

Getting Started

- The City of Lambertville began a curbside composting program in 2014 utilizing a \$10,000 grant from Sustainable Jersey.
 1. Initial survey of interest
 2. Additions to the City's website to give information to participants and prospective participants, including a guide to help them properly categorize their household waste for collection.



Lambertville's



Food Waste Recycling Program

Jane Rosenblatt, Program Manager, New Jersey Future; Chair, Lambertville Environmental Commission

ANJEC Congress October 2017

Getting Started: Survey Results

- 90.4% of respondents expressed that they wished to reduce the amount of garbage their households generated on a weekly basis;
- 81.6% expressed interest in weekly curbside collection of food and other organic waste; and
- 68% of respondents indicated that they would be willing to buy special containers and biodegradable bags needed for curbside collection



Residential Participation

- The Third Can Program began as a pilot program with 85 participating households having their compost collected by the City's Public Works Department on a weekly basis.
- For a one-time \$45 fee, all residential participants receive:
 - A 32-gallon curbside container
 - a 3-gallon kitchen counter-top container
 - 3-gallon biodegradable plastic bags
- Additional bags are available from the City for free





GREEN ORGANIC CHART

Collected every Monday. All wet waste should be bagged. Bags and dry waste should be put in the green Third Can.

Meat, poultry, fish (including bones & shells)

Fruits, vegetables, nuts (including seeds & pits)

Dairy products

Bread, pasta, grains

Coffee grounds & filters, tea bags

Egg shells

Certified biodegradable diapers

Plate scrapings & leftovers

Oils, fats & butter

House plants & flower bouquets (NOT yard waste)

Flower & vegetable garden waste

Cat litter/waste

Dog waste in biodegradable bags

Food/grease-soiled paper, food wrap & cardboard (including pizza boxes)

Food/grease-soiled paper plates, cups, napkins & paper towels

Food/grease-soiled waxed paper & waxed cardboard (plastic rings removed)

Biodegradable utensils (must be marked "suitable for compost")



FAQS

Q: Does everything need to be put into the biodegradable bags?

A: Only wet material needs to be bagged. Dry material (like corn husks or food-soiled paper) can go directly in the can without a bag.

Q: When is pick up?

A: Weekly pickup is on Monday. In the case of a Monday holiday, pickup is on Tuesday.

Q. What are the fees?

New Participants: \$45

Pilot Participants (already enrolled): FREE

Q: Can I share a can with a neighbor?

A: Yes!



Restaurant Participation

- For a annual \$90 fee, all restaurant participants receive:
 - Three 32-gallon curbside containers
 - Biodegradable plastic bags
- Additional bags are available from the City for free
- Pickup is three times a week Monday, Wednesday and Friday
- Some restaurants that voluntarily participated in Third Can in 2016, saved money by being able to cancel third party trash pick-up





Restaurant Participation: Fall 2017 Update

- Sept. 2017: All commercial establishments that have city trash removal and produce food waste, such as restaurants, are now required to participate.
 - Those participating in the city's Garbage & Recycling Program: Fees for the Purchase of Materials: \$90.00
 - Those currently not participating in the city's Garbage and Recycling Program:
 - Fees for the Purchase of Materials: \$90
 - Fees for the food waste: Going Rate of tonnage plus 20% Administrative Fees



Facts and Figures

- Since 2013, Lambertville collected an average of 1,700 tons of municipal solid waste annually, roughly 255 tons of which are food-related.
- Food waste represents 15% of the City's waste stream.
- An annual average of 341 pounds per participating household.
- To date, more than 1,000 tons of food waste has been removed from the waste stream annually.



Benefits to the Community

- Lambertville's food waste is turned into compost, a rich natural fertilizer.
- Residents are entitled to pick up **FREE COMPOST** for their lawns and gardens from the Public Works yard
- Food waste from our garbage reduces the amount of methane we put into the atmosphere.
- Participating in the Third Can program helps city **reduce our contribution to climate change.**



Lessons Learned

- Keys to the launch and implementation of the program:
 - Champions at city hall such
 - Detailed guidance, public outreach and education
 - Strong financial incentive, understanding and leveraging the economics

