

**Food scraps and other organic wastes are a significant component of our waste stream. By composting, you can dramatically reduce the amount of waste that your household sends to the local landfill, which helps to eliminate many issues described below.**

### What kind of food scraps can I put in my bucket?

"If it has been alive, it is compostable!" You can put everything from meat and fish scraps to vegetable trimmings to breads, rice, and pastas to coffee grounds and filters in your bucket.

### What will happen to my food scraps?

Food scraps are transformed into high-quality compost, which will be used to enhance local soils. We Compost It! donates compost to local schools each year for use on school yard gardening projects. Resells back to Residents and local farms and landscaping businesses, to name just a few.

## Breaking Down Food Waste

Around the World, **one-third** of all edible food is wasted. This equals **3.5 billion acres** of land and **250 km<sup>3</sup>** of water used to grow food that is wasted.<sup>1</sup>



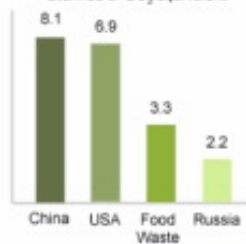
**1.5 times** the land mass of the United States.



**1/4** of all fresh water in the world.<sup>1</sup>

Food waste in landfills is one of the largest emitters of methane gas.

World's Largest Greenhouse Gas Emitters  
Gtonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent



If the methane emission of global food waste was a country, it would be the **third** largest greenhouse emitting country.<sup>1</sup>

**Methane is 25 times more powerful** in contributing to climate change than carbon dioxide.

In the U.S., **40%** of food is uneaten. A family of four throws out about **one-fourth** of all the food they buy.<sup>2</sup>

Fresh fruits and vegetables account for the **largest** food loss because of their tendency to spoil.<sup>3</sup>

This amounts to an annual cost of

**\$1,365**  
to  
**\$2,275**  
per family.<sup>2</sup>



*Largest types of food loss<sup>3</sup>*

- 22%** Fresh Fruits & Vegetables
- 19%** Dairy
- 18%** Meat, Poultry & Fish
- 14%** Grain Products

**50%**

increase in food waste, compared to the 1970's.<sup>2</sup>

**18%**

of U.S. methane emissions comes from food waste in landfills.<sup>2</sup>

#### Sources:

1. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations: [www.fao.org/docrep/018/3347e/3347e.pdf](http://www.fao.org/docrep/018/3347e/3347e.pdf)
2. National Consumers League: <http://www.ncinet.org/foodwaste>
3. Natural Resources Defense Council: <http://www.nrdc.org/food/files/wasted-food-IP.pdf>

# What Food Waste Can I Compost?

## YES:

All food scraps  
Coffee grounds & filters  
Dairy products  
Meat & Bones  
Egg & seafood shells  
Cheese  
Condiments, fats & oils  
Paper bags, plates, napkins & paper towels

## NO:

Plastic of any kind  
Waxed paper or containers  
Cans or glass  
Styrofoam  
Aluminum Foil  
Yard Waste  
No Pet Waste!

## Acceptable Scraps

