



The Village of Northfield

Residential Composting Program April 4-December 5, 2022

What is composting?

Did you know that over 40% of all edible food in the U.S. is thrown away? Composting is the natural process of recycling this organic waste and is the most ecologically friendly way to dispose of food scraps, creating a nutrient-rich soil amendment. Compost rebuilds soils, protects topsoil from erosion, and conserves water.

What are the benefits of composting?

1. Reduces Greenhouse Gases- Compostable materials emit more methane than any other material in landfills. Diverting this material from landfills reduces the amount of methane produced. Methane is 25 times more potent than carbon dioxide.
2. Diverts Materials from Landfills- Compostable material makes up as much as 35% percent of an average home's waste.
3. Valuable End Product- Compost is a great soil additive.

Compostable items include:

- Yard waste
- Food scraps
- Food-soiled paper products

Unacceptable items include:

- Pet waste
- Sanitary products
- Diapers
- Dairy cartons
- Liquids
- Grease and oil

How will the program work?

Waste Management is offering a voluntary subscription-based pilot curbside composting program to all homes, businesses, and community organizations. Compost pickup will be every Monday during the yard waste season from April 5 to December 6. Collected compostable materials are combined with yard waste and are taken to the same facility for disposal; however, unlike yard waste, compostable material must be put into a Waste Management cart due to Health Department regulations and animal concerns.

Composting Only	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participants will receive a 35 gallon Waste Management cart.• Service is \$7.96 per month.
Composting AND Yard Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participants have the option of choosing a 35, 64, or 96 gallon Waste Management cart. You can continue using paper bags or other containers for your yard waste, or can combine yard waste with your compost in a cart.• You will continue to pay \$108.77 for a season of yard waste service, plus an additional \$2.25 per month to include composting for the season.

Carts will be delivered during the last week in March. If you would like to have the cart picked up by Waste Management at the end of the season, there will be a \$40 pickup fee, with an April redelivery fee of \$40 fee. If you would prefer to keep the cart during the off-season, you can do so without any service fees.

How should I handle my food scraps?

Food scraps that are put loosely into your cart may attract unwanted pests. Food products may be put in paper bags or wrapped in newspaper

All clean paper products (cups, plates, napkins, etc.) should continue to be disposed of in your recycling cart. Paper products that have food remnants on them (pizza boxes, used paper towels, etc.) should not be recycled and should instead be composted.

Where can I get more information?

To enroll in the program and request a cart, contact Waste Management at (800) 796-9696. For other questions, call Melissa Jewett at (847) 784-3554 or mjewett@northfieldil.org.

