

For information on how to dispose of the following, visit the Pope/Douglas Solid Waste Management website:

- Cooking oil and grease
- Yard waste
- Single sort recycling
- Household garbage
- Hazardous waste

Environmental Center – Alexandria

Monday: 8AM - 4PM

Tuesday: 8AM - 4PM

Wednesday: Closed

Thursday: 8AM - 4PM

Friday: 8AM - 4PM

Saturday: 8AM - 12PM

Located at 1916 Nokomis Street,
Alexandria, MN 56308

Why RECYCLE ORGANICS?

A significant portion of what is in the garbage is comprised of organic materials that should be diverted for composting by participating in organics recycling.

Items accepted for organics recycling are transferred to a large scale industrial composting facility and turned into earth-friendly and soil-building compost. When compost is added to soil, it reduces the need for fertilizers and pesticides, and increases water retention – allowing for more efficient use of water.

Organics recycling reduces the amount of trash produced at our home, which could save you money if you reduce the size of the cart you need for trash collection.

Pope & Douglas County's GUIDE TO

Household Organics Recycling



Find us on 



Put waste in its place!

popedouglasrecycle.com

Organics Do's

Food Scraps

- Fruits and vegetables
- Meat, fish, and bones
- Dairy products
- Eggs and eggshells
- Pasta, beans, and rice
- Bread, cereal, and crackers
- Nuts, shells, and pits



Non-Recyclable Paper

- Pizza boxes from delivery
- Napkins, paper towels, and tissues
- Paper egg cartons



Certified Products

- **ONLY** compostable paper and corn-based plastic cups, plates, bowls and utensils
- Look for the BPI logo or ASTM D6400 certifications



Other Items

- Coffee grounds, filters and tea bags
- Hair and nail clippings
- Cotton balls and swabs with paper stems
- Houseplants and flowers
- Wooden items: chopsticks, popsicle sticks and toothpicks



Collection Bin/Bucket

Place a collection container for your organics in a convenient location to scrape leftovers/peelings into.

- Use an ice cream bucket, coffee container, yogurt tub, or purchase a kitchen countertop container to your liking.
- Line your container with a paper bag or certified compostable bag — NEVER a plastic bag.

Organics Drop Sites

Pope/Douglas, in partnership with businesses/ churches and local communities, have developed a network of conveniently located organics drop sites.



Use cell phone QR code reader to view website or contact Pope/Douglas for drop locations

Troubleshooting Tips

Prevent odor

Use a container with a vented lid, keep your container in the fridge/freezer, rinse your container periodically.

Fruit flies

Fruit flies come from fruit/peels whether in your fruit basket, trash can or organics container. Keep your organics container in the fridge/freezer or set up a fruit fly trap

Collect around the house

Don't forget to collect organics from all areas of your house – not just the kitchen.

Label your container

Label for container so everyone in your home – including guests – knows how to sort out their wastes/recycling/organics. Labels/signs are available at popedouglasrecycle.com or stop by the office.

Organics Don'ts

Not accepted

- Plastic bags, film, wrap, and Styrofoam
- Cleaning and baby wipes
- Diapers, sanitary, and menstrual products
- Animal and pet waste/bedding
- Dryer lint and sheets
- Fast food wrappers and frozen food boxes
- Gum, grease and oils
- Household trash
- Plastic plates, cups, and cutlery
- Packaged food and condiment packets
- Recyclable items (bottles, cans, office paper, cardboard, glass, cartons)
- Products labeled as 'biodegradable'
- Microwave bags
- Yard waste

