Food Waste Prevention
Pledge to start reducing your food waste footprint!
Here are some tips to get you started:
• Use a shopping list.
• Store food properly to extend shelf-life.
• Learn the difference between “best by”, “sell by” and “use by” dates. An expired date doesn’t always mean the item is inedible.
• Take up canning or pickling to preserve your excess fruits and vegetables and enjoy them year-round.

Want to Learn More?
Visit HowardCountyMD.gov/FoodWastePrevention and download our free toolkit.

Follow the Recycling Division on Twitter @HoCoRecycles

Sign up for our monthly e-news blast!

Visit FeedTheGreenBin.org for green bin how-to videos!

11/2021
Thank you for participating in our curbside Feed The Green Bin program

Through this program, Howard County residents can reduce trash sent to the landfill by at least 30% simply by composting their food scraps. Recycle in the Blue, Compost in the Green and minimize your Trash!

Food scrap and yard trim can be set out together for weekly collection by the yard trim truck. This collection is year-round, so continue to set food scraps and yard trim out through the winter.

**Accepted If it grows, it goes!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fruit &amp; Vegetable Scraps</th>
<th>Meat, Fish, Egg Shells &amp; Dairy small amounts</th>
<th>Bread, Pasta, Rice &amp; Baked Goods</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coffee Grounds, Tea Bags no foil</td>
<td>Grass, Leaves, Yard Trim &amp; Cut Flowers</td>
<td>Paper Products napkins, plates, egg cartons, pizza boxes, toothpicks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Not Accepted**

|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|

Questions? Call us at 410-313-6444 or email us at help@howardcountyrecycles.org. We are happy to help!

**Getting Started**

**Collect food scraps**

Use our provided countertop container or your own to collect kitchen scraps. These containers are for indoor use only and should not be set out for curbside collection. Paper bags and certified compostable bags are accepted. No plastic bags.

**Set out for collection**

Your cart will be emptied weekly by the same truck that collects yard trim. Place items at the curb before 6am on collection day. Collections will occur year-round.

Please set your cart out weekly, regardless of the amount of material set out. The 40-pound weight limit does not apply to County-issued green carts.

**Feed your garden**

Food scraps and yard trim are turned into compost at the Alpha Ridge Landfill. HoCoGro compost, mulch and topsoil are available to sample or purchase. Visit our website for current pricing.

Using compost in your garden and on your lawn has many benefits! It helps improve soil and plant health, increases water absorption and reduces runoff and erosion.