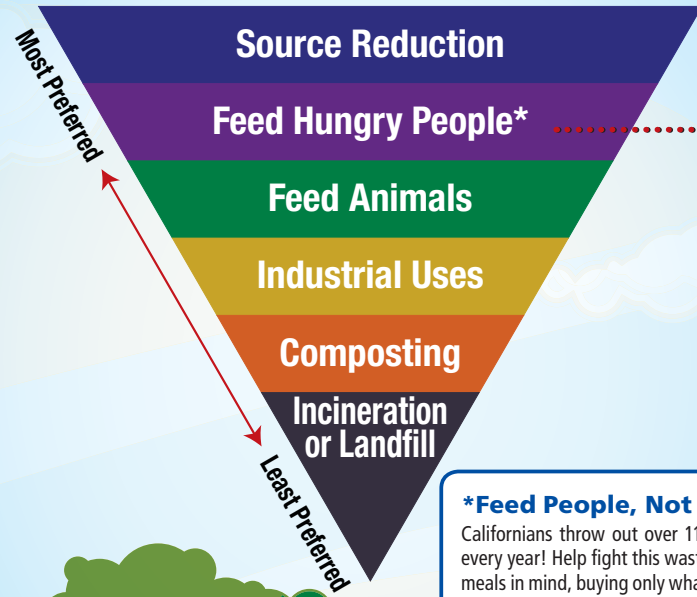


Roughly 40% of all the food in the U.S. goes to waste, yet 1 in 6 Americans lack a secure supply of food. Food is too precious to waste.

Food Recovery Hierarchy



For more info:
www.epa.gov/foodrecovery

***Feed People, Not Landfills**

Californians throw out over 11 billion pounds of food "waste" every year! Help fight this waste by creating a shopping list with meals in mind, buying only what you need, storing food properly, freezing food, and being creative with leftovers.

If you have food you would like to donate, the following organizations accept non-perishable and/or prepared foods. Please no outdated canned goods or open containers. You must call ahead to make arrangements for prepared and/or perishable food donations. The Good Samaritan Law protects you from liability.

- Napa Valley Food Bank** – 707-253-6128
- The Table** (First Presbyterian Church) – 707-224-8693
- South Shelter** – 707-299-1742 or 707-299-1739
- Salvation Army** – 707-226-8150
- California Human Development**
- Farmworker Center** – 707-942-9279 or 707-333-0183

Suggested Non-perishable Items:

- Canned Meat • Nuts • Canned Vegetables • Soup • Rice
- Peanut Butter • Canned Juice • Baby Food • Tuna • Beans
- Macaroni & Cheese • Canned Fruit • Cereal • Pasta/Noodles

Now Available to All Customers!



INCLUDE THE FOOD!

**Food Scraps
Food-Soiled Paper
Yardwaste**

Spanish version of this brochure available at www.naparecycling.com

Curbside Food Composting

It's Easy

How does curbside food composting make a difference?

Households compost an average of 10 lbs per week through curbside food compost programs – **that's 520 pounds per year per household!**

If all Napa Recycling & Waste Services and Napa County Recycling & Waste Services household customers composted **520 pounds** annually that would be almost **7000 TONS** per year of organics no longer wasted in landfills.

When compostable materials end up in landfills, they generate methane, a powerful greenhouse gas. Napa's compost facility instead turns this valuable material into organic compost. When compost is used in landscape and agriculture it builds soil nutrients, conserves water, and reduces the need for fertilizers.



Food scraps make up over 26% of what households throw away. When you add other compostable items such as paper napkins, coffee grounds and paper cups, it's easy to see how composting will significantly reduce what we send to the landfill. All food scraps and food-soiled paper now go in your brown compost cart.

Why can't I use my garbage disposal for food scraps?

Disposals aren't meant to handle large quantities of food. Sending food into the sewer requires additional water to flush the food down your drain — Estimated at 900 gallons per household annually. Conserve water by collecting your food scraps for composting. By doing this, not only do we protect the environment, but we also capture personal cost savings from less water use and community savings from less wastewater treatment costs. Soiled paper, bones, seafood shells, fruit pits, and fibrous food scraps, as well as fats, solidified oils, and grease (FOG) should never be put down the drain, but can definitely be composted. FOG can cause sewer blockages leading to spills and overflows, which are harmful to the environment and public health. **Composting is a great alternative to the garbage disposal!**

1

Collect food scraps while preparing meals, scraping plates and cleaning out the refrigerator of spoiled food. Include paper towels, napkins, paper plates and coffee cups. It all adds up!



