

WHAT GOES IN THE GREEN BIN?

Green Bin Tips

- Do not use biodegradable bags.
- Twist or loosely tie the plastic bag (no twist ties).
- Take food items out of their plastic bags/wrap; too much plastic causes problems.

YES ✓

- Fruits, vegetables
- Meat, poultry, fish products
- Pasta, bread, cereals, rice
- Dairy products, eggs and shells
- Coffee grounds/filters, tea bags
- Cake, cookies, candy
- Diapers, sanitary products
- Animal waste, bedding, cat litter
- House plants, including soil
- Paper – soiled
 - Food packaging, ice cream containers, popcorn, flour and sugar bags
 - Tissues, napkins, paper towels (not soiled with chemicals such as cleaning products)



NO X

Packaging

- Plastic or foil bags/ wrap/trays
- Outer packaging
- Foam polystyrene meat trays and liners
- Plastic food containers, glass jars, pop cans
- Hot drink cups, lids, sleeves



Garbage

- Dryer sheets, baby wipes, make-up pads, dental floss, cotton tipped swabs
- Hair, pet fur, feathers, wax, wood pieces, cigarette butts, wine corks, vacuum bags/contents, fireplace and BBQ ashes



More Tips

Curbside collection

- Line either your kitchen container or Green Bin. Do not line both.
- Use either a plastic bag or kraft paper bag to line either container.
- Excess material? Put non-food waste (e.g. tissues, diapers, animal waste) in a clear plastic bag beside your Green Bin.

Multi-residential collection (if applicable)

- Line your kitchen container with a plastic bag.
- Take bag to your building's Green Bin.

PLEASE **DON'T CONTAMINATE** THE ORGANICS PROGRAM

These items don't go in the Green Bin because they contaminate the system:

NO

- **Plastic bags/wrap***
- **Plastic food containers and glass jars**
- **General garbage**
(e.g. cigarette butts, wine corks, cotton balls, baby wipes, gum, pet feathers and fur, etc.)
- **Medical waste**
(e.g. cloth and plastic bandages, gauze, intravenous, catheter/colostomy bags and tubes)
- **Pop cans**
- **Pieces of wood**

*Please take food items out of their plastic bags/wrap (e.g. carrot bags, bread bags, etc.). Put the food items in the Green Bin and the plastic bags in the garbage.

**Please do not throw plastic containers and glass jars containing food into the Green Bin. Put the food in the Green Bin and depending on the type of container, put it in recycling (rinse to remove residue) or garbage.

If I can use plastic bags to line the bin, why can't I place such plastic items as yogurt containers or plastic wrap in the bins?

While it's okay to line your containers with plastic bags, it is not okay to include plastic baggies, bread bags, and other plastic packaging. Too much plastic causes serious quality problems at the processing facility. We appreciate your help in producing clean, rich compost.

Should I use bio-degradable bags in the Green Bin?

There is no need to buy special bags; used grocery bags are fine. Using a bio-degradable bag does not provide any real benefit. The mechanism used to open and separate the bags full of organics cannot distinguish a compostable/bio-degradable plastic bag from a regular plastic bag. All bags are opened, removed and treated as residue that requires landfill disposal.

Curbside collection: What happens if I lose my Green Bin or need another one - can I buy extra bins?

Indoor containers and bins are available at selected retailers, City Container Pick-up Locations and Community Environment Days (toronto.ca/recycle or call 311).

Green Bin Processing – Watch what happens to the items that go into the Green Bin. Take the "From curbside to compost" online tour.

toronto.ca/greenbin

Not sure how to dispose of an item?

WASTE WIZARD an online search tool, lists over 1,500 waste items and how to properly dispose of them. Search it at toronto.ca/recycle (or call 311).