



# Natural Resource Protection News

From the Town of Canandaigua Environmental Conservation Board

## Recycling Food Waste . . .

. . . is coming to the Town of Canandaigua and other communities across the nation. As our landfills reach maximum capacity, an alternative means of managing food waste is needed. We should think of food waste as an untapped resource.

Recycling systems for food waste from homes, institutions and businesses (e.g., schools, restaurants, hotels) have been established for many years in Europe and in many large U.S. cities such as Minneapolis and San Francisco. The Town of Canandaigua can do this, too.

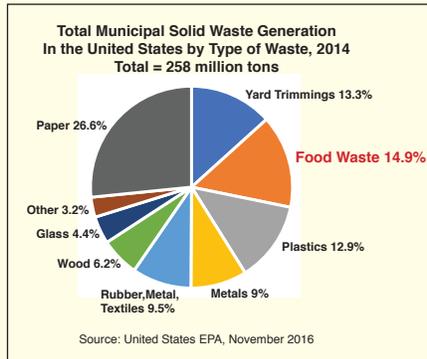
### What Food Wastes Can Be Recycled?

Any prepared or unprepared food wastes, both liquid and solid can be recycled, as well as vegetable and fruit peels, egg shells, tea bags, coffee grounds and filters. Paper napkins and brown paper lunch bags can be included, and even the faded flowers from the dinner table. Meat products, bones, cheese, and other milk products are not recommended for home composting but are included in the Food Scraps Transfer Program as outlined below. More details regarding what is appropriate for your choice of composting method will be available at the Highway Facility Open House on June 16th.

### Two Ways To Recycle Food Waste In Canandaigua—At the Town’s Transfer Station or In Your Own Backyard



Food scrap kitchen caddies will be available to the first 100 residents in each Giveaway Program.



### Collection at the Transfer Station

Food waste collection caddies can be used for countertop or under-the-sink collection. Compostable bag liners can be used to keep the caddy clean and make emptying easier. A larger five-gallon container can be used to store material from the kitchen caddy until your weekly drop-off at the Transfer Station. These organic materials can be upcycled for a valuable soil amendment or for energy production. The Town will use a hauler—Natural Upcycling to collect and transport the material to an anaerobic digester or to a commercial composting site.

There will be no charge to residents for this service. This service to residents will begin on June 30, 2018. Details will be provided at our Highway Facility Open House on June 16 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**There is also a Giveaway Program of a kitchen caddy, compostable bags, and food scraps transfer pail to be rolled out at the Open House to the first 100 residents to apply.**

Recipients must be Town residents and have a current Transfer Station Permit. Permits are available at the Town Clerk’s Office.

### How Does Backyard Composting Work?

Residents who prefer to compost in their backyard will need a compost bin or pile for kitchen waste and other organic materials. The product of your efforts will provide a rich soil mixture for

your home gardens, flower beds, and lawns.

To help our residents establish this beneficial practice, a *Home Composting and Reducing Waste Food* publication from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is available online at the DEC page (<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8799.html>). This easy and natural practice will provide exciting opportunities for family gardeners.

More information will also be available at the Town’s Highway Facility Open House on June 16th. A table with information for the many options for backyard composters will be staffed by representatives from Cornell Cooperative Extension to answer all of your questions.

**A Giveaway Program for the first 100 residents to sign-up for a wooden compost bin and kitchen caddy will also highlight the day.** There is a \$20 participation fee when signing up. The compost bin is valued at \$120. To apply you must be a Town resident and have a current Transfer Station Permit.

Further details will be available at the Open House.

*Food waste collection at the Transfer Station begins June 30th.*

