



WE'RE STARTING ORGANICS RECYCLING AT SCHOOL!

WHAT IS ORGANIC WASTE?

Organic waste means food waste and yard waste. The new organics recycling program will collect food waste and food scraps in the cafeteria during lunch. Food waste consists of fruits and vegetables, meat, dairy products, including food scraps such as bones, shells, peels, and seeds.

WHY ORGANIC WASTE?

Reducing food waste in landfills is a significant part of our schools' sustainability journey. When organic waste is dumped in landfills, it undergoes anaerobic decomposition and produces methane. When released into the atmosphere, methane is a 20 times more potent greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide. Mandatory organics recycling reduces greenhouse gas emissions while conserving our natural resources.

TIPS FOR TEACHING KIDS TO RECYCLE AT HOME

The earlier recycling is built into family routines, the more your children will come to expect it. Recycling of any kind can be hard, but with these tips we can work together to make it easier:

- **Explain why.** Your children will feel more invested if they understand why recycling matters and how they're making a difference
- **Show how.** Explain which items can be recycled and how to identify the symbols. Practice sorting glass, plastics, paper and garbage into the correct bins together
- **Be an example.** Just like eating their veggies, kids often model parental behavior when it comes to recycling. Make sure you're leading by example!
- **Do it together.** Give each family member an official recycling role, or put older kids in charge of teaching the little ones so that you're all in it together.

See more
information!



WHAT DOES THE PROGRAM LOOK LIKE?



1. Trash

First, students should discard trash items into the **GRAY** can. This trash will be sent to the landfill. Landfill trash includes plastic utensils, milk cartons, and paper and plastic products.



2. Organics

Second, students should discard organic waste by turning their tray upside down and tapping it against the side of the **GREEN** can. Organic waste includes all food and food scraps, including meat and bones, peels, pits, and shells from produce.



3. Trays

Finally, students should stack their trays on the cart provided at the end of the line once their tray is empty.



Share Table

Students will also be able to add their unwanted food items to a Share Table before disposing of their lunch. Share Tables are for students to place unopened and uneaten food for other students to take.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

If you would like to volunteer as a recycling monitor in the cafeteria please talk to your students' teacher to find out more.