

# Organics Recycling

## What is Compostable?

If it's edible, we can compost it! This includes:

- Fats and Oil
- Meat and Bones
- All Fish and Seafood, including shells
- Fruits & Vegetables
- Eggs and Egg Shells
- Milk, Cheese, and all other Dairy Products (1 pint maximum)
- Bread and Grains
- Coffee and Tea
- Condiments (salad dressing, ketchup, etc.)

If it grows or once grew, we can compost it! This includes:

- Grass Clippings
- Leaves
- Vines
- Weeds
- Old Garden Plants or House Plants Free of Soil
- Wood Material under 2" Diameter such as Twigs, Wood Chips, Un-dyed Mulch, or Sawdust
- Wood BBQ Skewers

If it's an uncoated paper product or paper-like fiber, we can compost it! This includes:

- Uncoated Paper Plates
- Paper Napkins, Paper Towels, Bags and Table Covers
- Greasy Pizza Boxes
- Coffee and Tea Filters
- Wet Newspaper

If it is certified compostable, we can compost it!

- See Page 2 for Details

If it didn't grow, it doesn't go. Do NOT compost:

- Any Petroleum Based Plastics
- Paper Products Coated with Plastics
- Products Soiled with Chemicals
- Cat, Dog or Human Waste
- Any Utensils Regardless of Labeling or Certification



## Unacceptable Materials

- Pet waste
- Noxious weeds
- Noxious plants (e.g. walnuts)
- Products soiled with cleaning chemicals
- Rocks and concrete
- Construction materials (lumber)
- Petroleum-based plastics of any kind
- Non-compostable plastic bags
- Any plastic bags or other products that say "degradable" or any version of the word, including "bio-degradable" and "oxo-degradable"
- Plastic coated paper products (e.g. tetrapaks, milk containers some paper plates)
- Large tree limbs
- Loose soil/sod

## Contact for more information:

State College Borough  
[www.statecollegepa.us](http://www.statecollegepa.us)  
 Phone (814) 234-7135  
 Email: [refuse@statecollegepa.us](mailto:refuse@statecollegepa.us)



Centre Region Council of Governments  
 Refuse and Recycling  
[www.crcog.net/refuse](http://www.crcog.net/refuse)  
 Phone: (814) 234-7198  
 Email: [recycler@crcog.net](mailto:recycler@crcog.net)



Centre County  
 Recycling & Refuse Authority  
[www.centrecountyrecycles.org](http://www.centrecountyrecycles.org)  
 Phone: (814) 238-7005  
 Email: [wasted5@uplink.net](mailto:wasted5@uplink.net)



**ABOUT 34% OF OUR MUNICIPAL WASTE STREAM COULD BE COMPOSTED**

Earth911.com    **FACT-O-GRAM**    [ Source: EPA ]

How do I know if a product is certified “compostable”?

Just look for the following labels.



ASTM D6868  
ASTM D6400

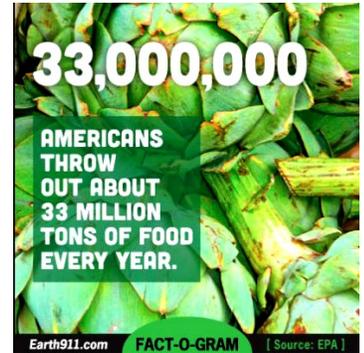


## Purchasing Compostable Products

Compostable products are items made from renewable resources such as corn, sugar cane, grasses, palm leaves, and even wood instead of petroleum-derived plastic. Here’s what you need to know before you buy compostable products, and especially before you dispose of them.

Buy only products that display the following:

- The “compostable” BPI logo (shown here)
- The phrase “meets ASTM standards for compostability”
- One or both of the above identifiers on their website, packaging or other materials



These products have been independently tested and are proven to meet the following standards when disposed of in a commercial composting facility:

- The entire product will completely break down into organic matter that can be digested as food by microorganisms in the composting process.
- This breakdown happens within 180 days.
- The microorganisms will consume the material at the same rate as they would natural materials such as food scraps, soiled paper, leaves and other yard debris.

## How do I Get Compostable Bags?

For complete listings, locations and more information visit [statecollegepa.us/refuseservice](http://statecollegepa.us/refuseservice)

### Local Compostable Bag Retailers

**Ace Hardware - Hills Plaza**  
150 Rolling Ridge Drive

**Target**  
315 Colonnade Boulevard

**Wal-Mart - North Atherton**  
(Paper Lawn Bag)  
1665 N Atherton St

**Wegmans**  
345 Colonnade Boulevard

**Weis - Westerly Parkway Plaza**  
560 Westerly Parkway

**Weis - Hills Plaza (coming soon)**  
110 Rolling Ridge Drive

### Don't shop at these stores?

Contact your local grocery stores and request they add your favorite product or one of the products listed at right to their store shelves.

Or, set up a buying club in your neighborhood to buy in bulk and share your favorite bags with your neighbors.

### Compostable Bag Options



**Bio Group - Bio Bag**  
Sizes: 3, 13, and 33 gallon bags  
[www.biobagusa.com](http://www.biobagusa.com)



**Natur-bag**  
Sizes: 3, 13, 33, 39, and 55 gallon bags, shopping bags  
[www.naturebagstore.com](http://www.naturebagstore.com)



**Glad Compostable Bags**  
Sizes: 2.6 or 13 gallon bags  
[www.glad.com](http://www.glad.com)



**Bag To Nature**  
Sizes: 3, 13, 33, 36, and 64 gallon bags  
[www.indaco.ca](http://www.indaco.ca)



**EcoSafe~6400**  
Sizes: 2.5, 13 or 30 gallon bags  
[www.ecosafezerowaste.com](http://www.ecosafezerowaste.com)



**Biosak**  
Sizes: Kitchen, Rehrig 40 L and 120 L Liner, Cart Liner  
[www.biosak.com/](http://www.biosak.com/)



**BioStar**  
Sizes: 20-30, 33, 40-45 and 60 gallon bags  
[www.pittplastics.com](http://www.pittplastics.com)

### Biodegradation Myths

**Myth 1:** “Biodegradable” = “Compostable”

**Reality:** Products marked “biodegradable,” but not marked “compostable” may still contain petroleum based chemicals.

**Myth 2:** Biodegradable products are the preferred environmental solution because waste simply biodegrades in the landfill.

**Reality:** Landfills are designed to store waste, not to biodegrade waste.

