How it Works

- 1 Use an official VH Compost Pail or other container with a well-fitted lid. Collect food scraps at home and at work.
- 2 Dump food scraps into the collection bin at the Transfer Station.



- 3 The compost team mixes all the food scraps into an active manure pile.
- 4 The pile cures until it becomes nutrient-rich compost.
- 5 Our community uses the compost to enrich garden soils.

Tips & Tricks

How to keep your compost pail mess-less and odor-free:

- Use an official VH Compost Pail or other container with a well-fitted lid.
- 2 Before filling your pail, line the bottom with a paper towel, coffee filter, or other non-inked paper to make emptying easier and cleaner. The paper can go into the collection bin at the Transfer Station.
- 3 "Cap" food scraps as you go with used,paper towels, used coffee filters and grounds, etc.
- 4 Keep potentially smelly food items in a sealed container or plastic bag in your fridge or freezer until you are ready to drop them off.
- **5 Wash out your container** after dumping and start the cycle all over again!

Why Compost?

Composting Makes Sense!

Composting saves money! Our community throws away over 630 tons of household trash annually at a cost of \$120/ton. On average, 25% of trash is food scraps. If every household and business composted their food scraps, we could potentially lower annual disposal costs by approximately \$19,000.

Less stink! If you separate food scraps into your compost pail, your trash won't be as smelly, and you'll need to make fewer trips to the Transfer Station.

Composting keeps resources from being wasted.

Why pay to ship something off island when it can be turned into a valuable commodity? Mixed with manure and other organic matter, food scraps become compost, and compost is "gold" for your garden! Throwing food scraps into the trash is like throwing away gold!

It's good for Vinalhaven! When we make compost, we make a valuable soil builder for our granite island. It's good for our gardens, and good for the earth.

Composting protects our climate. In landfills, food waste takes up space and produces methane, a potent greenhouse gas that causes climate change.

For more information about

Vinalhaven Community Compost contact Anna Poe

knitwitmaine@gmail.com or Gabe McPhail

gmcphail@townofvinalhaven.org

And visit the WasteWatchers page at

www.townofvinalhaven.org

FOOD SCRAP COMPOSTING

at the Vinalhaven Transfer Station



It's the Right Thing To Do!

Recycle valuable resources by turning food scraps into nutrient-rich compost for our community

Vinalhaven Community Compost is a program of the Town of Vinalhaven Made possible through a grant from MEDEP

HOW-TO GUIDE for Food Scrap



COMPOSTING

Vinalhaven Community Compost at the Transfer Station



FOOD SCRAPS

vegtables, fruit, peels, grains, coffee grounds eggshells, fish, spoiled and leftover foods



tea bags, coffee filters, soiled napkins



Nox

MEAT, BONES, DAIRY no meats and dairy, no large quantities of oil

COMPOSTABLE "PLASTICS"

no bags/pail liners, no cups, no cutlery

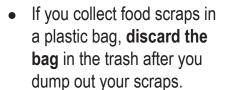
PRODUCE STICKERS

remove produce stickers

Nope, not that!

Take time to learn what doesn't belong in the compost. When the wrong things end up in the collection bin, it makes the whole system less efficient-and more expensivebecause we have to spend time picking things out. When in doubt, leave it out!

- Remove produce stickers
- Remove packaging





No poop, please! Pet waste can contain harmful pathogens. Keep it out of the compost!



Compostable Bandits!

Products (cutlery, plates, cups, bowls, etc.) for cookouts, parties, and events is always a better option than disposable products that can only be discarded in a landfill. Unfortunately our compost system cannot handle these products. If you have large quantities of compostable products to dispose of, please DO NOT put them in the collection bin at the Transfer Station! Instead. contact WasteWatchers in advance—we will work with you to find a disposal solution that keeps these products out of the landfill!

