

FOOD WASTE COMPOSTING FOR BUSINESSES

Washington Organics Law



As of January 1, 2026, restaurants in Federal Way are required to compost food scraps per Washington State Law HB1799.

Any business with 96 gallons of food waste weekly must have compost collection.

More information on this law is available on the Department of Ecology website.



Steps for Businesses:

- 1 Set up service.** Two companies provide outside compost carts and dumpsters and collect weekly. Contact for rates.
 - Waste Management: wmnorthwest.com/federalway
 - Cedar Grove: cedar-grove.com
- 2 Designate indoor collection.** Order materials including:
 - Compost containers (green preferred)
 - Signs and stickers
 - Approved compostable liners (optional)
- 3 Train staff** on what is compostable to sort correctly. Train staff to empty inside containers into outside carts at least once a day. Contact the City of Federal Way for training support.



What can be composted?

Yard Waste & Plants



Food Scraps & Leftovers

ALL FOOD INCLUDING MEAT, CHEESE AND BONES



Paper

MUST BE UNCOATED (NOT SHINY OR PLASTIC-LINED)



Items accepted for compost collection are food scraps (including meat, dairy & bones), and non-shiny paper products.

In Federal Way, items are taken to a local compost facility to be turned into soil in 8 weeks!

The City of Federal Way can Help!

The City of Federal Way Environmental Services has free programs to help businesses.

Free support includes:

- Indoor compost collection containers (while supplies last)
- Sorting Signs for compost, recycling, and garbage
- Training with compost experts
- Resources for more support



Contact us for free containers

*while supplies last

Email recycle@federalwaywa.gov for more information.