

Ramsey County Organics Acceptability List

YES
Baked goods
Bamboo foodservice items
Berry cartons (paper only)
Bones
Candy (remove from wrapper)
Cellulose sponges
Cereal
Certified compostable bags (must be labeled BPI Certified Compostable)
Certified compostable food-service items (must be labeled BPI or Cedar Grove certified compostable)
Cheese and cheesecloth
Chopsticks and coffee stir-sticks (wood only)
Coffee cups (paper - only when marked certified compostable) (convenience store, Starbucks, Caribou Cups, etc. go in the garbage)
Coffee grounds and paper filters (K-cups or other coffee pods are garbage. You may empty the coffee grounds from the pods into the organics.)
Condiment packets (paper only including: salt, pepper, sugar, sugar substitute, etc.)
Cork (natural only, plastic corks are garbage)
Corn cobs, husks and shuckings
Cotton balls (without chemicals on them)
100% cotton or wool clothing that cannot be repaired or donated (cut into 4" x 4" pieces)
Dough
Dust bunnies
Egg cartons (paper only)
Egg shells
Facial tissue
Fish and fish parts
Food - ALL spoiled, moldy, frozen food, dairy, frozen dairy, all fruits and vegetables including peelings and pits, baked goods, sauces, herbs and spices, nuts, seafood and fish including shells and parts, meat including fat and bones, etc.
Flour and sugar paper bags (not plastic lined)
Flower bouquets (remove ribbon and plastic)
Frozen foods
Fruit, fruit peels, fruit seeds and pits
Fur - from pet grooming (not fur clothing)
Grains
Gravy and sauces
Hair - human and pet
Herbs and Spices
Indoor plants and trimmings (no dirt)
Jam and jelly
Masking tape - paper type, small amounts with no paint (not plastic type)

NO
Ashes (fireplace, grill, portable fire pit, chiminea)
Air Filters (furnace, humidifier, etc.)
Animal food bags (plastic or foil lined)
Animal waste, bedding, litter and droppings
Aluminum foil
Automobile and engine fluids (antifreeze, motor oil, etc.)
Baby, personal and flushable moist wipes
"Biodegradable" labeled items
Band-Aids™, bandages and first-aid items
Batteries
Candles and candle wax
Candy and chip wrappers
Cartons (soup, broth, milk, juice, or wine)
Cat litter
Ceramics (mugs, plates, bowls, vases, etc.)
Charcoal (Charcoal that contains chemicals for quick or easy lighting is garbage. If you're unsure throw it away.)
Cigarettes, cigars and butts
Cleaning products including towels, rags, sponges, etc. soaked with cleaning products
Condiment packets (plastic and foil including: ketchup, relish, red pepper, parmesan, taco sauce, etc.)
Condoms and related products
Construction materials (concrete, sheetrock, etc.)
Containers (plastic, glass, metal, cartons)
Cosmetics and perfumes
Crayons and chalk
Dead animals
Dental floss (contains plastic)
Detergents (liquid, powder, sheets, and tablets)
Diapers (baby, overnight, training, swim, and covers)
Dryer lint (contains synthetic fibers)
Dusting wipes (contains synthetic fibers)
Fast food wraps (lining is plastic)
Feces (human and pet)
Feminine hygiene products (tampons, pads, liners, applicators - paper or plastic)
Fertilizers (solid and liquid)
Foil and foil-type bags (chips, candy)
Garden trimmings and waste*
Gauze and bandages
Gift Wrap (recycle gift wrap without glitter or foil)
Glass
Grass clippings*
Gum (contains plastic)
Ice cream tubs (paper or plastic)
Incontinence products
Laminated paper
Latex (balloons and gloves)
Leaves*

YES
Meat and meat products (including fat and bones)
Melon, pumpkin and gourds
Nail clippings
Newspaper that is wet with food or dirt
Noodles
Nuts and nut shells
Oatmeal
Oysters, mussels clams (shells and all)
Paper bags (flour, sugar, cornmeal that are not plastic lined)
Paper take-out containers and fast food packaging (not plastic lined or if lined they must be labeled BPI or Cedar Grove certified compostable) (Chinese food containers are garbage.)
Paper plates and cups (unlined or if lined they must be labeled BPI or Cedar Grove certified compostable)
Paper towels and napkins
Pastries and pies
Pencils and pencil shavings (no metal, foil or erasers)
Pizza boxes
PLA plastic (only if labeled BPI or Cedar Grove certified compostable)
Popcorn kernels
Popsicle sticks and toothpicks (wood only)
Q-tips™ (paper middle only)
Sawdust (untreated wood only) (double bag)
Shredded Paper (no staples, paper clips, plastic)
Spices (fresh or dried)
Soup (strain liquids down drain first)
Tea bags (tea bag packaging must be paper only, no plastic or foil lining) (remove staples)
Tissues and tissue paper

NO
Liquids (pour non-hazardous liquids down the drain)
Litter and street sweepings
Markers and pens
Metal
Microwaveable popcorn bags (plastic lined with BPA)
Packing peanuts (foam or "degradable")
Paper than can be recycled
Parchment and wax paper (unless BPI certified)
Personal hygiene products (toothpaste, soap, etc.)
Pesticides (solid and liquids)
Pet food bags (plastic or foil lined)
Pet waste and waste handling items
Photos and slides
Plastic (all non-certified compostable, including bags and wrap)
Popcorn bags that go in the microwave (plastic and BPA lined)
Plastic lined paper (ex: Chinese food containers, ice cream tubs, coffee cups - unless is BPI certified)
Products labeled as "biodegradable", earth friendly, etc.
Q-tips™ with plastic middle
Remodeling debris
Rocks and gravel
Rubber and rubber bands
Snack and sandwich bags (unless BPI certified compostable)
Soap (liquid, bar, shampoo, dish, dishwasher, laundry)
Soil and dirt
Star Tribune "oxo-degradable" bags
Styrofoam™ (egg cartons, packaging, and peanuts)
Synthetic clothing
Tape (transparent, Scotch™, electrical, duct, packing, etc.)
Toys
Treated wood (lumber and sawdust)
Vacuum cleaner bags
Wax (wax paper [unless certified compostable], candle wax, car wax, etc.)
Wicker (furniture or wicker scraps)
Wood scraps
Wrapping Paper (wrapping paper without glitter or foil can be recycled)

Look for one of these logos to verify if a product is certified compostable or visit www.BPIworld.org

