

What is Compost?

Compost is organic material made from the decomposition of living things. Food and yard waste break down in the composting process and can be used for enhancing and conditioning our soils.



Why Compost?

By choosing to compost, you help:

- ✓ Save landfill space and delay building a new one
- ✓ Reduce methane (a potent greenhouse gas)
- ✓ Enrich and improve soils
- ✓ Move Longmont one step closer to Zero Waste

Landfills are designed to prevent water, oxygen and sunlight from entering, so very little of what's buried there breaks down. Any food waste that does decompose in the landfill produces methane, a potent greenhouse gas. By composting, you allow these organic materials to biodegrade naturally in the presence of water and oxygen, creating nutrient-rich soil for reuse.



How Do I Compost at the Curb?

Try these tips:

Curbside composting is easy! Simply put your food (including meat, dairy, and bones), soiled paper (e.g. napkins, paper towels, tissues), shredded paper, yard waste and branches in your curbside compost cart.

Your compost cart will be picked up every other week and taken to a commercial facility. There, the compost is cooked at temperatures of up to 150 degrees, breaking down materials that won't decompose in your backyard compost pile and destroying disease causing bacteria.

Remember to compost these items:



How Do I Sign Up For Service?

Service is provided on a subscription basis only. City of Longmont sanitation customers may opt to add compost collection to their trash and recycling services.

Sign Up by Phone, Mon – Fri, 8AM – 5PM

303.651.8416

Sign Up Online, Anytime

LongmontColorado.gov/solidwaste



What Can I Do to Prevent Pests & Bad Odors?

Put your food waste in either a certified compostable bag (made from plant material) or a paper bag before placing it in your compost cart. Certified compostable bags are available at local businesses.



Another option is to keep food waste in your freezer until the day of your curbside pickup.

Take care not to over fill your compost cart and be sure to **keep the lid closed.**

Place yard waste, newspaper or soiled paper and cardboard over your food waste.



Did you know?
ALL food waste is compostable!

What if I Already Compost in My Backyard?

That's great! Curbside composting will take everything you can't or might not want to compost in your backyard, including: weeds (so seeds don't go back into your yard), egg shells, meat, dairy, bones, non-recyclable papers (facial tissues, paper towels, bright and dark construction papers), greasy pizza boxes, cups, plates, and utensils that are certified compostable.

