Why Separate Your Organic Waste?

Organic waste (food waste and food soiled paper) is the single largest component in the municipal solid waste stream (MSW). Decomposition of organics in a landfill produces methane, a greenhouse gas 20 times more damaging than CO2. Organics is a valuable material that if properly collected and recycled can help reduce pollution and improve overall quality of life.

Organics are a Resource

Organics Recycling programs are a sustainable solution that makes it easy for you to divert your food waste. You can help our community convert your source separated organics into nutrient rich compost that can be used on lawns, flower beds, vegetable gardens and local farms.

Organix Solutions’ compostable bags are made from BPI certified compostable materials. These durable yet compostable bags can withstand sunlight, rain and snow – and can stretch to resist most tears and punctures. But when the bags are composted at an industrial composting facility, the bag and the contents will fully compost in a few months.

Tips for Source Separated Organics at Home

- Minimize odors by including food-soiled paper to help absorb excess moisture in the food waste and by disposing of it on your trash day.
- Add a paper bag or pieces of newspaper if you have problems with too much liquid.
- Use an organics collection container and method that is most convenient for you.
- Label your organics container so everyone in the household knows how to sort the waste. Check online for labels or stickers for your containers at home.

Resources

City of Elk River
City Hall
13065 Orono Parkway
Elk River, MN 55330
(763) 441-2020
www.ElkRiverMN.gov/organics

Organix Solutions
4400 West 78th St,
Suite 150
Bloomington, MN 55435
(763) 972-1101
www.OrganixSolutions.com

Organics Recycling Made Easy

Your Guide for Source Separated Organics Recycling at home.
Organics Home Setup: EASY as 1-2-3

1. Prepare a permanent spot within your kitchen and bathroom for an organics collection container.

2. In your bathroom collect tissues, cotton swabs, and cardboard rolls. In your kitchen collect food waste, food-soiled paper, and other acceptable compostable items. Place them in your designated collection container.

3. Once a week tie a secure knot in the bag and place the bag in the designated organics disposal area.

Acceptable Items for Organics Recycling

Contact the resources on the reverse side for a complete list of acceptable items.

ALL FOOD SCRAPS
- Fruit and Vegetables
- Meat, Fish, Bones, Egg Shells, Nuts and Shells
- Dairy Products
- Bread, Cereal, Pasta, Beans, Rice
- Coffee Grounds and Filters, Tea Bags

FOOD-SOILED PAPER
- Napkins, Paper Towels, Tissues
- Pizza Boxes from delivery

CERTIFIED COMPOSTABLE PRODUCTS
- Paper and compostable plastic cups, plates, bowls, utensils and containers. Look for this logo and the term “compostable” on certified products.

Thank You for Participating in the City of Elk River Green Bag Organix™ Program!

We provide you with everything you need for a year of organics recycling, including:

- 60 Extreme Duty 13 gallon compostable bags
- Information on receiving nutrient rich compost that you helped create
- Ongoing customer support: City of Elk River 763-635-1068

Visit your community’s website for more information: www.ElkRiverMN.gov/organics

Unacceptable Items

- Styrofoam™
- Chip Bags
- Plastic-Coated Items
- Recyclable Items (cartons, glass, plastic, paper, metal)
- Clothing
- Coffee Cups not certified compostable
- Microwave Popcorn Bags
- Paper coated with Foil
- Twist Ties
- Frozen Food Boxes
- Diapers
- Sanitary Products
- Pet Waste
- Cleaning Wipes
- Dryer Sheets
- Liquids, Oil, Grease
- Cigarette Butts