



## FREE COMPOST AVAILABLE THROUGH TOWN'S FOOD SCRAP PROGRAM

The Town of Amherst Highway Department – Refuse Division announced that free compost is available to town residents as part of the [Organic Food Scrap Recycling Program](#). The compost was created from the organic waste that was collected by residents and dropped off at the Highway Department. Launched in 2019, the Food Scrap program has kept tons of waste out of landfills, reducing the town's costs for disposal.

"The Town has worked diligently over the past several years to educate the community and grow the Food Scrap Program. Organic waste should be treated as a resource instead of as waste. We successfully turned organic materials into a high-quality compost, which we hope will be used for your vegetable and fruit gardens as we promote an ongoing cycle," said Deputy Supervisor Shawn Lavin.

Each resident will be allowed to fill up to one 5-gallon bucket (or container of equivalent size). Residents will need to bring their own container, to the Highway Department, 1042 N Forest Road, Williamsville, NY 14221. Pick up is available from 7 days per week, from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Follow the signs and check in with dispatch.

Additionally, the Town has free kitchen sized food scrap containers available. The goal of these containers is to place them in your kitchen to easily store organic materials, such as vegetable and fruit scraps, coffee grounds, cut flowers, and egg and nut shells. Then, when you are ready, the compostable food scraps can be transported to the organic recycling totes at the Highway Department, 7 days per week, from 7a.m. to 3:30 p.m. where they will be composted. Residents participating in the Organic Food Scrap Recycling Program need to be mindful of the list of items that are NOT accepted: meat, chicken, or fish; dairy; oil-based foods; animal waste; litter or bedding; coconuts or coconut oil; coal or charcoal; diseased houseplants; and plastic bags. Please note that each fall, the Organic Food Scrap Recycling Program also collects pumpkins, squash and gourds. Residents are encouraged to bring these items to a collection event and avoid placing them in their weekly trash.

Residents can call or email ([refuse@amherst.ny.us](mailto:refuse@amherst.ny.us)) the Office of Refuse Control with any questions or concerns at 716-631-7119.