

COMPOST - HANDOUT

Compost Do's & Don'ts

This list shows the wide variety of items that can be composted. All these items can be added safely to your home compost.

FOOD

Apples & apple peels	Cucumber
Artichoke leaves	Egg shells (crushed)
Asparagus bottoms	Grapes
Bananas & peels	Grapefruit
Beans	Lettuce
Beet tops	Lemon
Berries	Melon
Bread	Onion
Broccoli stalks	Oats
Brussels sprouts	Pears
Buckwheat hulls	Pineapple
Cabbage stalks & outer leaves	Potato
Carrot tops & scrapings	Pumpkin
Celery tops	Squash
Citrus rinds	Tea leaves & tea bags
Coffee grounds (and filter)	Tomato
Corn cobs (chopped)	Turnip
	Zucchini

OTHERS

Algae (pond weeds)	Hops, spent
Apple pomace	Leather waste & dust
Bird cage cleanings	Leaf mould
Blood meal	Leaves
Bone meal	Composted manure
Corn stalks	Muck (marsh & swamp mud)
Cotton rags	Peanut hulls
Feathers	Peat moss
Felt waste	Pine needles
Flowers	Rope
Garden wastes (trimmings, plant remains)	Sawdust
Grape plant waste	Seaweed
Granite dust	Soil
Grass	Straw
Hair	String
Hay	Weeds
	Wood ash
	Wool rags

Everything of an organic nature will compost, but not everything belongs in your home compost pile. These materials could create problems.

MEATS, FATS, DAIRY PRODUCTS

Butter	Meat scraps
Bones	Milk
Cheese	Peanut butter
Chicken	Salad dressing
Fish scraps	Sour cream
Lard	Vegetable oil
Mayonnaise	Yogurt

OTHERS

Plants with a disease or severe insect attack (e.g. aphids, tent caterpillars)

Slowly decomposing plants (e.g. rhododendron, English Laurel leaves)

Plants toxic to insects or other plants (e.g. walnut or rhubarb leaves)

Grasses with a rhizomatous root system (e.g. crab grass)