



Village of Winnetka

Environmental and Forestry Commission Meeting

November 9, 2022 at 7:00 PM
Winnetka Village Hall Council Chambers - 510
Green Bay Road

AGENDA

- 1. Introduction & Chair's Remarks**
- 2. Public Comments**
- 3. Review and Approval of Minutes**
 - a. Approval of the October 12, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes
- 4. New Business / Old Business Updates**
 - a. Lakeshore Recycling Systems Presentation and Q&A
- 5. Communications**
 - a. Approval of December Communication Items
 - b. Discussion of January Communication Items
 - c. Approval of Additional Proposed Communications Content
- 6. Committee/Staff Reports**
- 7. Open Forum**
- 8. Adjournment**

NOTICE

All agenda materials are available at villageofwinnetka.org (**Government > Council Information > Agenda Packets & Minutes**); the Reference Desk at the Winnetka Library; or in the Manager's Office at Village Hall (2nd floor). The Village of Winnetka, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, requests that all persons with disabilities who require certain accommodations to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting or have questions about the accessibility of the meeting or facilities, contact the Village ADA Coordinator, at 510 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, Illinois 60093, 847-716-3543; T.D.D. 847-501-6041.

WINNETKA ENVIRONMENTAL AND FORESTRY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
October 12, 2022

A record of a legally convened meeting of the Environmental and Forestry Commission of the Village of Winnetka, which was held in the Council Chambers at Public Works Maintenance Yards, 1390 Willow Road, Winnetka, Illinois, Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order:

Chairperson Hanley called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m.; Voting Members present: Commissioners Patrick Hanley, Rosann Park-Jones, Ted Wynnychenko, and Liz Kunkle. Voting Members absent: David Varca and Peter Eck. A quorum of presently appointed members was present. Village Council Representative present: Andrew Cripe. Student Representatives Present: none. Student Representatives absent: Scarlett Harper and Marcus Buccellato. Staff Liaison present: Diana Puga, Public Works Analyst. Public present: none.

1) Introduction & Chair's Remarks:

Chairperson Hanley called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m. and welcomed all Commission members. Staff Representative Puga took roll call for attendance.

2) Public Comment:

No Public Comment.

3) Review and Approval of Minutes:

a) Approval of the September Special Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Kunkle made a motion to approve the September 21, 2022, minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Park-Jones.

AYES:	HANLEY, PARK-JONES WYNNYCHENKO, KUNKLE
ABSENT:	VARCA, ECK
NAYS:	NONE

4) New Business, Old Business/Updates:

a) Accountability: Leaf-Blower Ordinance

Chairperson Hanley briefly reviewed a presentation provided by Winnetka Police Chief, Marc Hornstein, regarding a regional working group effort on the effects of using gas powered leaf-blowers. The regional working group will not have a regional plan for addressing the effects, will still be a community effort. Members of the working group include staff, elected officials, landscapers, and general members of the public.

Prior to the regional working group being created, Go Green Wilmette and Go Green Winnetka volunteers hosted a leaf-blower summit in 2021.

b) Working Projects: Energy Future Discussion

Chairperson Hanley had a discussion with Water & Electric Director, Brian Keys, regarding the best way to engage the EFC with the Village. He shares the EFC, and its commissioners, can act as a thinktank for the Village and assist in doing research on energy alternatives and solar projects. Village Council Representative Cripe also suggested the EFC may be able to assist the Village in identifying a consultant and the scope of work.

c) Sustainable Materials Management

i) Composting Program Update

(1) Commissioner Kunkle requested an update the residential and commercial composting programs. Staff liaison Puga advised that Bill Kenney, from Lakeshore Recycling Systems (LRS), and Assistant Public Works Director, Erik Jensen, were working to schedule a time to visit commercial locations and discuss composting. There were no changes or further updates to the residential drop-off program from staff.

Commissioner Kunkle discussed potentially adding the Winnetka Congregational Church as an additional drop-off site. The church currently utilizes Collective Resource for composting.

ii) The Commissioners briefly discussed LRS's attendance at the November 9, 2022, EFC meeting. LRS will give a brief 10–15-minute presentation followed by a Q&A from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM, the agenda for the regular meeting will follow.

d) Scope of EFC Activities

The Commissioners discussed implementing accountability markers to track progress as they work on projects, appointing a point of contact for each project, implementing a project calendar for better project planning and management. The Commissioners also discussed reviewing minutes prior to the meeting for efficiency.

5) Communications:

a) Approval of the November Communication Items

The Commissioners reviewed the November Communication Items which included Holiday Lights Recycling, America Recycles Day, Battery Recycling, Plastic Bag, Film, and Wrap Recycling, Textile Recycling, and the Use of Natural Light During Winter.

