

Food Waste Action

Description of the food waste recycling program

Jersey City launched its first-ever composting efforts in 2018 with a Residential Compost Drop-Off Program. For residents without backyards or gardens, the city partnered with community gardens, municipal facilities and a school to create easily accessible drop off locations. Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, the city expanded these efforts to increase the number of drop off sites citywide from 3 up to 11 total to meet the growing demand and increase accessibility to encourage more participants.

The drop off process is simple - residents collect food waste in an airtight container of their choosing, then simply drop off what is collected weekly at one of the city drop off locations throughout the city. The drop-off locations are accessible to the public 24/7. Each drop off location has a wooden shed with either 2 or 4 toters for food scraps. Organics at each of the sites are collected by Community Compost Company who then processes it into compost.

In 2020 the Jersey City Composting Program offered free community workshops to engage and educate interested residents. The city created a webpage to educate residents on what to include and exclude for composting. Frequently Asked Questions and workshop slideshows have also been uploaded to <https://jcmakeitgreen.org/composting>. To prevent contamination, signage has been added to each of the sheds to remind residents of what can be composted or not.

As of August 2021, this program has diverted a total of 189,336 pounds of food waste from the waste stream. To view more data visit the following link:

<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/jersey.city/viz/2019Composting/Story1>.

Composting Drop-off Locations, as of September 2021:



- Brunswick Community Garden – 174-176 Brunswick St.
- Canco Park – 70 Dey St.
- City Hall – 280 Grove St., back lot

- Dept. of Public Works – 13-15 Linden Ave. East
- Five Corners Library – 678 Newark Ave.
- Hamilton Park – Corner of 8th and McWilliam Place
- LCCS – Kensington entrance by JFK Blvd.
- Riverview Community Garden/Farmer's Market – 285 Ogden Ave.
- Newport/Avalon Cove – 2nd Street off of Washington Blvd
- Municipal Court – 365 Summit Ave.
- Lafayette/Ercel Webb Park – Corner of Lafayette and Woodward