

Baltimore Farmers Market Food Scrap Collection: Frequently Asked Questions

1. What can I bring to the farmers market to be composted?

- Fruits and vegetables
- Uncoated paper products
- Compostable food ware
- Coffee grounds
- Tea bags
- Grains, breads and pasta
- Egg shells

*****We will not be accepting any meat, fish or dairy.*****

2. Why can't I bring my meats, fish or dairy?

While all foods are compostable, we will not be collecting animal products due to the length of time it takes to break these items down - and the fact that they may attract rodents.

3. Are paper products compostable?

Only uncoated paper products are compostable. For example, many coffee cups are lined with plastic which will contaminate a compost pile, thus we want to avoid adding these kinds of paper items. Other unlined paper items are fine to compost (many of which will have a "certified compostable" seal on them).

4. What if I have molded foods, can I bring those to the farmers market?

Yes, but try to avoid allowing food to rot too much before bringing them to the farmers market.

5. Does the city have suggestions for home composting in Baltimore City?

Yes, check out some of our composting materials on our website. We also have printed materials that you can view at the Sunday Farmers Market.

6. Where do my food scraps go after I drop them off at the Farmers Market?

We are currently working with a local farmer who takes the food scraps to their farm in Baltimore County. The city is also working on improving our capacity to process organic matter at a mid-size composting site, however it will be several years before this happens.