AYES:	HANLEY, PARK-JONES WYNNYCHENKO, KUNKLE
ABSENT:	VARCA, ECK
NAYS:	NONE

b) Discussion of the December Communication Items

The Commissioners reviewed the December Communication Items which included Christmas Tree Pick-Up, EFC Green Awards Application Reminder, Commercial District Business Lighting, and the Use of Natural Light During Winter.

c) Discussion of Additional Proposed Communications Content

The Commissioners will review the proposed communications content and will vote on the content during the November regular meeting.

6) **Commission/Staff Reports:**

Commissioner Kunkle shared her interest in a second pumpkin composting event following Thanksgiving.

7) **Open Forum:**

No reports.

8) **Adjournment:**

There being no further business, Chairperson Hanley asked for a motion to adjourn which was moved by Commissioner Kunkle and seconded by Commissioner Park-Jones. The motion passed; the meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Village of Winnetka: Recycling

November 9, 2022



LRS

Lakeshore Recycling Systems

LRS differentiates itself through aggressive and innovative diversion and recycling programs, technological advances, and protection of the environment.

LRS

- 80 facilities located throughout Illinois and the Midwest
- 6 sites in the Chicago-land area employing 258 people
- Diverted/recycled 328,997 tons from Chicago facilities in 2021

LRS: Single-Stream Recycling

Advantages:

- Simple & convenient – No more sorting!
- Increase in recycling rates – User friendly process takes guess work out
- Eases landfill use – Material not just filling holes in the ground

Disadvantages:

- Contamination – Indifference
- Contamination – Accidental
- Expensive – Constant upgrades in equipment needed

LRS: Waste vs. Recycling

GARBAGE ITEMS

Carbon paper
Carpet & cloth material
Cardboard contaminated w/food
Glass (Non bottle or jar)
Glass (Windows)
Food
Liquids
Plastic bags (Grocery bags / trash bags)
Plastic (Saran wrap)
Plates or dishes
Styrofoam
Waxed cardboard
Waxed paper

Single-Stream RECYCLING



PAPER MATERIAL

Magazines and Catalogs
Telephone Books
Kraft Brown Paper Bags
Corrugated Cardboard
Cereal Boxes (Food boxes in general)
Junk Mail
Mixed Paper



METAL MATERIAL

Aluminum Cans
Aluminum Foil
Steel or Tin Cans
Empty Aerosol Cans
Aluminum Baking Trays/Pie Tins



PLASTIC

Pop Bottles
Milk containers (Dry, please)
Water Bottles (With caps, please)
Margarine/Butter Tubs (No food residue)
Toiletry/Beauty-Aid Bottles
Laundry Detergent Bottles



GLASS MATERIAL

Glass Bottles (Clear, brown, green or blue)
Glass Jars (Clear, brown, green or blue)



MILK CARTON/ DRINK BOXES

Gable Top Milk & Juice Cartons (Dry, please)
Juice Boxes (Dry, please)



**ALL SINGLE-STREAM RECYCLABLES
ARE SERVICED BY A SEPARATE
RECYCLING TRUCK THAT BRINGS
THE MATERIAL TO AN APPROPRIATE
SINGLE-STREAM RECYCLING FACILITY.**

**DO NOT PLACE YOUR RECYCLABLES
IN BLACK PLASTIC BAGS.**

GARBAGE ITEMS

Carbon paper
Carpet & cloth material
Cardboard contaminated w/food
Glass (Non bottle or jar)
Glass (Windows)
Food
Liquids
Plastic bags (Grocery bags / trash bags)
Plastic (Saran wrap)
Plates or dishes
Styrofoam
Waxed cardboard
Waxed paper

**Please contact Lakeshore Recycling Systems
with any questions or inquiries at 773.685.8811**

LRSrecycles.com
6132 Oakton Street, Morton Grove, IL 60053



LRS: Recycling Steps...

Recycling material is placed in the resident's cart.



