

Food Scrap Management

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www.NERC.org

Rwaste
Rescue
Reduction
food Composting
scraps

“It’s Yucky...”
“It Smells...”
“It will attract mice, bears...”



Goals of Outreach/Education

Ensure participants:

- Learn about the program
- Know what's required
- Have concerns & questions addressed
- Learn what's in it for them

General strategies are applicable to virtually all education campaigns...

The message will be specific to the program

Getting Started

- Requested “behavior changes”
 - *What do you want participants to do*
- Address concerns

What’s in a word?

- Food scraps
- Materials management



What's the Program Requirements?



Put requirements in terms of practices they are already doing.

“Participation is simple—just scrape your plate into the compost bucket!”

Universal Signs & Symbols

RECYCLE



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COMPOST



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Consistent
Images

LANDFILL



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Consistent
Colors

Overcoming “Yuck Factor”

- Broad-based education to begin changing the culture, the language
- Continuously
- Be Consistent
- Seek Feedback
- Biobags/paper bags in kitchen bucket
- Collect soiled paper, pizza boxes

Overcoming “Yuck Factor,” cont.

- Simple, concisely worded fliers
 - Distributed to residents at least at the start of the collection program
- Signage at the point of collection
- Website & social media

Tips to Provide Residents

- Line the kitchen collection container with newspaper or wrap food scraps in newspaper or paper towels
- Sprinkle baking soda in the kitchen container & the outside collection cart
- Wash the collection container thoroughly after dumping it
 - Rub vinegar around the rim of the bucket

Tips to Provide Residents, cont.

- Use a vacuum cleaner to remove fruit flies
- Put melon scraps directly into the outside collection cart (not in the kitchen container)
- After dumping the food scraps in the collection cart, cover with yard trimmings, shredded paper, or damp newspaper, a little soil

