

COMPOSTING

[Arlington County](#) sells a composting bin and accepts food waste: The Nature Center at Potomac Overlook Regional park has a vermicomposting bin and displays about composting and energy conservation.

[Fairfax County's Solid Waste Management Program](#) launched a pilot program to offer residents a place to drop off food scraps for composting. The Food Scraps Composting Pilot Program, which is modeled after a successful program operating in the City of Falls Church since 2017, provides drop-off locations at the I-66 Transfer Station and at the I-95 Landfill Complex. Or send an e-mail to trashmail@fairfaxcounty.gov, or call the Outreach Team at 703-324-5230.

Marlene Shade: Composting is actually pretty simple. No grease, no meat. Dump in a corner of your yard and plant a nice shrub in front of it and no one will know except the bugs that digest and poop out the nice new soil you will create. This method will take a few years. I have been doing this for about 30. If you are impatient you will want a container that you can mix the compost and water and do all the things that accelerate the process but honestly it rots. Now there is the occasional dog that is not happy unless they roll in your compost. That is why some will fence in their compost area. Every year I take the spot I threw down 3-4 years ago, dig up and use to dress my plant beds. If you have small children I highly recommend [vermin composting](#). Your kids will find it fascinating.

Linda Rosenberg: For those of you in apartments or townhouses, there is Veterans Compost, a friendly company that swaps out composting pails each week. If you find it too pricey, you can organize your neighborhood to bring prices lower, or just share with a neighbor. (That is what we do, because even with two households we don't fill up the compost bucket). In the spring they give clients good rich soil for gardens, or to give to people with gardens.