

6. Website Content:

These questions should be answered on a frequently asked questions (FAQ) tab on the <https://www.centrecountyrecycles.org/faq> website:

Why is there no curbside pick-up for organics?

State College Borough (SCB) has been collecting green waste via curbside collection which has been working well for the community. However, we have been unable to get the needed permission to provide such a curbside service. Additionally, upon further investigation, this option was not attractive from an emissions standpoint. It is estimated that the fossil fuel-powered trucks, we would drive 2,300 miles per week, in the COG service area. Therefore, we are looking at alternative solutions for diverting household food scraps from the landfill. The intention is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, like methane, by turning the collected materials into compost or biogas rather than it decomposing on the landfill.

What can I do with my household food scraps?

We offered our first '2023 Food Scraps Drop-Off Pilot Program' in which participants were able to bring their organics to any one of five locations. It was then collected and brought to the State College Borough Compost Facility in Patton Township. A survey was conducted which was important in informing the wants and needs of the public for the future permanent solution that is likely to be started in Spring 2024. More information on this will be provided as soon as possible. In the meantime, at-home composting is a great option that can be done in one's home or yard.

How do I store my food scraps?

There are a lot of storing methods the most common method is in a container inside or outside your home. The 1.3-gallon Stainless Steel Compost Bin has a charcoal filter for absorbing the smell. Here is a list of other good options to choose from: <https://www.seriousseats.com/best-countertop-compost-bins-5188909#toc-the-winners-at-a-glance>. Otherwise, if you have enough space in your freezer, this is a good option as it reduces any smell. (We are looking into allowing biodegradable bags, which were not permitted in the 2023 pilot project due to their slow decomposing time due to the wrong conditions.)

Create a banner or post on the Centre County Recycling and Refuse Authority website landing page with a short update from the food scraps pilot project.

- Thank you to everyone who participated in the Food Scraps Pilot Project!
- We have been able to collect 80 tons of organic material
- 7.5 tons reduction in GHG emissions!
- 236 people out of 662 people (35.6 %) participated in the survey.
- Our FAQ section has been updated based on some common questions asked in the survey.
- We are working on a permanent project for spring 2024.