

Croton's Food Scrap Recycling Program Starts January 2023 - Sign Up Now!

Croton will soon be running a pilot 6-month food scrap recycling program that will convert scraps into compost. All materials and equipment will be provided at no charge, supported by a grant from the NY State Dept. of Environmental Conservation secured by Croton's Sustainability Committee. The pilot program will be open to 40 Croton households.

It will run from Saturday, Jan. 7, 2023 through Saturday, June 24, 2023. If you'd like to participate, read on!

Why Compost Food Scraps?

Scraps contain a variety of minerals and other valuable organic components. At present, food scraps are included with trash and incinerated at the Charles Point Resource Recovery Facility in Peekskill.

If scraps are instead mixed and turned in a composting machine open to the air, aerobic microbes convert them into a soil-like mixture used by gardeners, farmers, park services, and others. It enriches and supplements the soil, retains water, and aids drainage.

Many Croton homeowners have their own backyard composting bins and equipment. Several Westchester communities (e.g., Ossining) have food scrap drop-off programs for others who wish to help their communities and the environment.

Our 6-month pilot program...

...will run from Saturday, Jan. 7 through Saturday, June 24, 2023. It will be limited to 40 households. If successful, the Village will consider implementing a permanent program.

The drop-off site will be near the train station. It will be open in January to receive food scraps in compostable bags every Saturday between 10 AM and 4 PM. To reach it, take Croton Point Ave. toward the station. Get into the right lane. Instead of turning left to enter the station, turn right into the parking lot at 1 Croton Point Ave. and go to its far end. Place sealed bags into any of the large bins in front of the service shed.

All materials (compostable bags, scrap caddy, etc.) will be provided free of charge. Each week, a Westchester County truck will take the bagged scraps to the commercial composting facility in Cortlandt Manor operated by Sustainability Materials Management. Find a list of acceptable (and unacceptable) scraps below.

Sign up to participate by...

...emailing to ***info@sustain-croton.org***. Put "Food Scrap Program" in the subject line. In the email, include your name, email address, and home phone number.

Only 40 households will be accepted, so let us know soon if you'd like to be one of them.

A kick-off meeting will be held at **noon on Sunday, Dec. 4, 2022** in the Dorothy Fiorito Community Room in the basement of the Stanley H. Kellerhouse Municipal Building at 1 Van Wyck Street. The program will be described and materials will be distributed. **That meeting will be the only opportunity to complete the sign-up process and receive the necessary start-up supplies.**

Each household will receive:

- a 2-gallon tabletop scrap caddy to receive food scraps
- 50 compostable bags to line the caddy (enough for two bags a week for the 25 drop-off days). If more compostable bags are needed, they will be available at no charge by emailing to info@sustain-croton.org.
- a 13-gallon wheeled bin to store filled bags between drop-offs and to transport them on Saturdays. The bin may be placed in your car, and then rolled to the large scrap bins at the drop-off site.

Acceptable Food Scraps

- All foods
- Meat
- Bones
- Shellfish
- Eggs and eggshells
- Vegetables
- Beans
- Grains
- Bread, flour, pasta and cereals
- Coffee grounds and filters
- Tea and tea bags
- Tree debris (that fits inside compostable bags)

Not acceptable

- Non-compostables
- Glass
- Metal
- Clean, recyclable paper
- Plastics
- Plastic foams
- Juice boxes and pouches
- Milk cartons
- Rubber bands
- Twist ties
- Produce stickers
- Animal feces
- Cat litter
- Medical waste
- Hazardous waste (cleaning supplies, chemicals)
- Electronic waste

Copies of this list will be distributed at the Dec. 4 kick-off meeting. Dropping off unacceptable materials may cause termination from the program and impact chances for a permanent program.