrient-rich compost has been made from the food and yard waste collected from Portland homes over the past 10 years: Enough to enrich over 1,500 acres of farmland.

You're helping plants and the people who grow them. What may look like a plain pile of dirt to us is a gleaming buffet of tasty and nutritious food to plants. Compost keeps soil healthy, and healthy soil grows healthy plants with less water and fewer chemical fertilizers. That benefits everyone, from Oregon's largest farms to first-time gardeners patiently waiting to pick their first homegrown tomato.

Keeping food out of the landfill is a climate win. When you throw food in the garbage, it goes into a landfill where it creates methane gas, which worsens the climate crisis. That's why it matters that all your food waste gets into the compost bin, from carrot peels and sandwich crusts to long-forgotten leftovers hiding in the back of the fridge.

Big or small, we want it all. All food scraps are welcome, including peels, pits, bones, shells, plate scrapings, leftovers, and spoiled food. See a full list of what is, and isn't, allowed in the Quick Reference Guide on the next page or at www.portland.gov/compost.



KITCHEN CONTAINER TIPS

- 1. Choose a container that's easy to empty and clean.** Reuse a large yogurt tub or Tupperware™-type container or purchase a container from your local hardware or home goods store.
- 2. Empty and rinse regularly.** Empty food scraps from your kitchen container into your outside bin throughout the week. Then give it a good scrub with soap, or put it through the dishwasher, at least once a week. Or keep your container in the freezer and empty whenever you like.
- 3. Line with paper.** A sheet of newspaper or a paper bag can help keep your container clean. You can also use a BPI-certified compostable bag: A 2-3 gallon size fits most countertop containers.



GREEN BIN TIPS

- 1. Set out every week.** Even if your bin's not full, food waste should be picked up every week. In warm weather, store your bin in the shade to prevent unwanted smells.
- 2. Line with paper.** Placing a sheet of newspaper or a paper bag at the bottom of your bin can help keep it clean. Wrapping messy food in paper before putting it in the bin also helps.
- 3. Clean your bin** with soap and water as needed. Pour dirty water onto grass or gravel, not down the storm drain. Or request a clean bin from your garbage company for around \$15.



WHEN "COMPOSTABLE" IS NOT COMPOSTABLE

Items labeled "compostable" or "biodegradable" belong in the trash.

The labels are well-intentioned but not always accurate. In fact, they make it harder for our local facilities to produce clean, nutrient-rich compost.

The only exception is BPI-certified compostable bags used to bag up food scraps before putting them in your bin. These bags are available at local and online retailers.



► Find more tips at www.portland.gov/residential-compost-tips

2022-2023 COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Look up your collection day
www.portland.gov/garbage-day

JULY 2022

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DECEMBER 2022

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MARCH 2023

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APRIL 2023

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MAY 2023

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JUNE 2023

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Garbage is picked up every other week on the **purple** days.

* Customers with every-four-week pickup indicated with an asterisk.



Recycling, compost, and glass bins are picked up **every week**.



Make sure your bins are at the curb before 6 a.m. to avoid missing a pickup. Bring them back to your house within 24 hours after collection.

COLLECTION REMINDERS

- **Get a garbage day reminder.** Join the 30,000+ Portlanders who get day-before email reminders of which bins to set out at the curb. Sign up at www.garbage-dayreminders.com.
- **No holiday delays this year.** Christmas and New Year's Day are the only holidays garbage companies don't pick up, but those fall on Sundays this year.
- **Snow, ice, or smoke delays.** In case of hazardous driving conditions, like ice, snow, or heavy wildfire smoke, your pickup may be delayed. Leave your bins at the curb and they will be emptied as soon as it's safe to do so.

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE



Same list, new look. Find more items at:
www.portland.gov/recycle | 503-823-7202



GARBAGE



Plastic bags, plastic lids & plastic-padded mailers. Wires, hoses, chains & electric cords. Disposable gloves & masks.



Take-out food containers, cutlery, cups, lids & straws (paper, plastic & "compostable"). Frozen food boxes.



