

## Biodegradable Bandits

Compostable products come in all shapes, colors, and sizes. Unfortunately, so do imposters! Don't be fooled by products labeled as *biodegradable* or *made from plants*.

We accept only products that are **certified compostable**, meaning that they have been independently tested and shown to meet accepted international standards for compostability.

To find more guidelines on the products we accept, visit [www.cswd.net/foodware](http://www.cswd.net/foodware).



## Tips & Tricks

**How to keep your collection container mess-less and odor-free:**

- 1 **Use a container with a well-fitted lid.**
- 2 Before filling the container, **line the bottom with a paper towel** or piece of newsprint to make emptying easier.
- 3 **“Cap” the food scraps as you go** with used paper towels, used coffee filters and grounds, etc.
- 4 Keep meat scraps, bones, grease, and other items with high odor potential in a plastic bag or container **in your fridge or freezer** until you're ready to drop them off.
- 5 **Rinse out your container**—and start the cycle all over again!

## Why composting?

### Keep resources from being wasted.

When food and other compostable materials end up in the trash, their value is lost. Composting gives new life to natural resources.

**Conserve landfill space.** The less you toss in the trash, the longer the landfill will last.

**Reduce greenhouse gases.** In a landfill, food scraps generate methane, a greenhouse gas 20x more potent than carbon dioxide. Compost sequesters carbon in the soil.

**Get ahead of Act 148, Vermont's Universal Recycling & Composting Law.** Starting in 2020, it will be illegal for businesses, institutions, and residents to send food scraps to the landfill.

**Preserve our lakes & streams.** Compost feeds the soil naturally and slowly, reducing demand for chemical fertilizers. It improves soil structure, reducing erosion and run-off into lakes & streams.

**Support local solutions.** Food scraps collected in our Drop-Off Composting program aren't shipped across the state. They're managed right here at Green Mountain Compost in Williston, VT.

**CSWD** | CHITTENDEN  
Solid Waste District

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Solid Waste District

## Drop-Off Composting

**An easy alternative to composting at home**



## How it works

### 1. Get a container

Get one with a lid that seals well, yet is easy to remove. A small pail on your kitchen counter makes it easy to collect scraps while preparing meals.

A larger container (e.g., a 5-gallon bucket) works well for scraping plates and transporting scraps to a drop-off site.



### 2. Collect your scraps

Toss in food scraps, unwanted leftovers, and other compostables. We recommend lining your container first: Use a piece of newspaper, a paper towel, or a certified compostable bag (available at Green Mountain Compost and other retailers).

### 3. Empty your bucket

Drop off your food scraps! (See *Drop-Off Locations*.)

After you empty your container into the food scrap bins, bring your bucket home, give it a good rinse, and start all over again!



## Yep, we take that!

### ✓ Food & scraps

If you can eat it, drink it, or cook it, we can compost it. We even accept items that are not recommended for backyard composting, like *meat, bones, dairy products, and crab shells*.

### ✓ Uncoated paper

*paper napkins & towels*  
*uncoated paper plates*  
*newspaper*

*coffee filters*  
*paper tea bags*  
*takeout pizza boxes*

### ✓ Certified compostable products

Any foodware or bags must have been tested and shown to meet certification standards for commercial composting.  
*See back panel for details.*

## Nope, not that.

Take the time to **learn what doesn't belong**. When the wrong things wind up in the food scrap bins, it makes the whole system less efficient—and more expensive. *When in doubt, leave it out!*

- Remove produce stickers.



- Remove packaging.

- If you collect food scraps in a plastic bag, dump them out and **discard the bag** in the trash.



- **No poop, please!** Pet waste can contain harmful pathogens. Bag it, and put it in the trash.



- Read up on the rules at [www.cswd.net](http://www.cswd.net).

## Drop-Off Locations

*Limits & fees may apply.*

**Green Mountain Compost**  
1042 Redmond Rd., Williston  
Mon–Fri 8–4 (Seasonal: Sat 8–4)

### DROP-OFF CENTERS

**Burlington** (339 Pine St.)  
Wed 9:30–5; Thu & Sat 8–3:30

**Essex** (218 Colchester Rd.)  
Tue 9:30–5, Wed–Sat 8–3:30

**Hinesburg** (907 Beecher Hill Rd.)  
Sat 8–3:30  
*Closed for construction as of 12/2017.*  
*For updates: [www.cswd.net/hinesburg](http://www.cswd.net/hinesburg)*

**Milton** (36 Landfill Rd.)  
Mon 9:30–5, Fri & Sat 8–3:30

**Richmond** (80 Rogers Ln.)  
Tue & Sat 8–3:30, Th 9:30–5

**South Burlington** (87 Landfill Rd.)  
Mon, Tue, Thu & Sat 8–3:30, Fri 9:30–5

**Williston** (1492 Redmond Rd.)  
Mon–Sat 8–3:30