

Food Waste and Composting

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Fort Worth Food Waste

2014, Audited Landfill:

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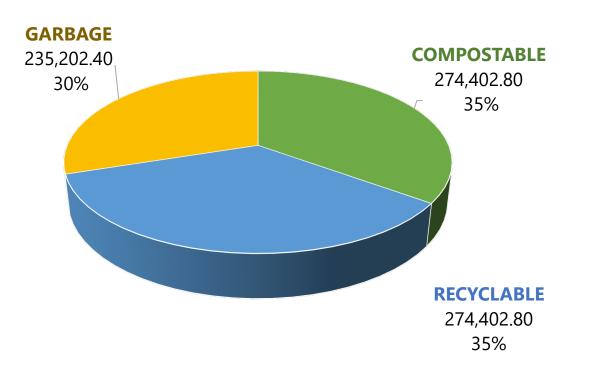
20+% is pure food waste 35% is compostable

2017, Finalized CSWMP:

Fort Worth Landfill filling rapidly

2018, China & National Sword:

Cost of Recycling Value of Recyclables





Food loss vs. food waste

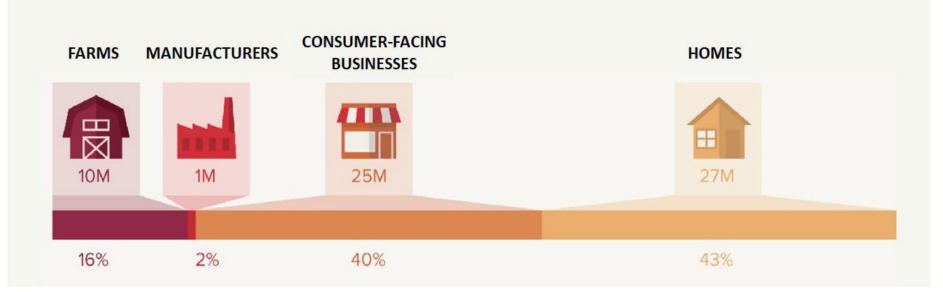
Food loss is edible food that goes uneaten at any stage, including:

Food uneaten in homes and stores Crops left in the field Food that spoils in transportation Food that doesn't make it to a store **Food waste** is a specific piece of food loss, including:

Food discarded by retailers Plate waste by consumers Half-eaten meal left on plate Food scraps from meal preparation

30% of US Food Goes from Farm to Table to Landfill

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Food Wasted by Weight



30% of US Food Goes from Farm to Table to Landfill



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Main Causes:

Overbuying: cost/convenience Poor planning: lack of meal plans or lists Food spoilage: misjudged food needs Date label confusion: sell by/use by/best by Over-preparing: cooking/serving too much



Impact of Food Waste





\$2.3 + billion spent each year to put 6,300,000,000 tomatoes in US landfills (31% of fresh tomatoes bought by U.S. households)

> **\$1800 (21% of food bought)** How much the average person loses each year from wasting food

\$300,000,000

How much Fort Worth residents spend each year on wasted food

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture and Foodprint.org





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Environmental:

Methane

Traffic & transport pollution Cardboard and plastic packaging Loss of nutrients & microbial stability 25% of global fresh water use



What can we do?

By making small shifts in how we shop, store and prepare food, we can keep the valuable resources used to produce and distribute food from going to waste If we **reduce** the amount of food we buy, we will also reduce the amount of food produced and **wasted**. Process food scraps and spoiled food into **compost**, a rich soil nutrient





Most Preferred

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Food Recovery Hierarchy

Source Reduction & Reuse

Reduce the volume of surplus food generated

Feed Hungry People Donate extra foods to food banks, soup kitchens and shelters

> Feed Animals Divert food scraps to animal feed

Industrial uses

Provide waste oils for rendering and fuel conversion and food scraps for digestion to recover energy

> Composting Create a nutrient-rich soil amendment

Landfill / Incineration Last resort to disposal Urban and Small Agriculture





"Composting" is beneficial rot; it's the process of mixing and maintaining decaying organic matter until it has fully decomposed into soil.

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When composted, food waste is diverted from your garbage cart and helps extend the life of the City's landfill.





Benefits of composting food scraps

Better food, better gardens, and a greener Fort Worth!

- Compost creates naturally rich soil and delivers nutrients in a form that plants can use
- Brings depleted or dead soil to life by feeding it
- It reduces need for fertilizer, and lowers water usage

Breathe healthier air

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 Prevent excessive methane greenhouse gas emissions into our air, from the decomposing food scraps at the landfill. Methane is 20 times more potent and harmful than carbon dioxide



Benefits of composting food scraps

Saves valuable nutrients from the landfill

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- By composting nutrients back into the soil, we capture them rather than wasting them and using up space in the landfill
- Food scraps produce a valuable compost product and our local economy can also reap benefits
- The longer a city can go without the need for a new landfill, the longer it can maintain lower costs for the taxpayer





Residential Food Scraps Composting Pilot Program



Developed

as an extension of the Master Composter program, according to the CFW 2017 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan

First

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program of its kind in North Texas, will be a benchmark for other DFW municipalities



