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# Bayview Refuse & Recycling Service, Inc.

## Residential Newsletter

January 2025

## Don't Trash your Food Scraps. Put them in the Green Cart.

**IT'S EASY!** Wrap food in newspaper, paper bags or BPI-Certified compostable bags. Customers can call or email Bayview Refuse for a free Kitchen Pail **for food scraps**.

### Is it really ALL food scraps?

Green cart material is processed at a commercial composting facility and is made into a nutrient-rich moisture-retaining soil amendment – compost! The faster commercial processing allows for all food scraps, so it's a bit different than your traditional backyard composting. **Yes, ALL food scraps can go in your green organics cart.**

Here are some food scraps you might not have thought of:

- Meat, fish and bones
- Eggshells
- Cooked, frozen and spoiled food
- Plate scrapings
- To-go food and leftovers
- Fruit pits
- Coffee grounds, paper tea bags and tea leaves
- Dairy

### Helpful tips about food-soiled paper

Not all coated food grade paper materials are compostable. It is very rare to find wax coated materials these days. If you can rip or tear the material and see fibers it may be compostable and placed in the **GREEN** cart (if unsoiled recycle in the **BLUE** cart).

Materials that are plastic coated do not break down during the composting process, and are a contaminant in the green cart. Please put plastic coated materials in the **GRAY** landfill cart, including cartons with plastic lids and spouts. The following is a sample of paper materials that can be composted in your green organics cart:

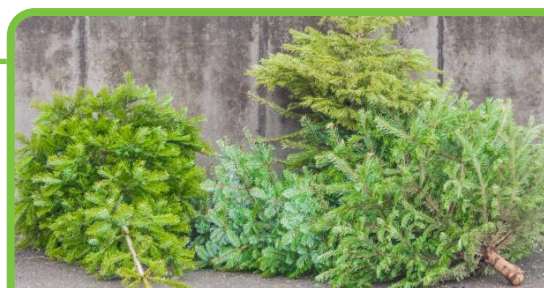
- Pizza boxes
- Paper plates
- Uncoated, fiborous/textured to-go paper food containers
- Paper napkins
- Paper towels
- Paper egg cartons
- Wood utensils and chop sticks (including ones made of bamboo)
- Paper coffee filters and paper tea bags (remove staples)

### Did you know that 40% of all food in America is wasted? Use these tips to prevent food waste at home:

- **Check your fridge.** See what you can make by getting creative with the food you have before you go shopping.
- **Make a list.** Plan your meals and make a list before going to the store.
- **Keep it contained.** Store leftovers and veggies in clear containers so you can easily see what's inside.
- **Freeze with ease.** Place food in the freezer to extend its life.
- **Prep ahead.** Make meals in bigger batches and eat them throughout the week.

## Recycle Your Tree Curbside

- **When to set out:** Set our tree on curb or cut up to fit in the green organics cart for your regular collection day.
- **Size and Type:** Trees over 7 feet must be cut in half.
- **Limitations: No flocked trees, remove metal stands and trimmings.**



# Tips to Reduce your Waste

## Stop Junk Mail!

Reduce unwanted junk mail sent to your home. USPS recommends opting out of junk mail by going to **DMAchoice.org** to sign up to unsubscribe, a nominal processing fee will apply. You can also go to **BayAreaRecycling.org/stop-junk-mail** for a list of resources for stopping junk mail, catalogs, spam email and more.

Remember, paper envelopes with windows, magazines, paper documents, and shiny junk mail are all accepted in your blue recycling cart.

## Why are Plastic Bags Bad?

According to available information, a plastic bag is typically used for only 12 minutes on average, yet it can take at least 500 years to break down in a landfill, where it fragments into numerous microplastic pieces that can absorb toxins, fester in our oceans and continue to pollute the environment.

Check our website for more tips on going Zero Waste
**BayviewRefuse.com**