



# Managing Food Scraps

Summary for Addison County Landlords & Property Managers



## What's required

Starting July 1, 2020, all food scraps will be banned from the trash in Vermont.

“Food scraps” means trimmings and byproducts from prepping food and discarded or unwanted pre- and post-consumer food, even spoiled or partially-eaten food. This includes: meat, bones, and sea-food; oils and fats; all parts of fruits and vegetables; eggs, egg shells; dairy products; breads; grains and beans; soups, sauces, and condiments; tea, coffee grounds, and filters; nuts and nut shells.

Your responsibilities are outlined in Vermont Rental Housing Health Code Section 5.5. They include: providing and maintaining durable, cleanable containers for trash, recycling, and food scraps; and ensuring arrangements are made for removal of trash, recycling, and food scraps. ACSWMD can provide food scrap buckets, recycling bins, signs, and stickers.

**Only food is accepted.** Communicate to residents that they must keep out: produce stickers, paper products, packaging, plastic bags, and other non-compostable items. Also keep out all compostable products, compostable food serviceware, and any bags other than cart liners provided by ACSWMD or your hauler. **No food serviceware of any kind is accepted for composting in Addison County.**

## Your options

Reducing food waste minimizes the scraps that must be managed. Get tips at [scrapfoodwaste.org](http://scrapfoodwaste.org). Then, choose from the options below:

### 1. Get food scraps picked up by a waste hauler.

Starting July 1, 2020, waste haulers will be required to offer food scrap collection to non-residential customers and apartment buildings with four or more units. **Only food is accepted.** See prohibited materials above. Find a list of food scrap haulers at [acswmd.org/about/haulers/list](http://acswmd.org/about/haulers/list).

### 2. Take food scraps to the District Transfer Station or to your town drop-off.

**Only food is accepted.** See prohibited materials above. Find drop-offs at [acswmd.org/about/towns/drop-off](http://acswmd.org/about/towns/drop-off).

### 3. Compost on-site or use a Green Cone Solar Digester.

Meat and bones may still be put in the trash if residents compost on-site. Green Cones can handle all scraps, including meat and bones. Composting requires management. Learn more at [acswmd.org/food-scraps/composting/101](http://acswmd.org/food-scraps/composting/101).

### 4. Give food scraps to pig or chicken farmers.

Only food scraps that are free of and have not come into contact with meat, fish, or their oils/juices may be fed to pigs. Chickens may be fed any food scraps. Learn more at [acswmd.org/food-scraps/recovery/feed-animals](http://acswmd.org/food-scraps/recovery/feed-animals).



# Waste Management

## Summary for Addison County Landlords & Property Managers

### What's required

Vermont law requires recyclables, food scraps (starting July 1, 2020), and other special wastes to be diverted from the landfill. Vermont Rental Housing Health Code requires rental property owners to provide containers and arrange for the removal of trash, recycling, and food scraps.



Vermont Rental Housing Health Code section 5.5 requires rental property owners to provide and maintain durable, cleanable, watertight containers for trash, recycling, and food scraps and to ensure arrangements are made for removal of trash, recycling, and food scraps. Include in the lease agreement whether the tenant or the landlord is responsible for paying for removal.



Mandated recyclables are banned from the landfill and must be recycled:

- Paper & cardboard
- Metal cans and foil
- Rigid plastic containers and packaging
- Glass bottles and jars

Haulers and town drop-offs must offer recycling services. ACSWMD can provide signs and guides to communicate what belongs in blue-bin (single-stream) recycling.



Organic materials are banned from the landfill:

- Leaf and yard debris
- Food scraps (options on reverse)
- Clean, untreated wood

The District Transfer Station accepts all of these organic materials. Town drop-offs accept food scraps year-round and leaf & yard debris seasonally (April 1 – Dec 15).



Many other materials are banned from the landfill. The District Transfer Station in Middlebury accepts the following items and more, many for free:

- Paint
- Mercury thermostats
- Used motor oil
- Tires
- Hazardous chemicals & asbestos
- Electronics
- Batteries
- Appliances
- Fluorescent light bulbs
- Scrap metal

