

## General Community Food Waste Recycling Postings

### General Postings

- Here's a food waste tip to help you shop smarter! Make a list. By making a list, and sticking to it, you can save time and money on food. For more information on how to shop to avoid food waste check out Food Rescue MAINE's blog which can be found here: [Blog - Food Rescue MAINE \(umaine.edu\)](#). Don't forget to bring your food waste to your local food recycling site! [enter collection site address here]
- Food waste fun fact! About 30% of the waste stream in Maine is food waste. A way for you to reduce your food waste is to recycle your food at a food recycling site! For more information about how you can reduce food waste at home visit <https://www.usda.gov/media/blog/2020/06/08/how-reduce-food-waste-home> Remember our food recycling locations are located at [enter location here]
- Stop! Don't throw your food in the garbage just yet, there are plenty of ways to recycle your food! You can compost at home, bring your food waste to a community drop off site, or do it via curbside pickup. If drop off sites are what is right for you, you can find them at [enter location here]
- Do you know about our food waste collection sites? The drop off sites are there to turn your food waste into compost which prevents it from being put into a landfill. You can find the sites at [enter location here]
- Would you want plastic in your food? No way! So don't throw it in your compost or your food waste collection bins! Harmful microplastics don't belong in our food, if you'd like to read more about the impact of plastic contamination in compost visit <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6433246/#:~:text=For%20instance%2C%20plastics%20in%20compost,flora%20and%20fauna%20%5B4%5D>. Our food recycling bins are located at [enter location here]
- Love food, hate waste! Remember, only food belongs in our green collection totes! Contamination can do more harm than good, so please no plastics,

paper products, coffee cups, shopping bags, or other trash. Don't forget to bring your food scraps to [enter location here]

- Maine has the 12th highest food insecurity rate in the United States, averaging out to about 1:8 adults and 1:5 children. You can help lower this rate by donating your unwanted and uneaten food items to local food pantries and feeding partners. Find a food pantry near you at <https://www.foodpantries.org/ci/me> If the food cannot be donated, please bring it to the food recycling locations at [enter location here]
- Have you heard of all your food waste diversion options? Subscription curbside collection services pick your food waste up directly from your home. You could also compost at home yourself! If neither of these options work for you, take your food scraps to the community food recycling bins located at [enter location here]

## Time Specific Postings:

- Don't go into the new year with old food in the back of your fridge! Bring any expired food that you may find to your local food recycling site. Remember your community drop-off sites can be found at [enter location here]
- Thinking of New Year's resolutions? Reduce your environmental impact by participating in your free community food recycling program! Not for you? Try composting in your own backyard this spring! Go to [enter location here] to dispose of your food scraps!
- The holidays may be over, but we're still in the spirit of giving! Please continue to donate your uneaten edible food to your local food pantry. You can find a list of your local food pantries at <https://www.foodpantries.org/ci/me>. As always, the food recycling locations are accepting your inedible food scraps at [enter location here]
- Early spring means early composting, so let's hope Punxsutawney Phil doesn't see his shadow! If home composting isn't right for you, bring your food scraps to the food recycling locations at [enter location here]
- It's Valentine's Day and love is in the air, but so are methane emissions from food waste going into the landfill! Learn more about these emissions at <https://www.usda.gov/foodlossandwaste/why> Help fight climate change and keep your air clean for your loved ones by taking all of your uneaten edible food to local food pantries and taking inedible food scraps to community food recycling sites located at [enter location here]
- Are your Valentine's Day roses starting to wilt? Your local food waste collection site accepts flowers, so give the Earth some love this Valentine's day and recycle those flowers! Drop off those flower scraps to [enter location here]

- St. Patrick's Day is around the corner and we're feeling lucky about food waste this year! [Enter town name here] residents are very lucky to have so many landfill diversion service options, learn more about them at these links: [see list of our food recycling service providers to find the options near you] Of course, our community food collection sites are located at [enter location here]
- Thinking about what YOU can do to help our planet this Earth month? Start composting or recycling your food scraps! Food does harm in our garbage and our landfills, so returning those nutrients to the soil benefits us and our planet's future. Learn more about the composting process at <https://source.colostate.edu/the-science-of-composting-and-how-to-do-it-from-home-this-summer/> and make sure to bring your food scraps to these food recycling locations in your community: [enter location here]
- Try our Food Waste Hero challenge this month by implementing all steps of Maine's Food Recovery Hierarchy into your daily life! Track and measure your food waste, donate all of your uneaten edible food to a local food pantry, and throw those scraps in your local community food recycling collection bins found at [enter location here]
- Portland is celebrating one year of community food recycling this Earth Day! Keep up the great work and continue to use the food recycling collection sites found at [enter location here] ----Remember Maine Food is Too Good to Waste!
- Celebrate Mother's Day this year with flowers! Did you know, flowers can actually go in the community food recycling bins? After the celebrations are over, bring your wilted flowers to the community food recycling sites located at [enter location here]
- School is out for the Summer, keep your children in the food recycling routine by bringing them with you to do your food recycling! Continue to separate your food scraps at home and bring them to the community food recycling collection sites at [enter location here]