Bag all pet waste, cat litter, diapers, ashes, sawdust & broken glass. Put fats, oils & grease in sealed container.



No TVs, computers, batteries, paint, pesticides



RECYCLE



Plastic bottles & jars with a neck (6 oz or larger) & buckets (5 gal or smaller). Plastic round containers (6 oz or larger) & plant pots (4" or larger). All empty & dry.



Metal food cans (aluminum, tin & steel), paint & aerosol cans, all empty & dry. Scrap metal under 30" & 30 lbs.



Flattened cardboard. Paper, magazines & catalogs. Milk, juice & soup cartons, all empty & dry.



No plastic bags, wrap or lids, glass, coffee cups, take-out containers



COMPOST



Meat, cheese, seafood, bones & eggshells. Bread, pasta, grains, nuts, beans, fruit, vegetables & coffee grounds. Spoiled food & plate scrapings.



Weeds, leaves, grass, flowers, house plants, plant clippings, pumpkins. Branches under 4" thick & 36" long.



Food-soiled napkins & paper towels. Paper coffee filters & tea bags. Pizza delivery boxes.



No pet waste, dirt, rocks, ashes, lumber, take-out containers



GLASS



Glass food & beverage bottles & jars. All empty & dry. Put in glass-only bin.



All colors of glass. Remove lids, caps & corks. OK to leave labels on.



Redeem deposit bottles at BottleDrop Centers or recycle at the curb.



No lids, ceramics, bulbs, broken glass



OTHER WASTE



Not sure how to get rid of something? Call 503-234-3000 or use oregonmetro.gov/askmetro to find options for safe disposal, recycling, or donation. Or send questions to @RecycleOrNot on Instagram (@ReciclarONo en español).



OIL



With a lid!

Set motor oil next to bins in a clear plastic jug.

HAVE BIG, BULKY ITEMS TO TOSS?

You've got options! Call 503-234-3000 or use oregonmetro.gov/askmetro to find pick-up and drop-off options for donation, recycling, and disposal.

- **Is it still usable?** If it's gently used, then giving it a second life is a great choice. There are many local nonprofits that welcome quality used items. Or offer it for free through online sharing groups.
- **Can it be recycled?** Did you know that broken microwaves, vacuums, and TVs can be recycled? They aren't allowed in your blue bin, but there are drop-off recycling options.
- **Definitely trash?** Call your garbage company for a cost estimate and pick-up date. Or drop off at a Metro transfer station: Call 503-234-3000 for rates.

Don't set anything on the curb until you have a plan.

A passing rain shower or neighborhood pet can quickly turn usable items into trash. If you've arranged to have a large item picked up as garbage, wait until the scheduled day to set it out.



Make a plan!



THE BUREAU OF PLANNING & SUSTAINABILITY

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www.portland.gov/bps | 503-823-7202

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FIND INSIDE >>>>

**Recycling guide &
12-month garbage schedule**
Save until June 2023

Portland Curbsider

GARBAGE BILLS CHANGE JULY 1

Residential garbage bills will increase by about 1% for most customers starting July 1, 2022. The change is primarily due to increased fuel costs and higher regionwide garbage disposal fees.

Find the new rates at www.portland.gov/garbage-rates



See new garbage rates at:

Nuevas tarifas disponibles en:

Bảng giá mới có sẵn tại:

在这里可以查看新的费率:

Новые расценки см. по адресу

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Noile prețuri sunt disponibile la:

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Ekewe minafon rates mi kawor ren:

www.portland.gov/garbage-rates

The City of Portland is committed to providing meaningful access. To request translation, interpretation, modifications, accommodations, or other auxiliary aids or services, contact 503-823-7700, Relay: 711.

Traducción e Interpretación | Biên Dịch và Thông Dịch | अनुवादन तथा व्याख्या | 口笔译服务 | Устный и письменный перевод | Turjumaad iyo Fasiraad |
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503-823-7700 | www.portland.gov/bps/accommodation