



**Recycle More of Your
YARD WASTE and
FRUIT & VEGETABLE SCRAPS**



Fruit and vegetable scraps

(apples, apple cores, bananas, banana peels, carrots, corn, corn on the cob, cornstalks, peppers, beans, kiwi, lemons, limes, lettuce, peas, oranges, orange peels, radishes, squash, cucumbers, pumpkins, pineapples, pineapple husks, melons, melon rinds, peanuts, peanut shells, mixed vegetables, potatoes, potato peelings, tomatoes, peaches, plums, pears, etc. — from your garden, tree or kitchen)

Grass clippings, leaves, sod

Spent flowers and garden waste

Tree and shrub trimmings, branches, vines

Brush, roots, small stumps

Pumpkins, straw bales

Clean fill dirt, potting soil, garden soil

Wood chips, small twigs, chipped trees

Sawdust, wood shavings

Firewood, logs, wood ashes

Untreated, unpainted wood boards (nails removed)

PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE:

- Meat, fish, bones
- Oils and fats
- Dairy products
- Cooked food
- Bread
- Coffee grounds
- Egg shells
- Noxious weeds



PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE:

- Plastic bags of any kind (from fertilizer, weed and feed, mulch, topsoil, stones, etc.)
- “Biodegradable” plastics
- Paper products
- Pet manure, cat litter
- Charcoal from grills

*Acceptable containers: trash cans with “yard waste” decals or 30-gallon paper yard waste bags. Yard waste containers must weigh **less than 50 pounds** and yard waste must be small enough (**under four feet in length**) to fit in designated container. Brush (**less than 2 inches in diameter and under 4 feet in length**) can also be bundled with twine for collection.*

How does my yard waste get recycled?

What happens to it once it's picked up curbside?

Made into compost

Yard waste and other compostable products collected from 100,000+ homes, are transported to SOCRRA's compost site at 1741 School Road in Rochester Hills. At the compost site, materials are mixed and processed with state-of-the-art equipment. Over 17,000 cubic yards of compost are produced each year.

Compost available to SOCRRA residents

Residents of SOCRRA communities (and Rochester Hills) can shovel their own compost at the compost site for FREE.

\$5 charge for residents of all other communities.

For larger quantities loaded by SOCRRA bucket loader, a charge of \$5 per cubic yard with a \$15 minimum applies.

Some communities have compost available at their Department of Public Works yard. Contact your city's DPW for availability.

What's so great about compost?

Compost is "gardener's gold", ready to use in the home landscape. It improves soil structure, retains water, encourages root growth, aerates soil, releases nutrients slowly, supports beneficial organisms and earthworms, and suppresses some soil-borne diseases.

Compost helps protect water quality because it absorbs rainwater and filters out many pollutants. It's useful as a soil amendment throughout the landscape – including lawns, trees, shrubs, vegetable gardens and flower beds.



**YOUR YARD WASTE
AND FOOD SCRAPS**



**NUTRIENT-RICH
COMPOST**