

HOLD ON!

Look for
this logo



Is your bag compostable?

COMPOSTABLE BAG RESOURCE GUIDE

When using a DC Department of Public Works food waste drop-off or collection program, if you choose to bag your food scraps, the bag **MUST** be compostable.

WHAT DOES “COMPOSTABLE” MEAN?

"Compostable" means it is made solely of materials that break down into, or otherwise become part of, usable compost in a safe and timely manner in an appropriate composting method.

BAGS THAT MEET THE REQUIREMENT

If plastic:

Certified compostable by the Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI)



- Please do not rely on the bag's color; it must be labeled BPI-certified compostable to include it for composting.
- Both commercially compostable and home-compostable plastic bags are acceptable.

Plastic bags
MUST have
this logo



If paper:

Untreated and uncoated paper or plant fiber (e.g., paper grocery bags)

NO BAG IS FINE, TOO

You are not required to use a bag at all. Simply transferring your food waste from a reusable container to your curbside collection container or a drop-off bin works great!

Questions?

✉ compostdc@dc.gov

☎ 202-645-8245



GOVERNMENT OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

RESOURCES

Example brands offering BPI-certified compostable plastic bag options



Example local retailers



DISCLAIMER: This is not an endorsement of the above brands or entities. This is an informal listing and is not meant to be a comprehensive collection of available brands and retailers.

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