

Why Use Curbside Composting?

brought to you by Reading Composts & UUCR Green Sanctuary

It's Easy!

1. Visit blackearthcompost.com to sign up (Reading residents only)
2. Call or email the Town of Reading DPW office to arrange to pick up your free compost bin and bags 781-942-9077 or composting@ci.reading.ma.us
3. Line your bin and fill it up
4. Put your bin curbside on Thursday mornings by 6:45 am.
5. Black Earth Compost will provide you with a voucher for one free 40 lb bag of compost per year available at select garden centers (check website for locations) <https://blackearthcompost.com/how-to-buy/>

Already compost in your backyard?

You can compost much more with curbside composting than you can in a backyard pile. Soiled pizza boxes, bones, napkins, cheese, meat, lobster shells, etc are all acceptable!



Consider sharing a bin with your neighbors!



Composting and Food Waste

Every year in the United States, between 30% and 40% (more than 130 billion pounds) of the overall food supply is wasted, which impacts food security and resource conservation, and contributes to the 18% of total U.S. methane emissions that come from landfills. ([US EPA](http://www.epa.gov))

What Can I Compost with Curbside Composting?

Most composting services **ACCEPT** any organic material, including all food:

Dairy Products
Meats and Bones
Coffee Grounds, Filters, Tea Bags Seafood and Shells
Fruit and Vegetables
Paper Napkins and Towels
BPI-Certified Compostable Serviceware

*Residential compost services **DO NOT** accept waxed cardboard, milk cartons, paper cups or similar items that are not certified compostable. Soiled pizza boxes, paper towels, and napkins are acceptable. For a list of all acceptable and unacceptable items:*

www.readingma.gov/public-works/pages/compost

Why Is Composting So Important?

Compost reverses global warming through deep carbon storage, and reinvigorates our ability to grow food. Compost additions cause a “state change” in soil ecosystems, resulting in an increased ability to take in and retain carbon ([NY Times](http://www.nytimes.com)).

Questions? Ready to join? Visit Black Earth online at: blackearthcompost.com

Enter “Town of Reading” in the Referral Field when signing up!

Questions about composting in the Reading area or about Green Sanctuary?

Email uucrgreensanctuary@gmail.com

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[Reading Composters](https://www.facebook.com/ReadingComposts)



Check the Green Sanctuary
Google Calendar for events:
<http://bit.ly/UUCRGSca>

Did you know?

Farmers must add nutrients to the soil via compost or fertilizer to produce enough food to meet global demand.

Commercial fertilizer production is a major contributor to pollution.

Minerals, such as potassium and potash, are obtained by mining, while generating nitrogen from air requires natural gas.