



Food Scrap Collection Programs

Presented to: **Go Green Illinois**

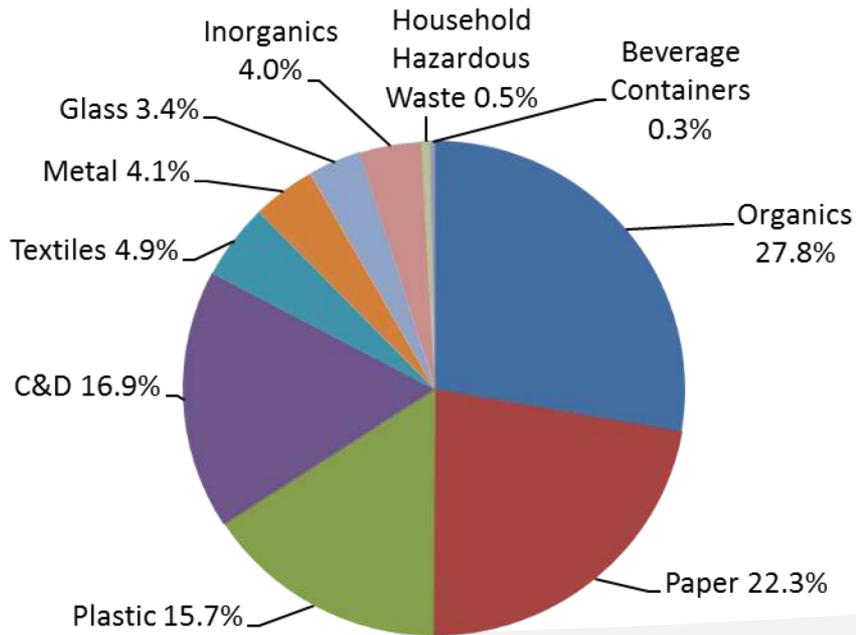
Chicago Botanic Garden

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Lake County SWMP

- 60% recycling goal by 2020, organics diversion is essential to reaching goal
- Encourages residential collection programs
- Evaluate need for infrastructure



Category	Waste Composition %	Cum. %
Food Scraps	17.5%	17.5%
Uncoated OCC/Kraft	8.8%	26.3%
Compostable Paper	3.7%	30.0%
Other Film	3.1%	33.1%
Painted Wood	3.0%	36.1%
Bottom Fines & Dirt	3.0%	39.2%
Mixed Paper - Recyclable	2.7%	41.9%
Yard Waste - Compostable	2.6%	44.5%
Recyclable Glass Bottles & Jars	2.6%	47.0%
Other Rigid Plastic Products	2.5%	49.6%

Food Scrap Collection Options

Recycling Center Food Scraps Drop-Off Service

- Starting May 1st, 2016 the Village of Grayslake's Public Drop Off Recycling Center begin accepting food scraps, the first such year round drop off in the State. This is a **FREE** service to residents of Lake County.
- A second drop off for food scraps is provided by Prairieland Disposal at its office located in Lake Barrington.
- Village of Gurnee added a drop off in its latest contract extension, will open Spring 2019.



Food Scrap Collection Options

Landscape Waste/Food Scrap “Ride Along” (8 Month Subscription or sticker)

Residents with this program may mix food scraps with landscape waste by placing food scraps along with the landscape waste and “ride along” thereby reducing costs to participate in food scrap diversion and introducing residents to food scrap diversion with the long term goal of having year round programs.



Food Scrap Collection Options

Landscape Waste Ride Along



Residential Food Scrap Composting Program

WHY COMPOST FOOD SCRAPS?

There are many reasons to recycle food scraps, including:

1. **It's easy!** Collect food scraps into a container and set out as part of your community's yard waste collection program.
2. **Reduces garbage and preserves landfill space**
3. **Reduces greenhouse gas production at landfills.**
4. **Creates compost.** Food scraps help to create a nutrient rich soil amendment that improves soil health and function. Compost rebuilds soils, protects topsoil from erosion, conserves water and attracts earthworms and other helpful organisms.

HOW TO COMPOST FOOD SCRAPS & TIPS TO REDUCE ODORS & PESTS

1. **Collect scraps** in your kitchen collector. Do not use plastic or biodegradable bags to line your collector.
2. **Empty foods scraps** into your rigid yard waste container.
3. **Set Out** your rigid container (no Kra'tt bags) at the curb on regular yard waste collection day.

Tips to Reduce Odors and Pests: You may want to line container with newspapers or paper towels/bags, empty frequently, rinse after use (with vinegar or dish soap so-lution), sprinkle with baking soda, keep container closed

WHAT CAN BE COMPOSTED?



