

Organics Collection in the Cafeteria

Don't Scrap your Scraps.



In school, a lot of what we throw away can be **re-cycled, composted, or made into clean energy**. Your school is “going green” with a new sorting station in the cafeteria.

Every time you eat in school, when you've finished your meal, you will

need to put everything left over on your tray, lunchbox, or bagged lunch in the correct bin.

Organics: What was living can keep on giving.

We can take organics, or material that was once living, like food scraps, food soiled paper, and leaves and break it down faster than it would in nature to make compost. Organic material may also be used to make new clean energy.

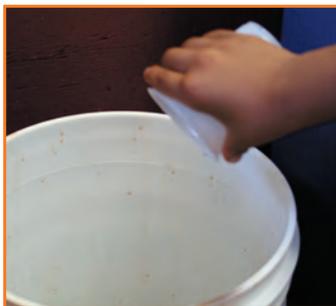
Soil is a living thing.

It has very small micro-organisms, organisms, worms and bugs that are “decomposers,” that turn “organics” into compost. This is a dark chocolate colored dirt that makes soil healthy, which gives plants and trees the nutrients that they need to grow. Decomposing material releases a natural gas that can also be used for energy. When people recycle or compost, we make new products out of old materials.



Better leftovers!

What's left over after we recycle and compost everything we can? A much cleaner, greener NYC! Every time we recycle and collect organics, instead of throwing them away, we reduce our need for landfills. This helps protect the earth, saves money, energy, and creates jobs.



POUR

liquids into bucket



RECYCLE

Cartons, cans, bottles, foil, and hard plastics



TRASH

Plastic bags, pouches, wrappers, foam, and film



COLLECT ORGANICS

Food scraps, compostable plates, food soiled paper boats, cups, plates, napkins

Collect Organics and Recycle in the Lunchroom



Champ got into the lunchroom at school and ate a tray of food!

Help Champ the Recycling Dog sort what is left over on his tray.
He already put his leftover cookie in the organics bin.
Can you help with the rest? Draw a line from the item to the right sign.

- Step 1.** He has to empty his leftover drinks first into the **POUR BUCKET**
- Step 2.** Put his carton, can, bottle, foil, and plastic fork into the **RECYCLING BIN**
- Step 3.** His chip bag goes in the trash bin for **LANDFILL**
- Step 4.** His leftover food scraps, paper cup, and pulp tray go in the **ORGANICS BIN**



POUR BUCKET

RECYCLE BIN

LANDFILL TRASH

ORGANICS BIN



For more information contact:
The DOE Office of Sustainability
schools.nyc.gov/sustainability | sustainability@schools.nyc.gov



Cafeteria Composting Vocabulary Words



Help Champ the Recycling Dog learn all about compost!

Step 1. Put a line through the pet words he included.

Step 2. Circle the vocabulary words that help Champ learn about composting in the lunch room. What words are items that go into the compost bin?

O R A N G E M E O W P E O E L S
 D E C O M P O S T O M P S E R U F F B O N E S A R K
 S O I L N N I C I S C R A P S S
 N A P A P E R K G A M E A T
 O P P L A T E S P R A T E L E A S H
 C H A M P H

For more information contact:
 The DOE Office of Sustainability
schools.nyc.gov/sustainability | sustainability@schools.nyc.gov

