



St. Gertrude Parish Composting Program & Gardening Project

All are welcome to be a part of our parish composting program! Those who join our program are welcome to use the parish's compost tumbler, a user-friendly option that will produce compost at a quicker pace.

This year, we request that composters make sure that they only add small and chopped up waste—not whole banana peels, large slices of watermelon, etc. This is because if we want to have compost product this summer, then we need to insert chopped up pieces into the composter or it will be years before it degrades.

If you are interested in joining our composting program, please reach out to our new compost garden coordinators, Andrea and Guy Banicki at anbanicki@gmail.com or gbanick@ilstu.edu for information about the fee.

Participants this summer can use their own compost buckets.



Compost Bucket Do's & Don'ts

DO's: Collect in your buckets

1/3 Brown:

- Leaves & dead-headed flowers
- Shredded paper
- Small sticks

1/3 Green:

- Grass clippings
- Leaves of vegetables like broccoli & cauliflower, herbs, & spices

1/3 Food:

- Vegetables and fruit (Chopped up into small parts.)
- Egg shells (Small pieces.)
- Coffee & tea grounds (Tea must be taken out of the tea bag.)

DON'TS: Please do not add these to your bucket

Brown:

- Break it up to only 1/3 of the bucket. Air must be able to circulate.
- No plastic or labels on shredded paper. No magazines or glossy paper.
- No paper towels, napkins, or tissues.

Green:

- Grass clippings must be chemical free at the time of cutting.
- Do not include diseased plants of any kind.

Food:

- No MEAT, BONES, FAT, SKIN, BUTTER, or OLEO!
- No corn cobs.
- No plastics of any kind.
- No avocado pits or skins.
- No flour products, grains, or legumes.
- No nuts, seeds, baked goods, or snacks.
- No spoiled tofu/tempeh/tomato products.
- No old jelly jams or preserves.
- No organic house waste.