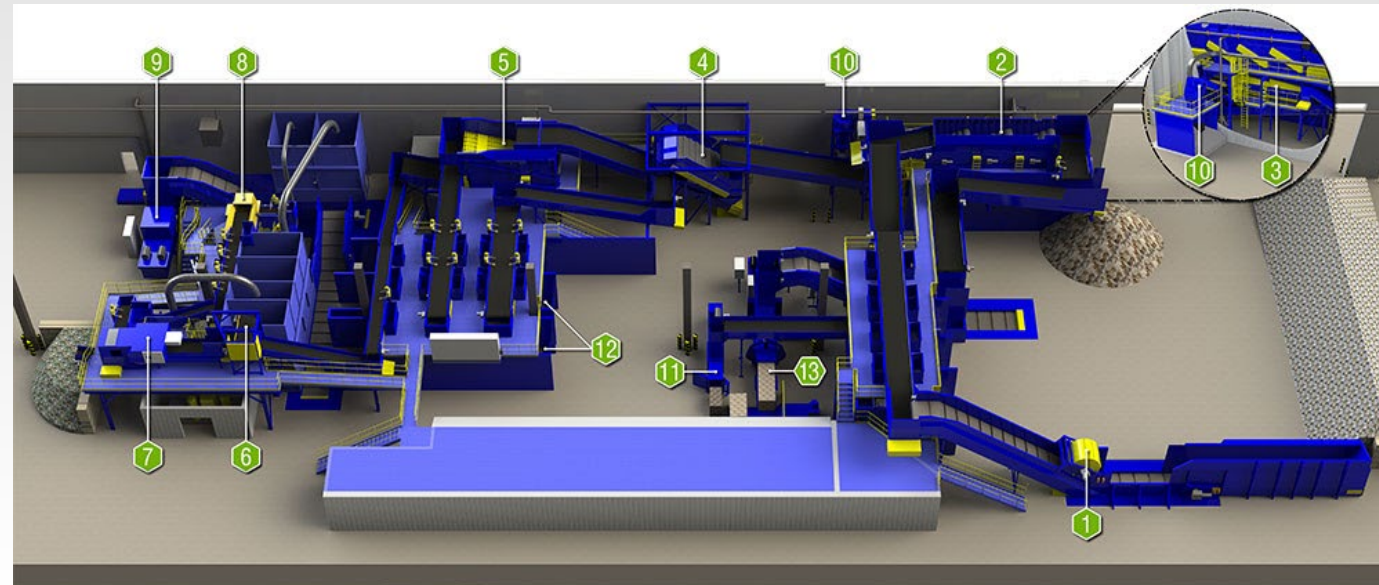
LRS: Waste vs. Recycling

An LRS recycling truck comes to empty the recycle carts.



LRS: Recycling Steps...

Recycling material is taken to the recycling facility.



- | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Back Scraping Drum | 5 Ballistic Separator | 9 Machinex II-Ram Baler |
| 2 OCC Screen | 6 Ferrous Magnet | 10 Glass CleanUp System |
| 3 Fines Screen | 7 Optical Sorter | 11 Closed Door Baler |
| 4 News Screen | 8 Eddy Current Separator | 12 Motion Floor |
| | | 13 American Baler |