- Having your annual Father's Day BBQ? Reuse those leftovers in some fun summer recipes, and bring those corn cobs and watermelon rinds to the community food recycling bins found at [enter location here]-----Maine's Food is Too Good To Waste! View some recipes at [https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/save\\_money\\_by\\_using\\_leftovers\\_to\\_create\\_quick\\_summer\\_meals](https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/save_money_by_using_leftovers_to_create_quick_summer_meals)
- Summer beach trips are fun, but don't leave your food scraps at the beach for the seagulls to eat! Make sure to secure your food scraps from these outings and bring them to the food recycling sites where they belong. These sites are located at [enter location here]
- Looking for a way to use up those food scraps and leftovers? Make your dogs some paw-some popsicles to cool down this summer! Just remember to use dog-safe foods and get creative with your ingredient combinations. As always our community food recycling collection bins can be found at [enter location here]
- Happy 4th of July! Celebrate the U.S.A. by lowering its carbon footprint. We can do this together by keeping food out of the landfill. Try out composting or bring your food scraps to the community food recycling bins conveniently located at [enter location here]
- Summertime is winding down, but farmer's markets are still available! Shop local for your fruits and veggies for wholesome meals and then bring those carrot tops and other scraps to the green community food recycling bins [enter location here]
- School is back in session! If your kiddo brings home lunchtime leftovers don't forget to bring them to your local food recycling site OR find a repurposeful recipe here <https://www.nutrition.gov/topics/shopping-cooking-and-meal-planning/recipe-collection> Remember the food recycling drop off sites are located at [enter location here]
- As we go back to school, remember to try to reduce your food waste at home! You can do your part to save money- and trips to the community site- by changing your buying habits. For tips, visit <https://www.solanacenter.org/shop-smart-reduce-food-waste#:~:text=Smart%20Shopping%20is%20one%20of,Proper%20planning%20is%20very%20important>. Our community drop-off sites are located at [enter location here]

- With Halloween just around the corner this is a great time to carve pumpkins with your loved ones but don't throw out those pumpkin guts! Bring them to your local food recycling site where they won't go to waste. The food recycling sites in [town name] are located at [enter location here]
- Trick or treat! No tricks here, but we do want your leftover uneaten treats! Once you unwrap all that candy you don't eat, bring it to your local food recycling site! Food recycling sites can't take wrappers, but they certainly can take candy! The food recycling sites in [town name] are located at [enter location here]
- Don't let food waste spook you! This Halloween, be sure to bring your leftover snacks and pumpkins to the drop-off sites at [enter location here]
- Thanksgiving comfort food is calling! Lend a helping hand by donating a meal item to your local food pantry. Then, bring all of your potato peelings and all the waste from your Thanksgiving feast to your local food recycling site. We'll even take the turkey wishbones! The food recycling sites in [town name] are located at [enter location here] Happy Thanksgiving!
- Thanksgiving leftovers? Have you tried turning your leftovers into a whole new meal? Try one of these three recipes at <https://www.gettysburg.edu/offices/dining-services/servo-recipes/thanksgiving-recipes> Don't forget our food recycling locations at [enter location here] Happy Thanksgiving!
- Brrrr, is the cold weather keeping you cozy inside? No worries! With temperatures dropping, your food scraps are safe in their buckets even longer. This means less trips out in the cold for you and more time indoors where it's warm! ----- Food recycling locations are located at [enter location here]
- Did you know you can still compost in the winter? You can even start composting for the very first time this winter! Follow this link for tips on how to get started: <https://extension.unh.edu/blog/2020/11/can-you-compost-winter> Our community drop-off sites are located at [enter location here]

- Happy Holidays! Spend your time with good food and family this holiday season! When you're ready, bring your food scraps to the food recycling sites. in [your town] are located at [enter location here]

### **To Be Used With Future Data Postings:**

- WOOOO! This month, \_\_\_\_\_ pounds of food waste was diverted and recycled from your town. Congrats [town name] residents! Keep participating at [enter location here]
- \_\_\_\_\_ pounds of food waste was saved this month, which equals \$ \_\_\_\_\_ worth of savings for the town! Save money by recycling your food waste at [enter location here]
- If each meal was equal to about a pound of food, then [town name] saved \_\_\_\_\_ meals from the landfill this month. Take your uneaten food to local food pantries and help stop food insecurity in your community!  
<https://www.foodpantries.org/ci/me-portland> Food Recycling locations are at [enter location here]

### **Tag Lines to Use with All Postings:**

- Maine Food Too Good To Waste
- Feed People, Not Landfills
- Please donate any edible uneaten food to your local food pantry (Wayside)
- Be a Food Rescue Hero!

