Organic Waste Options
-or-
Home Composting 101:
Turning that cold pile of goo into something to use in your garden soils

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Composting is part of the story...

Food Recovery Hierarchy

- Source Reduction: Reduce the volume of surplus food generated
- Feed Hungry People: Donate extra food to food banks, soup kitchens and shelters
- Feed Animals: Divert food scraps to animal food
- Industrial Uses: Provide waste oils for rendering and fuel conversion and food scraps for digestion to recover energy
- Composting: Create a nutrient-rich soil amendment
- Landfill/Incineration: Last resort to disposal

https://www.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/food-recovery-hierarchy
General Composting: The Components

Figure 3.1
Combining raw materials to achieve the desired characteristics for composting.

General Composting: Some Examples

**Brown** carbon-rich
- dry leaves
- straw and hay
- shrub prunings
- pine needles/cones
- chopped twigs/branches
- wood ash
- newspaper
- shredded paper (avoid glossy paper)
- cardboard (shredded)
- corn cobs, stalks
- dryer lint (from natural fibers)
- sawdust (from untreated wood)
- eggshells
- brown paper bags (shredded)

**Green** nitrogen-rich
- table scraps
- fruit scraps
- vegetable scraps
- fresh grass clippings
- lawn and garden weeds (if they have not gone to seed)
- flowers
- seaweed and kelp
- chicken manure
- coffee grounds/filters
- tea leaves (loose or in bags)
- corn cobs, stalks
- hedge clippings
- garden waste
- fresh leaves

... and don’t forget

- Water
- Oxygen

https://www.polywood.com/blog/diy/beginners-guide-to-composting/
Call To Action

• Find out about Muni compost
• Support a friend’s compost
• Learn more and start your own compost pile

Thank you!
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