



## Town of Ipswich Curbside Composting Signup and Renewal

Thanks for your interest in Ipswich's composting program! We are pleased to be working with Black Earth Compost. The total cost for the year is \$108; the DPW, through a grant, pays \$13, so the **cost to sign up is \$95**.

### Here is what you need to know to get started composting with Black Earth Compost.

- Your first service day will be determined by the day you sign up online.
- New participants receive a free curbside compost cart from the Ipswich DPW, and carts can be picked up at town hall on the second floor.
- Pickup day is WEDNESDAY.
- Finished compost (50 gallons – once in spring and once in fall) is available at the transfer station.
- Place your cart curbside where it is visible from the street by 7 AM. *Please note that the pickup time may change. Leave your cart out until after 5 PM to ensure you don't miss a pickup.*

### What's Compostable? – Please see the Compost Guide on the other side.

### How to Sign Up or Renew

All communication about the program will go through your own account on Black Earth's website – missed pickups, problems, etc. – and Black Earth will send an email notice each year about future renewals.

1. GO TO **blackearthcompost.com** and choose **RESIDENTIAL**.
2. Click on the green **SIGN UP** button on the right side of the page.
3. Set up your account and pay (we are a **residential** program and the annual fee for Ipswich residents is **\$95**).
4. You will receive immediate confirmation of your payment (while on the website) and also receive a welcome email to the address you provided.



5. That's it! You are done! **Remember to write your password down so you don't forget it!**

### Lining Your Cart

Black Earth Compost recommends lining your bin with a paper grocery bag or compostable bag liner (must say BPI-certified compostable). The liner helps keep your cart clean and ensures the organic material is emptied and does not stick to your cart. Black Earth sells countertop 3-gallon and curbside compostable bag liners that fit perfectly in the cart. You can order them directly from Black Earth and they will be dropped off during your next pickup.

### Missed Pickup

- **Report a missed pickup to Black Earth before the end of the day through the website (blackearthcompost.com).**

### Holiday Pickup Schedule

- Black Earth picks up on all holidays except Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.
- Black Earth will notify you via email of any delays, pickup changes, etc.

Questions? Email [IpswichComposts@gmail.com](mailto:IpswichComposts@gmail.com) or call the DPW at 978-356-6612.

# The Town of Ipswich is getting greener. We're diverting tons of organics one little green cart at a time!

## COMPOST IN YOUR GREEN CART

### FOOD SCRAPS

- Fruits and Vegetables, raw or cooked (stems, skins, pits, and seeds too)  
Remove stickers before composting
- Bread, Grains and Pasta
- Coffee Grounds with paper filter
- Dairy
- Cakes, Cookies, Candies, Gum
- Eggshells and Eggs
- Leftovers and Spoiled Food
- Raw or Cooked Meat and Bones
- Raw or Cooked Seafood, including shells
- Tea and Tea Bags (no staples, please)
- Nuts, Pits, Nutshells (all kinds!)
- Solid Cooking Grease that can be wiped off with paper towel

### FOOD-SOILED PAPER AND OTHER HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

- *BPI-Certified* Compostable Bags (must have BPI-certified logo)
- Greasy Pizza Boxes (tear and recycle clean boxes)
- Coffee Filters and Tea Bags (no staples, please!)
- Soiled REAL PAPER Cups and Plates
- Food-soiled Napkins
- Food-soiled Paper Bags
- Food-soiled Paper Towels
- Tissues (no bodily fluids)
- Paper Egg Cartons (no plastic or Styrofoam)
- Paper Towel Tubes
- *BPI-Certified* Compostable Paper Takeout Boxes/Containers
- #7 PLA Bioplastic made from corn (cups, straws, lids)
- *BPI-Certified* Compostable Waxed or Parchment Paper
- Wooden Chopsticks, Toothpicks
- Pencils (with metal tip & eraser removed!)
- Wooden Popsicle Sticks
- Corks -- natural only
- Bentonite-free Kitty Litters, including feces
- Hair, Fur, and Feathers (non-synthetic)

### OTHER

Cooking Oil (in a container with a lid, set on top of cart)

## COMPOST IN BROWN PAPER YARD BAGS

### PLANTS

*Organic yard trimmings (limit 4 bags/week) MUST be put in brown paper yard bags and placed NEXT TO the green cart for collection.*

- Flowers and Floral Trimmings
- Herbicide-free Grass and Weeds
- Houseplants
- Twigs and Small Sticks

### OTHER

- Vegetable Wood Crates
- Wood -- sawdust or unpainted, small pieces of "clean" wood lumber only (no plywood, pressboard, painted, stained or treated wood)
- Rotted Wood (processed in chipper first)
- Animal Bedding (bird/hamster), including Waste
- Backyard Chicken Shavings, Straw and Waste
- Wood-stove and Fireplace Ash
- Plant-based Packaging Peanuts (see if they dissolve in water first!)

## DO NOT COMPOST

- NO Leaves (bring to Transfer Station on Town Farm Road)  
-- cannot be curbside because they fill up the truck
- NO Branches (bring to Transfer Station)
- NO Dirt, Pebbles or Large Sticks
- NO Cartons (milk, ice cream, juice, cream, broth, etc.)  
-- they have hidden plastic
- NO Aluminum Foil or Trays
- NO Paper, Junk Mail or Magazines (please recycle)
- NO Cereal Boxes (colored ink and plastics -- please recycle)
- NO Plastic Bags, Wrappers or Film
- NO Donut Boxes or KFC Buckets or Boxes
- NO Cigarettes
- NO Plastic of any kind, including "Biodegradable"  
-- only *BPI-Certified* Compostable
- NO Ceramic Dishware or Glassware
- NO Textiles: clothes, bedding, linens, rags (please donate)
- NO Corks Made of Plastic
- NO Dead Animals
- NO Dental Floss
- NO Diapers of any kind
- NO Painted or Stained Wood
- NO Sanitary Products
- NO Cotton Balls or Cotton Swabs
- NO Dryer Lint or Dryer Sheets of any kind
- NO Chemically Soiled Paper (e.g., baby or cleaning wipes)
- NO Produce Stickers, Rubber Bands or Food Ties

## BIN CARE

Wash/rinse your cart as needed (more so in the summer).  
Baking soda helps.

**Please line your green cart to prevent items from freezing to the bin or sticking in the summer.**

Examples of liners:

- Paper bags from the grocery store  
-- three to four filled bags fit into the green cart
- BPI-certified "compostable" bags -- must have the BPI logo
- Zumi's compostable coffee bags  
-- limited availability at DPW office and special events



Learn more about Ipswich's curbside composting program and other initiatives to reduce waste at [IPSWICHRECYCLES.ORG](http://IPSWICHRECYCLES.ORG).

### HAVE QUESTIONS?

Email [ipswichcomposts@gmail.com](mailto:ipswichcomposts@gmail.com).

For updates, like us on Facebook at Ipswich Recycles and Composts.