- **Fruits and Vegetables**
(includes unpainted holiday pumpkins)



- **Leftovers/kitchen scraps** (includes coffee grounds, tea bags & filters)



- **Breads, grains, pasta and cereal**

- **Meat, poultry, seafood** (including shells and bones)



- **Dairy and Eggs** (including shells; no liquids)



- **Paper Products** (includes paper towels, plates, napkins, egg cartons and pizza boxes)



DO NOT INCLUDE: Plastic, Styrofoam, glass, diapers, metal, liquids, grease, pet waste, or oil.

For more information on backyard composting, how to and sales, visit swalco.org, October 2017



SWALCO Communities

- Village of Bannockburn
- Village of Deer Park
- Village of Fox Lake
- Village of Grayslake
- Village of Gurnee
- Village of Hawthorn Woods
- City of Highland Park
- City of Highwood (year round)
- Village of Island Lake
- Village of Kildeer
- Village of Lake Barrington
- Village of Lake Bluff (year round)
- Village of Mundelein
- Village of North Barrington (year round, appr. 150 homes)
- Village of Port Barrington
- Village of Riverwoods
- Village of Round Lake Beach
- Village of Tower Lakes
- Village of Volo

SWANCC Communities

- Village of Arlington Heights
- Village of Barrington
- City of Evanston
- Village of Glenview

Food Scrap Collection Options

Year round organics collection as part of base service

In 2017, residents in Highwood and Lake Bluff became the first in the State to have community wide year round organics collection. This is not an opt in program, all residents are charged for the service.



Food Scrap Collection Options

Year round organics collection as part of base service

Lake Bluff Program Specifics:

- Historically had year round landscape waste collection, added ride along food scraps to it, total cost for collection is \$18.45/month, actually lower costs under new contract. First such program in IL, began in March 2017.
- Village owns the compost site where material will be taken, cost for site not included in monthly bill to resident.
- No cart provided, residents must use own containers/Kraft bags.



Food Scrap Collection Options

Year round organics collection as part of base service

Highwood Program Specifics:

- Program began May 1, 2017 and includes a 35 gallon cart for landscape waste and food scraps. Additional cost is \$3.90/hh/month, total cost for all materials/waste is \$22.40/month
- Negotiated to reduce cost by \$1/hh/month by moving all residents to a 65 gallon refuse cart instead of a 95 gallon cart, limited program
- Key selling point was each resident would have 35 gallons of capacity for yardwaste and food scraps, many residents bought stickers for yardwaste at \$2.50 per sticker, that cost is now reduced or eliminated





Food Scrap Program Expansion



- Midwest Organics Recycling made a significant investment in expanding its site in 2017, the largest in Lake County.
- In 2018, Lake County Jail implements food scrap/recycling program, cut waste by over 50% and reduced costs.
- The seven commercial franchises in Lake County all have food scrap pricing in the contracts. In 2018 hired Bright Beat to initiate food scrap programs in Highland Park and Grayslake, plan to expand to other towns in 2019.

Grayslake Success Stories



Gril



Somethings Brewing



Light The Lamp



Key Factors to Expanding Programs

- Education, Education, Education, this will be a long term effort to change behavior.
- Need infrastructure expansion to reduce costs (both landscape waste transfer stations and compost sites).
- Local government must work to develop markets for compost through local use, market growth will prompt compost sites to invest and help grow organics diversion programs.
- Ride along can be done at no cost, depending on negotiations, the goal is for ride along programs to become year round.
- It takes one or two towns to begin a bigger movement.
- Hauler's willingness to work with you is key.
- Route density and reduced costs can be achieved when businesses, institutions and schools within a town begin food scrap diversion programs.



Negotiating Food Scrap Collection Into Your Hauling Contract

- The municipal decision to re-negotiate an extension or go out to bid provides key leverage to add food scrap programming, **THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO UPGRADE THE SERVICES.**
 - Each Lake County food scrap program has been the result of an extension or RFP.
- Many haulers are more willing to expand services (e.g., food scrap collection) in return for a contract extension.
 - Most haulers are still moving slowly into food scrap collection, but will respond if that is what their clients want.
- If going out to bid, add the food scrap options you want into the RFP, get quotes on several programs to provide options to your board.
 - Write options/costs into the contract that can be implemented later during the contract term.
- The “ride along” program is easiest program to implement and “sell” to the village board/city council due to its very low or no cost.
 - First step towards a year round program.



Thank you! Questions?

