

# Why Should I Compost?

Food scraps make up almost **22%** of the waste stream in MA  
\*based on 2019 MassDEP data

By composting, you can turn those food scraps...



Composting...

- adds nutrients, moisture, and carbon to soil
- helps plants grow
- is fun and easy!

In a few months, you reduced GHG emissions and helped your plants thrive!



Into black gold!



Composting is nature's recycling system at work



**To support composting in Hadley, the Town offers residents two programs.**

## **The Backyard Compost Bin Distribution Program**

*Sponsored by the Town of Hadley & the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection*

**Earth Machine backyard compost bins \$25**



- Large 80-gallon capacity (big enough for a family of five)
- Easy snap-together assembly
- Convenient harvest door
- Reduces garbage disposal costs
- 10-year warranty
- Made of recycled materials
- Over 5 million sold nationally
- Composting instructions included

*If you are interested in purchasing a compost bin or have questions contact [hadleyrecyclingcoord@gmail.com](mailto:hadleyrecyclingcoord@gmail.com)*

**Backyard composting video:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fH8Lk0GRQtk>

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**Food Waste Drop-Off at the Hadley Transfer Station, 20 N. Branch Rd.**  
Open Wednesdays 1-6pm & Saturdays 7am-4pm

## **Composting Guidelines**

The organics collection program is available to permit holders at no additional cost. It is available to permit holders that use the facility for 'full services' and available to permit holders that choose to use the facility for food waste/organics collection services only.

The program is for "kitchen type scraps" only. It is limited to one 5-gallon pail (or equivalent) per permit holder once a week.

### General Parameters

- Available to all permit holders.
- Each user must hold their own permit. Services may not be shared among multiple households or users.
- Volume is limited to a 5-gallon pail weekly or equivalent.
- Acceptable materials include organics/food waste, produce, etc. (See materials list)
- Leaf and yard waste materials will continue to be managed separate from this program.
- Delivery of unacceptable, contaminating materials may result in revocation of the user permit.



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## COMPOST

### Examples of Acceptable Items:



**Acceptable Materials Include:** Breads, grains, pasta, coffee grounds and paper filters, tea bags, fruits and vegetables (including pits & shells), spoiled or leftover food, seafood (including shellfish), Greasy Pizza Boxes, paper cups & plates, paper ice cream containers, paper take-out boxes, etc.

***NOTE: Leaves, Brush, Grass Trimmings, ETC. will continue to be managed separately.***

### **UNACCEPTABLE CONTAMINANTS**

**NO** Aluminum foil or trays, plastics (unless specifically labeled “compostable”), flower pots, ceramics, clothing (linens or rags), cat litter, animal feces, diapers, juice boxes or drink cartons with foil liners, dirt, rocks, stone, plastic

**NO** plywood, pressboard, stained or treated wood  
**NO** plastic bags, wrappers, or films.