# Food Composting—The Ultimate Recycling!

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It's easier than you may think. By composting your food waste, you can reduce your carbon footprint, improve soil health for your veggie and flower garden,

and **save** money on fertilizer. Plus, it's a fun and educational activity for kids to learn about nature and sustainability! **Let's get started making some black gold!** 



### **SOME IMPORTANT BENEFITS**

#### **IMPROVES SOIL HEALTH**

- Adds beneficial microorganisms, organic matter, nutrients that helps plants grow
- Reduces stormwater runoff because it can hold about 5x it's weight in water
- · Helps prevent soil erosion
- Confines carbon dioxide and prevents its release into the atmosphere
- Helps suppress weeds and diseases

#### **PROVIDES LOCAL JOBS**

On a per-ton basis, making compost:

- Employs 2x more people than landfills
- Employs 4x more people than incinerators

### REDUCES HARMFUL METHANE EMISSIONS

- Organic waste in landfills lack oxygen causing methane gas generation.
- On a 20-year timescale, methane, a potent greenhouse gas, is 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide.
- The composting process significantly reduces these emissions.

#### **SAVES MONEY**

- Reduces water usage and the need for fertilizers and pesticides
- More than 30% of your household waste is from food, paper, or cardboard. At-home composting can decrease trash pick-up frequency.

## Food Composting Options:

**At-home composting.** This could be a fun and inexpensive project for the entire family. Here is a great **resource** to get you started, and a one-page quick **reference guide**.

**Food waste pick-up companies.** If home composting won't work for you, the chart below lists local companies that will pick up your food scraps at your home twice a month. You can compare the services and incentives they offer. The food scraps are taken to Linvilla Orchards to be made into compost for participants and local farms.

As a **thank you** to the first 90 residents who sign up for food waste collection, TTGM will provide a FREE six-month supply of bucket liner bags. **Just mention TTGM when you sign up!** 

	EZ Composting	Kitchen Harvest	Rot Star
Bi-weekly— 1st bucket pickup charge	\$18 monthly or 10% Discount if paid annually	\$18 monthly	\$18 monthly ₪ 10% Discount if paid annually
Bucket Cost	Free plus liners	Free	\$12 includes wipe downs
Free trial period	X	X	1 month
Finished Compost	30lbs	Bulk orders 20% off compost & garden soil	30lbs
Pick-up area	DelCo	DelCo	Some of DelCo*
Grows organic produce on compost site	X	Yes; delivered at the time of compost pick-up	Х

See individual websites for additional bucket[s] charge.

Yard waste pick-up—Needs to be in the 5-gallon container or brown leaf bags

\*Aston, Broomall, Drexel Hill, Glen Mills, Marple, Media, Middletown, Nether Providence, Newtown Square, Ridley, Rose Valley, Springfield, Swarthmore



TTGM has no contract or affiliation with the above-listed companies. Pricing is subject to change at any time and is beyond the control of TTGM.

### READ MORE:

From Healthcare to Composting— My journey to promote sustainability and protect the environment

Questions? Send an email to Joanne at ZeroWaste@ttgmPA.org

