

# Organic Waste Diversion Policy

How to comply:  
Multi-Family Properties

CITY OF **ASPEN**



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# Agenda:

Introduction to  
Organic Waste  
Diversion  
Ordinance

What do you have  
to do

Waste haulers and  
resources offered  
by the City of Aspen

Next steps



## Chapter 12.05. – ORGANIC WASTE DIVERSION

**Problem:** Aspen was throwing away LOTS of food.

1. Filling the landfill (doesn't break down)
2. Releases harmful emissions
3. Ending the lifecycle for our resources!

**Solution:** Making composting accessible for all.

1. Creates healthy soils
2. Less emissions
3. Gives a second life to resources



# Applicability

Phase 1: October 15, 2023: All businesses with a retail food license.



**Phase 2: January 15, 2026: All commercial businesses and multifamily properties.**



Phase 3: January 15, 2028: Everyone within City limits.

Since the implementation of the 1<sup>st</sup> phase, we increased the organic waste diversion program by 70%!



# What do you have to do?

- 1. Get countertop compost bins from the City of Aspen for all your tenants – email [waste@aspen.gov](mailto:waste@aspen.gov)**
- 2. Share the information with the tenants**
- 3. Contract with the waste hauler of your preference**
- 4. Start composting!**



## Examples

Burlingame Ranch – 258 units

Hunter Creek – 295 units

Truscott – 196 units

The Fornell – 11 units

Hunter Longhouse – 33 units

Aspen Country Inn – 40 units

Burlingame seasonal – 100 units

## Removal Options

You choose the **organics hauler**

You choose the **pick-up frequency**

Reduce trash pick-up frequency

➤ Trash is **+40%** organic waste



# Free Resources

## Bear Resistant Outdoor container



Hook for lock



Paddle Latching  
Mechanism

All metal

# Bear Resistant Outdoor Container sizes



64-gallon



95-gallon



2 yard

# So, what do the residents have to do?

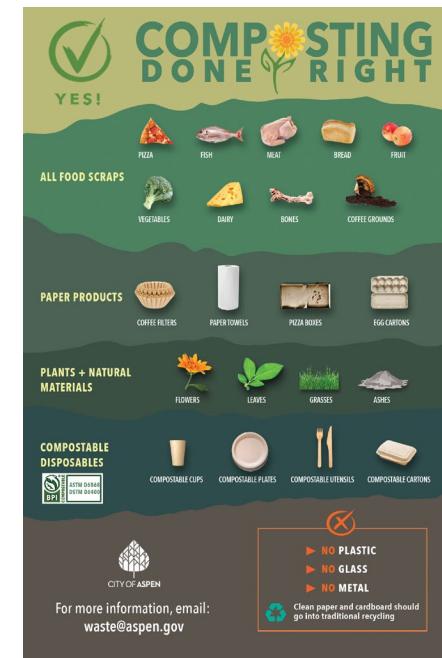
- They collect their food waste on a separate container from the trash and recycling
- They put the food waste in the designated compost dumpster



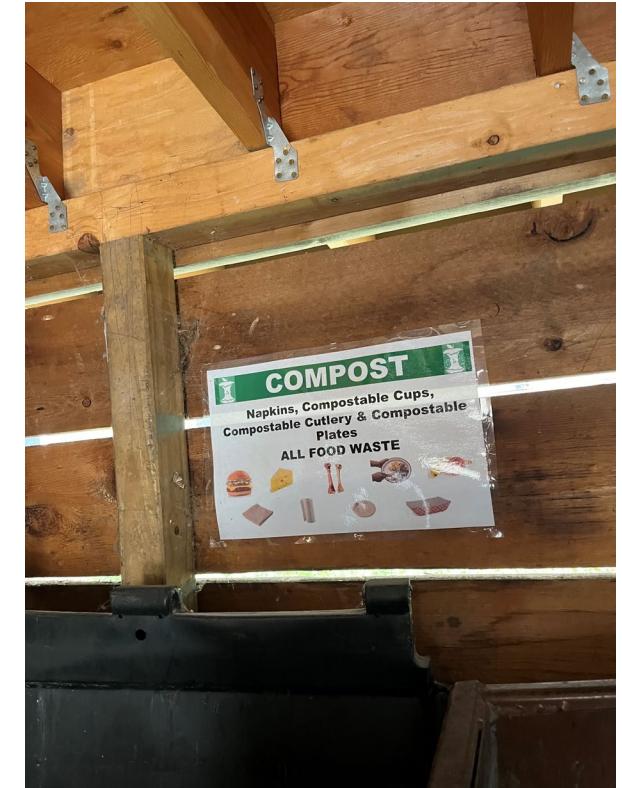
# Educational Materials for Tenants and Waste Rooms

## Bilingual

Magnets - Postcards - Stickers - Toolkit Laminated signs



# Educational Materials for Tenants and Waste Rooms



# Educational Materials for Tenants and Waste Rooms



**COMPOSTING DONE RIGHT**

**ALL FOOD SCRAPS**

- Pizza
- Fish
- Meat
- Bread
- Fruit
- Vegetables
- Egg Shells
- Dairy
- Bones
- Coffee Grounds

**PAPER PRODUCTS**

- Paper Bags
- Coffee Filters
- Paper Towels
- Pizza Boxes
- Egg Cartons

**PLANTS & NATURAL MATERIALS**

- Flowers
- Grass
- Leaves
- Ashes

**BPI COMPOSTABLE** **COMPOSTABLE DISPOSABLES**

- Cup
- Plate
- Utensils
- Container

Look for the BPI Compostable logo—only items with this certification break down in Aspen's compost system.

For more information, email [waste@aspen.gov](mailto:waste@aspen.gov) or scan the QR code.

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## TIPS FOR SEPARATING YOUR SCRAPS

### CHOOSE THE RIGHT CONTAINER

**PAPER BAG**  
Useful for lining bins and reducing mess. Great for collecting dry scraps.

**CERTIFIED COMPOST BAG**  
Useful for lining bins and reducing mess. Make sure they are BPI Certified.

**COUNTER TOP COMPOST BIN**  
The City has free containers available! Contact [waste@aspen.gov](mailto:waste@aspen.gov) to get yours!

### KEEP IT CLEAN

Rinse your bin regularly to avoid odors.

Store in a cool place or freeze scraps until you are ready to empty.

Add baking soda to your scraps to reduce smell.

Line the bottom of your container with paper products to absorb liquids.

### HOW-TO

1. Collect food scraps in a kitchen bin.
2. Use paper bags or BPI compostable liners to keep it clean and easy to empty.
3. Empty into the provided bearproof container at your complex.
4. Rinse and repeat.

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**CAN I COMPOST MEAT, BONES, OR CHEESE?**  
Yes. All of these items are considered to be regular food scraps and can be composted.

**CAN I COMPOST MY PET WASTE?**  
No. Pet waste such as cat litter or dog poop must be disposed of in regular trash.

**CAN I COMPOST MY TAKE-OUT CONTAINERS?**  
Only if they have the "BPI Compostable" label. Otherwise, no.

### WILDLIFE SAFETY

Dispose of food scraps in the provided bear proof containers. Never store your scraps outside!

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For more information, email [waste@aspen.gov](mailto:waste@aspen.gov)



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# We want to help!

What questions do you have for us?



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