



## City of White Plains Food Scrap Composting Program

The City of White Plains offers **residential food scrap recycling** at the **Gedney Recycling Yard**. This program is part of our ongoing commitment to divert waste from incineration and increase recycling. All food scraps collected are composted at the facility, which helps preserve valuable organic matter that would otherwise be lost and allows us to generate a beneficial end product.



The City of White Plains  
Department of Public Works  
Composting Program

## How to Recycle Your Food Scraps

Choose a method for collecting food scraps that works for you. We **strongly recommend freezing your food scraps in a reusable container**. This method not only minimizes the use of compostable bags but also helps reduce odors and pests in your home. See our instructions below for how to do this.

If you must use a bag, only use a BPI Certified Compostable bag. **Never use plastic bags**. Please refrain from using multiple bags, and leave the bag untied if possible. Minimizing bag use helps us process food scraps more effectively and efficiently at our facility.



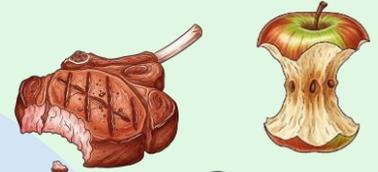
## Accepted Items

All food waste is accepted, including:

Fruits and vegetables  
(remove bands, and ties)



Meat and poultry  
(bones are okay)



Fish and shellfish  
(shells are okay)



Dairy products

Bread, pasta, rice, and grains

Eggs and eggshells

Chips, snacks, nuts, and seeds

Leftover, spoiled, or expired food  
(cooked food is okay)



**Other acceptable items:**

Coffee grounds (paper filters are okay)

Tea bags (no staples)

Paper towels and napkins

Cut flowers (not landscaping waste)



## Items NOT Accepted

It is crucial to keep the following items out of your food scraps, as they will contaminate the compost:

Plastic bags

Baby or hand wipes

Diapers

Glass, metal, or plastic

Pet waste or kitty litter



# Collecting and Dropping Off Your Food Scraps

Choose the method that works best for you and your household.

## 1. The Freezer Method

this is preferred for our compost site's operational efficiency



**Step 1: Collect it**

**How it works:** Use a reusable container with a lid, like a silicone bag or a Tupperware container, to collect your food scraps. Keep the container in your freezer and simply add scraps as you go.



**Step 2: Freeze it**

**Benefits:** Freezing eliminates odors and prevents pests, since the food scraps haven't decomposed. This also helps reduce your use of compostable bags.



**Step 3: Drop it off**

**Tip:** When you're ready to bring the scraps to the Gedney Recycling Yard, take the container out of the freezer about one hour before you leave. This will allow the frozen scraps to slide out easily.

## 2. The Compostable Bag Method

Please minimize bag use if possible



**Step 1: Purchase BPI Certified Compostable Bags (look for this logo)**



**Step 2: Collect it**



**Step 3: Drop it off**

**How it works:** Use a small caddy on your counter and line it with a **BPI Certified Compostable bag**. Once the bag is full, you can store it in a larger bin for transport.

### Important tips:

- **Never double bag.**
- **Don't tie the bag if possible.**
- **Never use plastic bags.**

**A Final Note:** You can also drop off your food scraps directly from a reusable container or a brown paper bag—just make sure no plastics are mixed in. We also accept food waste that has been processed through a home food scrap recycler, such as a Lomi or Mill processor



## Why Your Food Scraps Belong in Compost, Not the Trash

Our composting program is designed to get the most out of your food scraps. Because food scraps have a high moisture content, incinerating them at the Peekskill Waste-to-Energy facility is inefficient. Instead, our program helps us avoid these inefficiencies and reduce transportation emissions. By composting, you help us create a beneficial end product while protecting the environment.

