

Ramsey County WRAC May 7, 2024



Background









Why Collect Food Scraps?

- Food scraps comprise over 20% of household trash by weight
- By separating this material, residents can help turn it back into soil instead of becoming waste, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and conserving resources
- Collecting food scraps will help meet state recycling goals by moving materials up the waste hierarchy





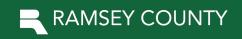














Food Scraps Pickup Program

FoodScrapsPickup.com
or calling
651-661-9393

How It Works



Collect your food scraps in the bags.



Once a week or when the bag is full, **tie a single knot** at the top to close the bag.



Place your bag inside your trash cart or dumpster for collection.



Done! The food scraps will be composted.







Why Bags Instead of Separate Carts?

Environment

A food scrap bag system will result in a net decrease in greenhouse emissions, while a separate cart system results in a net increase in greenhouse gas emissions, largely due to the need for more collection trucks.

Efficiency

A separate cart system would cost more than a food scrap bag system. A food scrap bag system efficiently uses existing collection routes, trucks and containers.

(And you won't have extra trucks driving down your street!)

Equity

A food scrap bag system would allow more people to participate. All residents can participate for FREE, no matter what municipality they live in, which hauler they use, or what type of home they live in. Not all apartment buildings or condos have space for additional carts.

















Resident Experience

- To participate, residents create account and order free annual supply of bags on program website or by calling customer service line
- Bags ship to residents' homes
- Residents collect food scraps and place bag in trash cart or dumpster

The program will be available to all residents in Ramsey and Washington counties, whether they live in an apartment, condo, townhome or single-family home









Resources

FoodScrapsPickup.com

- Live chat and contact form available.
- Resources including program FAQ, instructions and videos, rollout information and opt-in rollout notifications.
- All resources are available in English, Spanish, Hmong, Karen, Oromo and Somali.
- 651-661-9393
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Where Do Food Scrap Bags Go?

- Trash from Ramsey and Washington counties is delivered to the Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Center (R&E Center), where it is processed to recover value
 - ✓ Metals recovered for recycling
 - ✓ Fuel produced to make electricity
 - ✓ Keeps trash out of landfills
- Food scrap bags will be mechanically separated from trash at the R&E Center (and potentially transfer stations)
- From there, food scrap bags will be delivered to compost facilities (and to an anaerobic digestion facility in the future)























Program Availability

October 2023:

All residents of **Cottage Grove**, **Maplewood**, **Newport and North St. Paul**

April 2024:

All residents of **Grey Cloud Island Township**, **Landfall**, **Oakdale**, **St. Paul Park and Woodbury**

Currently expanding infrastructure to support program rollout to the rest of Washington and Ramsey counties.

