

COMPOST

INCLUDE THE FOOD, PLANTS AND PAPER TOO!



Social Media Guide for Backyard Composting

The N.C. Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service (DEACS) has developed *Composting at Home: Include the Food, Plants and Paper Too!* to educate the public on backyard composting.

Do Your Part — Be Compost Smart. #CompostNC

IMAGE	TEXT FOR FACEBOOK AND TWITTER CAPTION
	Want to keep your garden healthy and reduce your weekly garbage at the same time? Start backyard composting! #CompostNC
	Keep your compost bin contaminant free. Make sure you keep these items out! #CompostNC
	Want a well-manicured lawn this summer? Toss those grass and plant trimmings in your compost bin. Make sure to keep out anything diseased or treated with herbicides, since they will contaminate your compost. Also remember not to add any weeds with seeds: they may start growing in your bin! #CompostNC
	Eggshells are a great source of calcium and are good for plant cell growth. Crush them up and toss them in the compost bin! While eggshells make for good compost, your backyard bin won't get hot enough to properly break down eggs or dairy products, so leave those out. #CompostNC
	Working from home? After you get your caffeine fix, toss those tea leaves and bags or coffee grounds and filters in your compost bin. Make sure tea bags are made of paper (not plastic) and don't have any staples first. #CompostNC
	One of the best ingredients for good compost is clean produce trimmings. Banana peels, apple cores and slimy cucumbers all go in the bin! Be sure to keep out little plastic produce stickers, though. Those go in the trash. #CompostNC



Leaves are a great source of brown material for your compost bin. Remember to always cover your food scraps with a thick layer of browns! #CompostNC



Your backyard bin won't get hot enough to properly break down eggs or dairy products, so leave those out or take them to a commercial compost facility. #CompostNC



Clearing out some brush? Include broken up sticks and leaves in your compost bin. They are a great carbon source and give your pile structure for air flow.

Keep chemically-treated and painted wood scraps separate: they don't belong in your compost. #CompostNC



Most cloth contains synthetic material, so the lint from your dryer isn't just natural fiber. Keep your compost clean and plastic-free by keeping dryer lint out. #CompostNC



Don't put that shredded newspaper or cardboard in the recycling bin! The compost bin is a great place for it.

Double check for tape, stickers, and staples before dropping it in, and keep out anything glossy or waxy. #CompostNC



Produce stickers are non-compostable and hard to remove once introduced into the compost stream. Remember to remove them from all produce. #CompostNC



Meat, fish and bones need perfect conditions to break down. They don't belong in your backyard compost bin. Make reasonable portions and avoid food waste! Put leftovers in the trash. #CompostNC



Pet waste can contain pathogens that are infectious to other animals and humans. While on a walk or cleaning the litter box, put waste in a plastic bag, then put it in the trash. #CompostNC



Greasy food will ruin the chemistry of your backyard compost pile. When you have oily leftovers, put them in the trash. #CompostNC



It may look like a "paper" plate, but sometimes it is lined with plastic and cannot be composted. It's hard to distinguish between these products, so best to keep them out of home composting systems. #CompostNC



BPI compostable products need precise temperatures and chemistry to break down. Most backyard compost piles can't meet those conditions so take them to a commercial drop-off or contract with a compost hauler if available. Use durable service ware when possible! #CompostNC



Cleaned up your yard? Ready to reduce what you're throwing away? Always wanted to compost? It's easy! Here's how to get started. #CompostNC



When you compost, nature is your guide. Know what to do in every season to have a great backyard compost pile. #CompostNC



Your compost shouldn't be any smellier or buggier than your trash. Same stuff, different bin! Keep a tight lid to avoid any issues or store it in the fridge/freezer. After dumping your compost out, rinse your indoor bin. #CompostNC



Know which paper products are compostable? Clean shredded newspaper and cardboard belong in the compost. Cardboard boxes, clean paper and magazines can be recycled. #CompostNC