

What Can I Put in My Black Earth Compost Bin?

YAY!

Food Waste

- COFFEE GROUNDS & FILTERS
- BPI, CMA, OK Compost CERTIFIED COFFEE PODS*
- NONSYNTHETIC TEA BAGS (okay to incl. staple)
- EGGS & EGGSHELLS
- MEAT & SEAFOOD (incl. bones, shells, & raw)
- LOBSTER SHELLS (makes the compost rich)
- FRUITS & VEGGIES (incl. stems, skins, pits, seeds, corn cobs, fruit from trees) (stickers removed)
- DAIRY (cheese, yogurt, etc.)
- PASTA, GRAINS & BREAD
- COOKIES, CAKE & CANDY
- NUT & COCONUT SHELLS
- COOKING OIL & GREASE (Liquid goes in a non glass container. Leave on top of the bin to be poured out by driver. Solid fat place directly in the bin.)

Household Items

- WOOD (toothpicks, popsicle sticks, chopsticks, sawdust, small wood fruit containers)
- STOVE, GRILL & FIREPLACE ASH (please tie off bag)
- COTTON BALLS (no bodily fluids)
- WINE CORKS (cork, not plastic!)
- PET FOOD
- PET WASTE FROM RABBIT, CHICKEN, GUINEA PIG, HAMSTER & BIRD (incl. bedding) (no dog or cat)
- HAIR, FUR (human & animal)
- HOUSE PLANTS & FLOWERS
- LEAVES & GARDEN WASTE (with purch. of stickers, see next page) (no grass or sticks over 1" dia.)
- PUMPKIN (remove candle and decorations, one per pick up, place on top of bin)

Food Soiled Paper & Compostables

Clean paper and cardboard are better recycled. We take the following items that are food soiled, but not chemical or cleaner soiled.

- NAPKINS & PAPER TOWELS (incl. bleached) (used on food or w/ organic certified household cleaner)
- COMPOSTABLE TABLEWARE: CUPS, PLATES, UTENSILS, ETC. (MUST be certified compostable*)
- TISSUES (no bodily fluids incl. nasal mucus)
- EGG CARTONS & PAPER TOWEL TUBES
- NEWSPAPER for wrapping food (recycle otherwise)
- CARDBOARD BOXES (for lining bin, please recycle otherwise, tape & labels removed)
- CERTIFIED COMPOSTABLE Pizza Boxes*

NAY!

Packaging

- ABSOLUTELY NO PLASTIC: cups, containers, food & candy wrap, chip bags, shopping bags, garbage bags, produce bags, plastic wrap, cellophane etc.
- ABSOLUTELY NO CARTONS: milk, juice, ice cream, shelf-stable cream, broth & soup containers (they have hidden plastic & foil components)
- NO PRODUCE STICKERS, RUBBER BANDS, TIES & ALL PRODUCE & MEAT PACKAGING
- NO MEAL BOX INSULATION
- NO BIODEGRADABLE PACKING PEANUTS
- NO TAKE OUT CONTAINERS & CUPS (most are not compostable, check if certified compostable*)

Household Items

- NO BODILY FLUID (blood, mucus, snot)
- NO USED COMPOSTABLE DIAPERS (sorry!)
- NO DOG or CAT WASTE (incl. cat litter)
- NO DEAD ANIMALS
- NO GRASS CLIPPINGS (subscribe to an approved organic yard care partner and we can take it!)
- NO LAUNDRY LINT & DRYER SHEETS
- NO TEXTILES (recycling is available with sticker)
- NO DENTAL FLOSS, Q-TIPS, SANITARY PRODUCTS
- NO CHRISTMAS TREES or WREATHS

Paper

- NO SHREDDED PAPER
- NO MAIL, ENVELOPES, SHINY PAPER, MAGAZINES, CEREAL BOXES (due to colored ink & plastics)
- NO PLASTIC or WAXED CARDBOARD
- NO WAX or PARCHMENT PAPER (unless certified*)
- NO CHEMICALLY-SOILED PAPER (baby & disinfectant wipes, paper used w/ chemical cleaners, house paint, machine oil, etc.)

*Compostable products must be **BPI**, **CMA**, or **OK Compost** certified. Items that say biodegradable, compostable or ASTM-6400 alone are NOT accepted. Look for these logos, check the search tool on each website, or contact the product company if unsure.