Council of Governments

Funded

through a grant from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Prepared

in cooperation with the North Central Texas Council of Governments



Designed

based on a similar program in Minneapolis

> **Launched** Mid-April 2019





Making a Difference

2 years running

Over 1,500 households subscribed

Over 126 tons (252,000 lbs.) collected

Total contamination: 1.1%

Goal: Maximum landfill diversion of compostable items and future recommendation for city-wide food scraps curbside collection





Starter Kit



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VHAT HAPPENS TOW FOOD SCRAPS?	HOW IS THE RESIDENTIAL FOOD SCRAPS		
Certs from the depend sites are transported to a large-	COLLECTION PILOT PROGRAM DIFFERENT		
scale, commercial compositing facility, in a number of	FROM BACKYARD COMPOSITING?		
month, your food scraps will underge a process of	# You can collect more compositing materials in our		
decomposing and will be composited. The final product can	residential food scraps compositing pilot program the		
be put to good use in gardres, Landescript and radiation	your backyard hin because large-scale, indicatival or		
to put to spod use in gardres. Landescript and radiation	facilities inmultin higher temperatures that backyard		
your organics are not contaminated with materials that do	compositions. These temperatures will backerla and		
not decompose, such as plastic bage and stickers.	benediation inters that cannot be composited at home		
VHY CAN'T PET WASTE BE INCLUDED?	such as cooked meat, dairy, and eggs. Participants in 1		
Pet (and human) waste contains bacteria that can cause	residential food scraps collection pilot program are st		
illnesses. Compost facilities are not allowed to accept	encouraged to compost at home and may sign up for		
pets' waste: therefore oet waste. Bitser, and bedding	city's Mater Composter course at a discounted price		
cannot be accepted in the food scraps composting program. Pet waste should be picked up and placed in the parbare cart.	Learn more about backyard composting: www.FortWorthTexas.gov/compostoutpost/master		

FROM BACKYARD COMPOSTING?
Wou can collect more compositing materials in our residential food scraps compositing pilot program than in your backyard bin because large-scale, industrial composi- compositions. These temperatures skill bacteria and besidenmit thems that cannot be composited at home, such as cooked mesh, dairy, and cags. Participants in the melidential food scraps codiection pilot program are still civity independent of the composite of prices.
Learn more about backyard composting: www.FortWorthTexas.gov/compostoutpost/master.



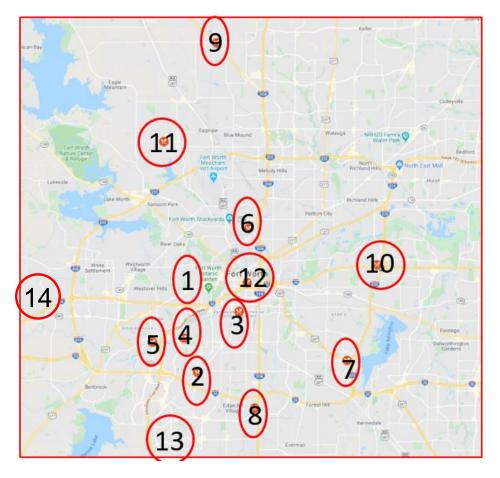






Collection sites

PUBLIC COLLECTION SITES FOR FOOD SCRAPS ONLY :



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COMPOST-1. FW Botanic Garden (3220 Botanic Garden Blvd, 76107) COMPOST-2. Foster Park (4398 Trail Lake Dr., 76109) COMPOST-3. Fairmount Park (1501 5th Ave, 76104) COMPOST-4. Hartwood Park Tennis Courts (4300 Hartwood Dr., 76109) COMPOST-5. River Park (3100 Bryant Irvin Road, 76109) COMPOST-11. Northwest Library (6228 Crystal Lake Dr., 76179) COMPOST-12. City Hall (200 Texas St, 76102) COMPOST-13. Chisholm Trail Park (4680 McPherson Blvd, 76123) COMPOST-14. Walsh Community Garden (13749 Makers Way, 76008)

FOOD SCRAPS COLLECTION ALSO AVAILABLE AT EACH OF THE CITY OF FORT WORTH DROP-OFF STATIONS:

COMPOST-6. Brennan DOS (2400 Brennan Avenue, 76106) COMPOST-7. Southeast DOS (5150 Martin Luther King Freeway, 76119) COMPOST-8. Old Hemphill DOS (6260 Old Hemphill Road, 76134) COMPOST-9. Hillshire DOS (301 Hillshire Drive, Haslet 76052) COMPOST-10. CFW Environmental Collection Center (6400 Bridge St, 76112)

How do residents sign up?

• Click on the sign-up button from the City's website:

www.FortWorthTexas.gov/solidwaste/compost

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- Links to Eventbrite for online sign up form and payment of the \$20 subscription fee.
- This fee covers full participation in the Pilot Program, and includes program starter kit.
- All fees collected by our Residential Food Scraps Pilot Program are donated to the advancement of the Keep Fort Worth Beautiful Program.



Commercial Aspect

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- Our residential program has raised awareness and generated interest for commercial composting options and helped build infrastructure for commercial diversion of organic materials, expanding its reach beyond residential organic diversion.
- Our Materials Management Team has helped facilitate partnerships between local composting vendors/haulers and local businesses/facilities who were looking to divert commercial food/organic waste.
- For more information on how we can help you divert your food waste, please contact mmp@fortworthtexas.gov



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Thank you

