



**CONTACT:**  
Anderson Sainci  
Resource Management Coordinator  
& Supervisor  
563-589-4250  
[asainci@cityofdubuque.org](mailto:asainci@cityofdubuque.org)

# NEWS RELEASE

**March 29, 2017 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## City Offers Food Scrap ‘Recycling’ Options

DUBUQUE, Iowa – The City of Dubuque reminds its residential curbside collection customers that it offers multiple options for them to “recycle” their food scraps rather than dispose of them with their trash.

The City’s curbside food scrap collection program accepts all food scraps (including meat and bones); coffee filters and tea bags; all food-soiled paper cups and paper plates; and paper towels, placemats, napkins, and bags.

Materials NOT accepted include, plastic bags, straws, compostable or plastic utensils, lids, wrapping, and containers. Other non-compostable materials NOT accepted include diapers, clothing, shoes, treated/painted wood, grease and fats, dead animals, animal waste/litter, cigarette butts, vacuum cleaner bags, hygiene products, and medical and hazardous waste.

The City offers residential and commercial customers a subscription-based service with City-provided tipper carts during on regular and winter collection schedules.

Monthly cost for residential and K-12 school customers:

- 13-gallon container: \$1
- 48-gallon container: \$8
- 65-gallon container: \$11

Monthly cost for commercial customers:

- 13-gallon container: \$4
- 48-gallon container: \$15
- 65-gallon container: \$20

In addition to the tipper cart subscriptions listed above, customers may also put their food scraps and compostable paper in their yard waste carts, cans, and bags. Current yard waste container options are subscribed 64-gallon carts, 35-gallon cans with annual yard waste decals, 35-gallon cans with attached yellow stickers, or paper yard waste bags with attached yellow stickers. These options allow customers to divert their food scraps at little or no additional cost by simply adding them to their current under-filled, underweight yard waste containers.

Food scraps collected by the City are transported to the Dubuque Metropolitan Area Solid Waste Agency's landfill on US Highway 20 where they are processed with yard waste and converted to compost that is used on site for storm water improvements, erosion control, and amending soil for vegetative growth.

To subscribe to one of the collection services listed above, contact the City of Dubuque Public Works Department at 563.589.4250 or [publicworks@cityofdubuque.org](mailto:publicworks@cityofdubuque.org). Information is also available at [www.cityofdubuque.org/foodscraps](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/foodscraps).

Customers are also reminded that the City offers a free tool, "REThink Waste Dubuque," to make it easier to remember to set out trash, recycling, and organics; stay informed on collection schedule changes; and to know what can and cannot be recycled. To access the REThink Waste Dubuque tool, visit [www.cityofdubuque.org/rethinkwaste](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/rethinkwaste). Links to download the app are provided on the page and available on the iTunes App Store and Android Play Store.

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