

Composting in Bear Country

Learn how to compost food waste responsibly, and how to avoid feeding bears!



#1

LIMIT SCENT

Use three parts 'brown' and one part 'green' materials.

Brown:

-Carbon rich: dry leaves, grass clippings, wood chips, clean sawdust, other yard debris



Green:

-Nitrogen rich: vegetables, kitchen scraps



If bears are known in an area, don't add fruits or meats. Instead, bury these food scraps in the ground or take them to a composting facility.

#3

AERATE

Turn compost every couple of weeks to prevent smell and ensure decomposition.



Cover with more brown material after turning.



#2

MAINTAIN MOISTURE



Monitor and manage compost moisture.

Dry compost will decompose too slowly.

Compost that is **too wet** will have a strong odor.

Tip: Bag dry leaves in the fall for use during winter and spring to prevent compost that is too wet.



In July of 2017, all VT transfer stations must accept food scraps.

Compost responsibly to ensure the safety of people and bears.

Find more information at vtfishandwildlife.com or recycle.vermont.gov

