



LET'S TALK TRASH

Hamilton Trash, Recycling and Composting

Welcome to Hamilton! Here are a few details about the Town's trash program.

Trash

- Hamilton provides every household one 35 gallon black bin that can be used to dispose of trash. Black bins will be picked up every week.
- The lid of your black bin should be closed completely with no trash peeking out.
- Blue bags must be used for any trash that exceeds the capacity of your black bin. They are available for purchase at Crosby's, Aubuchon Hardware and Cumberland Farms.
- Yard waste, electronics, bulky items and hazardous waste are not permitted in the black bin or blue bags. See below for information on how to dispose of these items.

Recycling

You can use your own barrels/bins for recycling as long as they are labeled "Recycle", and there is no limit to the number that you can put out on your trash day.

- Never put plastic bags or film of any kind in your recycling bin (i.e. no potato chip bags, candy wrappers, plastic lined coffee cups, plastic packaging, feed bags, etc.), and never put your recyclables in a plastic bag. Plastic film clogs the machinery at the recycling/sorting facility. Plastic bags and film go into the trash or should be returned to a grocery store that provides recycling of plastic bags. Both Stop & Shop and Shaw's Market in North Beverly accept plastic bags for recycling.
- Rinse containers of any food waste.
- Do not recycle paper towels or napkins - compost them instead - their fibers are too short for recycling.

Composting

You can compost in your back yard or collect your kitchen compost and put it curbside weekly in a 13 gallon, green toter. If you don't have a green toter, go to the DPW Office at Town Hall for a free replacement.

Composting of food waste and compostable paper (napkins, paper towels, etc.) is mandatory in Hamilton. You must have your 13 gallon compost toter curbside along with your weekly trash and recyclable bins. If it is not present, the haulers will not pick up your trash.

If you are a backyard composter and therefore don't generate compostable materials each week, you can apply for an exemption sticker. See the DPW website for directions on how to apply. If you receive an exemption sticker, then you must place it on your black bin. This will show the haulers that they can take your trash even if your green bin isn't curbside.

Compost is heavy and we pay less than half per ton to dispose of it at Brick Ends Farm here in Hamilton than to dispose of it with our trash. More importantly, food waste should go back into the earth where it sequesters carbon rather than being burned in an incinerator with our trash.

Quick composting tips to reduce the "ick" factor and prevent bugs in your compost:

- Line your countertop collector with a compostable BioBag, available for purchase at supermarkets, hardware stores or online at amazon.com
- Sprinkle wood shavings on your compost in summer
- Freeze food waste until trash day
- Wrap your food waste in newspaper
- In winter, put newspaper/paper bags on the bottom of your green bin to prevent the organics from freezing to the bottom of the bin.

OTHER

To view the Town's trash calendar, and how to dispose of many articles, go to the Town of Hamilton website (www.Hamiltonma.gov) and click on the "Trash Programs" icon. There you will learn about disposing of:

- bulky items (weekly curbside pickup of 1 item per week for \$15 fee)
- electronic waste (3rd Saturday of every month, drop off for a fee behind Town Hall)
- textiles, shoes, belts, small kitchen items (weekly free curbside pick-up by contacting Simple Recycling in advance at simplerecycling.com or 866-835-5068)
- hazardous waste (annual drop-off day for a fee behind Town Hall)
- yard waste (Brick End Farms all regular hours, or the dump site on Chebacco Road)
- to give away (or find) items that are still useful, check out the "Buy Nothing - Hamilton/Wenham" page on Facebook

HELP THE ENVIRONMENT- REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE AND COMPOST

If you have questions about Hamilton's trash programs, please contact the DPW office or post them on the Facebook page of the Hamilton Waste Reduction Team.

COMPOST GUIDELINES

Low-Grade Paper

Tissues
Paper towels & napkins
Paper towel / toilet paper rolls
Greasy pizza boxes
Cardboard Paper
Takeout food containers (all metal must be removed)
Small paper items, pill bottle boxes, price tags, etc.
Tissue paper
Plain paper plates and bowls without a plastic coating
Shredded paper
Wrapping paper (No Foil or Glitter)

Other Waste

Hair
#7 PLA bioplastic made from corn (cups, lids)
Plates, bowls and containers made of sugarcane
Small amounts of oils
Ash from wood fires in compostable bag

Kitchen Scraps

Lobster/crab shells (no rubber bands)
Fruit & vegetable scraps, including pits and seeds
Meat, including bones
Dairy products
Breads, rolls
Eggshells
Chopsticks and wooden stir sticks
Coffee grounds and paper filters
Loose tea and tea bags (no tea bag wrappers or plastic)

Yard Waste

Weeds, flowers
Dirt
Potted plants (without the container)



NO Plastic of any kind, including plastic bags
NO Styrofoam
NO Plastic-coated paper plates, cups or other items
NO Plastic, metal or "compostable" utensils (forks, knives, & spoons)
NO Straws
NO Popcorn bags
NO Sugar packets
NO Liquids, including cooking oil or grease
NO Milk or juice containers
NO Dryer lint
NO Foil or metal
NO Tape
NO Biohazards
NO Diapers or sanitary items
NO Soap
NO Dog waste
NO Kitty waste or Kitty litter
NO Fabric
NO String
NO Plastic or nylon twine
NO Construction debris
NO Clam /Oyster shells

You may line your container with newspapers, use paper bags to contain the waste or use BPI certified compostable bags.

Organic waste must be placed curbside inside your 13 gallon organic waste container.

This project is funded in part by a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Printed on a minimum of 30% post-consumer recycled paper
For more details go to the Town of Hamilton web site.



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Hamilton, MA 01936

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SPRINGFIELD, MA
PERMIT NO. 935



RECYCLE

THANK YOU FOR RECYCLING THESE:

Cans



Food and Beverage Cans
empty and rinse

Glass



Bottles and Jars
empty and rinse

Plastic Containers



Kitchen, Laundry, Bath
empty and replace cap

Paper & Cardboard



Mixed Paper, Envelopes, Newspaper, Magazines, Cardboard
empty and flatten

NO!



No Shiny, Metallic or Glittery Wrapping Paper, No Bows or Ribbons



No Milk, Juice, or Soy/Almond/Coconut Cartons (place in trash)



Do Not Bag Recyclables in Plastic



No Plastic Bags or Plastic Wrap



No Food or Liquid (empty all containers)



No Clothing or Linens (use pink bag)



No Tanglers (no hoses, wires, chains, or electronics)

(978) 626-5227
Hamilton Department of Public Works

HamiltonMA.gov

Thank you for recycling.  Funded in part by MassDEP. Min. 30% recycled paper.