2

Empty your kitchen compost pail, including any liner, into your brown compost cart.



3

Place your cart out for weekly pickup on your regular collection day.

If you're a backyard composter already – great! This curbside program allows you to compost meat, dairy, and paper products that aren't recommended for backyard bins.

Visit www.cityofnapa.org/compost for the 2015 schedule of free compost classes and for registration.

Please remember that clean, unsoiled paper such as newspaper, cardboard and brown bags belong in your blue recycling cart!



Kitchen Pail Care

- Lining your pail with newspaper or a compostable bag makes it easier to dump the contents of your pail and will help keep food scraps from touching the inside of your brown compost cart.
- Wrap messy food in newspaper and then place in your container.
- If you're getting rid of outdated frozen food, leave in freezer until the night before your pickup.
- Rinse or wash container as needed.
- Empty the contents frequently, including the liner, into your brown compost cart. The less time food scraps spend in your kitchen... the less opportunity for the "ick factor" to invade!



- Sprinkle baking soda in container to help absorb odors.
- Spray or rub vinegar on the inside of the lid to avoid odors and fruit flies (remember fruit flies will visit your kitchen at certain times of year whether you are composting or not).
- Add food soiled paper or shredded paper to help absorb moisture and reduce odors.

Compost Cart Care



- Using a compostable bag or a newspaper liner in your kitchen container will help keep food scraps from touching the inside of your brown compost cart.
- Layer food compost in between yard debris to reduce odors and to contain messier foods.
- Sprinkle baking soda in your compost cart to reduce odors and deter insects.
- Many people on Napa's pilot program moved their brown carts closer to their kitchen door for easy emptying of their kitchen pail.
- If needed, use mild soap and water to clean your brown cart. Pour dirty water onto grass or gravel, not down the storm drain.
- Store your cart in the shade in hot weather.



Compost Pails and Liners

• We will deliver a **SureClose** pail to all NRWS & NCRWS households over the next several months. The pail has an insert describing its beneficial features. You can also utilize a can, bucket or any other container that suits your needs and counter space. Many plastic, metal, wooden, and ceramic options can be found locally and online. It is important to place your pail in a convenient location - on the counter or under the sink - so it's easy to use.

- If you choose to line your kitchen pail with compostable bags, they must meet Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI) standards and show this symbol. Visit www.naparecycling.com for a list of local retailers offering BPI certified bags.



- You can also line your pail with newspaper or paper towels, which help keep your pail clean, and reduce odors. Instead of using a liner, you can rinse your pail after emptying it which will also help keep the "ick factor" at bay!



Here's what your neighbors in the pilot composting program had to say:

"I keep my pail in the kitchen next to the trash can. I make sure all the correct waste goes into the container. It has truly showed how much of the waste was going to the wrong place."

"We have become more aware of how much food has gone to waste and as a result have tried to shop more judiciously and consume the food that we do purchase."

"Some neighbors say it's too difficult to separate garbage. It's really not! Make it a way of life! Just think everything one composts goes into making dirt which is rich in nutrients. Compost in the ground will help nurture a better growing environment for all!"

"I'm glad I live in a community that has implemented such a program. Thank you."

NOT USING YOUR PAIL? RETURN TO NAPA PAYMENT CENTER AT 592 LINCOLN AVE.

What Can I Compost? – Lots of Items!

INCLUDE THE FOOD!

All Food

- Fruits & vegetables
- Seafood & shellfish
- Meat & poultry/bones
- Fats & grease
- Rice, beans & pasta
- All prepared & cooked foods
- Bread
- Dairy products/cheese
- Eggshells

Food-Soiled Paper

- Paper towels, napkins, tissue
- Paper cups & paper plates
- Coffee grounds, filters & tea bags
- Paper take-out containers
- Waxed paper/butcher paper
- Waxed cardboard
- Certified compostable wipes

Yardwaste / Other Organics

- Leaves & grass
- Branches & stems
- Sawdust/non-painted wood
- Floral trimmings/holiday greenery
- Hair, fur & feathers

Please No

- Plastic bags/wrap or straws
- Styrofoam
- Glass bottles & metal cans
- Aluminum foil/foil-lined food wrap
- Non-compostable wipes
- Diapers
- Liquids
- Hazardous waste
- Cat & dog waste/cat litter



Questions?

Please Contact:

Napa Recycling & Waste Services
707-255-5200
www.NapaRecycling.com



COMPOSTABLES = FOOD SCRAPS & FOOD-SOILED PAPER & YARDWASTE