



Organics Recycling Accepted/Not Accepted Items

What can I put in my organics recycling cart?

All food (cooked and raw), compostable paper products and yard trimmings can go into your organics recycling cart. Please refer to the list of accepted and not accepted items.

What type of soiled paper can I add to my organics recycling?

Soiled paper can be added to your organics recycling as long as it contains no plastic. Things like **napkins, tissues, waxed paper, cardboard and muffin liners can be added**. However, **plastic coated paper** (like coffee cups and meat liners) **cannot be added**. If you are not sure what you have, try tearing the paper – plastic coated paper will stretch.

I compost at home, why do I need organics recycling collection?

Organics recycling complements backyard composting by accepting a wider range of food waste that may not be suitable for backyard composting such as cooked food, meat, bones, fish, baked goods, food-soiled paper and paper food packaging.

I have a garburator, do I need to collect my kitchen scraps?

If you've been using a garburator, now you can put your kitchen scraps to good use by placing them in your organics recycling cart and help create a cleaner, greener and more sustainable community.

Do I need to line my kitchen container?

Lining your kitchen container is optional although using newspaper or other paper products is inexpensive and will help absorb moisture to keep your container clean.

Compostable bags are another option (look for the compostable logo) and available at many local retailers. Please remember that biodegradable and/or plastic bags cannot be used.



YES	NO
Fruit and vegetable scraps	Plastic bags and wrap, Styrofoam
Food leftovers, plate scrapings	Chip and cookie bags
Meat, fish and bones	Pet food bags and other lined bags
Dairy products, butter, mayonnaise	Butter wrappers
Eggshells	Bread clips or ties
Bread, cereal, grains	Foil wrap, pouches and pie plates
Pasta, pizza	Plastic containers and cutlery
Soiled paper towels, paper food packaging (paper cups/plates)	Make-up remover pads, cotton swabs and balls
Baked goods, candies	Dental floss, rubber bands
Coffee filters and grounds	Cigarettes and butts
Nuts and shells	Sanitary hygiene products
Baking ingredients, herbs, spices	Diapers, baby wipes
Tea bags	Dryer sheets and lint
Solidified fat and grease	Vacuum contents and bags
Houseplants, cut and dried flowers	Bagged pet feces and pet litter
Yard Trimmings (including grass clippings, leaves, prunings, plants and branches)	Biodegradable or Plastic Bags

Organics recycling includes:

- **Food leftovers:** including meat, fish, poultry, bones, dairy products, bread, solidified fats and grease, fruit and vegetables and plate scrapings.
- **Food soiled paper products:** including paper towels and paper food packaging such as used paper cups and plates.
- **Yard trimmings:** including grass clippings, leaves, prunings, plants and branches.

How to Participate

In the kitchen

- ✓ Collect your food scraps and leftovers in your kitchen container.
- ✓ Use newspaper, paper bags or paper towels to line your kitchen container which will help control odours and absorb moisture to keep your container clean. Visit www.saanich.ca/greenergarbage for instructions on how to make a newspaper liner.
- ✓ Empty your kitchen container **frequently**; wash or rinse containers as needed.

Organics Recycling

- ✓ Empty the contents of your kitchen container into your organics recycling cart frequently.
- ✓ Layer your kitchen scraps and leftovers with yard trimmings such as grass clippings, leaves, prunings, plants and branches.
- ✓ Have your organics recycling picked up every collection day **even if it is not full**.
- ✓ When placing your carts curbside, take care to ensure they do not impede vehicle, bicycle and pedestrian traffic.

Helpful Tips

- ✓ Wrap items in newspaper or soiled paper towel.
- ✓ Use paper towels to wipe fat and grease off cookware before placing it in your kitchen container.
- ✓ Freeze meat, poultry and fish scraps in a paper bag – then on collection day add them to your organics recycling cart.
- ✓ Empty your kitchen container into your organics recycling cart frequently.
- ✓ Keep kitchen container and cart lids closed at all times.
- ✓ Store your carts in a secure, cool, ventilation location out of direct sunlight.

Visit www.saanich.ca/greenergarbage for information and updates
Email us at greenergarbage@saanich.ca
Call us at 250.475.5533

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greener garbage
collection
it's good all around.



Organics Recycling Guide

How to Participate