Ballistic Separator



Oscillating
paddles provide
agitation to
separate
materials

Optical Sorters



Sensors detect and shoot air
jet to separate materials

Magnets for ferrous metal



Ferrous metal is attracted to magnets and transported to separate conveyor

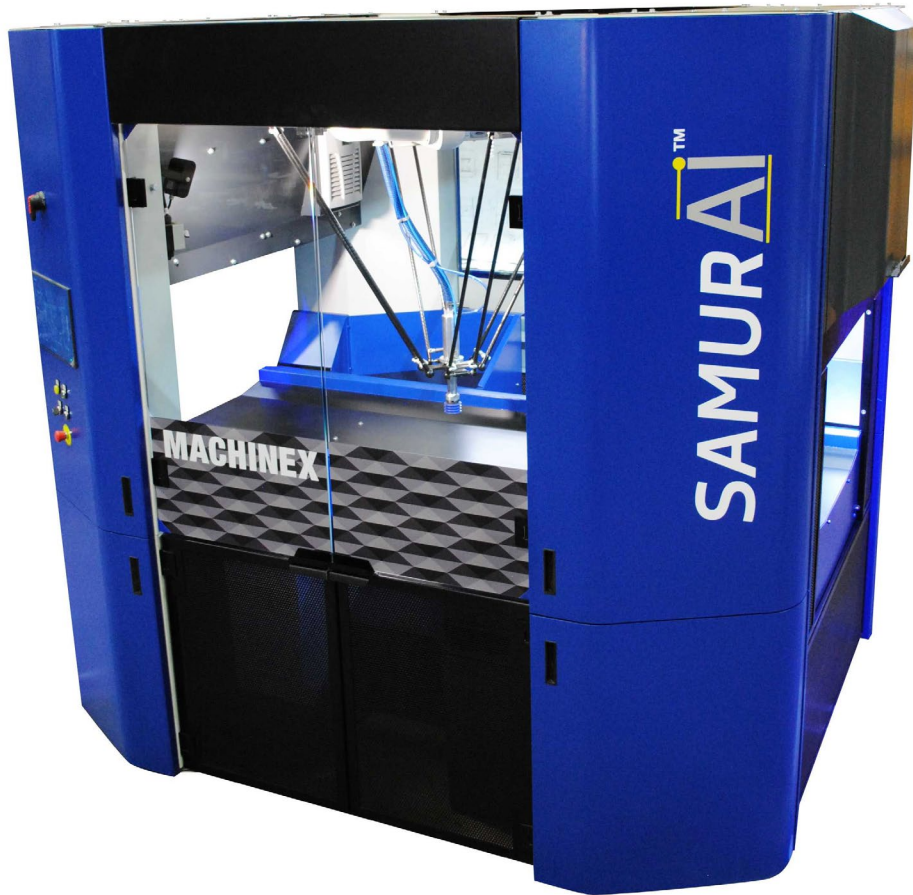
Eddy Current



Loop of electrical current
and magnetic field
repels and separates
aluminum



SamurAI Robot



LRS became the first company in the U.S. to install Samurai robot that uses AI to sort recyclable materials

Heartland Stats

- Intake 300-450
tons/day
- System
processes 17
tons/hour

Material	Outbound Tons (May 2022)
Aluminum	64.59
Aseptic	21.17
Cardboard	2,312.52
Glass	1,178.84

Material	Outbound Tons (May 2022)
HDPE Color	65.5
HDPE Natural	44.03
Paper	1,492.07
PET	237.81
Steel	121.85





Additional Types of Recycling

- Construction & Demolition (C&D)
- Brick
- Concrete
- Dirt
- Metal
- Wood
- Glass



Organics

In 2017, LRS became the first hauler in America to install an aerobic digester

Digester uses oxygen to compost material

Creates less methane

Creates less odor

Takes in about 15 tons a day, turns this into about 5 tons of finished product

Finished product: a rich soil amendment, ready for market

Aerobic Digester



Thank you!

Questions?

Bill Kenney— BKenney@LRSrecycles.com



December 2022 EFC Communications Content

1. Christmas Tree Pick-Up

E-blast Newsletter

Christmas trees will be picked up from the curbside for shredding, chipping, and composting beginning **TBD through TBD**. After TBD, a refuse sticker will be required to ensure pickup. Please remove everything from trees, including plastic bags or wraps, ornaments, tinsel, wires, and the stand, as these will clog and damage the shredder. If you have questions about the program, please call 847-716-3568.

2. EFC Green Awards Application Reminder

E-blast Newsletter

The Village of Winnetka's Environmental and Forestry Commission invites nominations for the third-annual Green Awards Program. The purpose of the program is to recognize properties and households within Winnetka that demonstrate exceptional commitment to sustainable and environmentally-friendly practices. Residents, businesses and other organizations are encouraged to nominate their house, property, building or project that has been completed within the past five years. The award categories include: Green Building, Recycling/Waste Reduction, Land, Air, Water/Stormwater, Energy, and Innovation/Other.

If you believe your recent project has helped make Winnetka a more environmentally-friendly or sustainable community, the Commission asks that you consider applying. Applications are available through the Public Works Department at 1390 Willow Road, or by clicking here (<http://www.villageofwinnetka.org/government/boards-and-commissions/environmental-and-forestry-commission/>). The application deadline is February 28, 2023. Category winners will be announced at the Village Council meeting closest to Earth Day (April 22, 2023). If you have any questions about the program, contact Public Works Analyst, Diana Puga, at dpuga@winnetka.org or 847-716-3550.

3. Holiday Lights Recycling

E-blast Newsletter

As you decorate for the holidays, you may discover that some old lights and extension cords don't work. Recycle them with the Village's year-round light recycling program! All types of holiday lights and cords are accepted for recycling at the Public Works Yards, 1390 Willow Road,

weekdays from 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM. The Village cannot accept garland, live greens, wreathes, or other non-recyclable items. If you have questions about the program, please call 847-716-3568.

4. Commercial District Business Lighting

E-blast Newsletter

Chamber of Commerce

Economic Development Newsletter

Many businesses in Winnetka keep their interior lighting on throughout the night for safety and crime prevention purposes. Although this may provide more security, it also uses excess electricity. The use of LED or other energy efficient bulbs can help reduce energy consumption and lower electric bills. Businesses are encouraged to use LED lighting in their stores to reduce their electricity use.

5. Use of Natural Light During Winter

E-blast Newsletter

The way your home is oriented should inform your decisions about where to install new windows or skylights — perhaps the most obvious way to harvest more natural light. How is the house positioned in terms of north, south, east, west is the place to start, because anything done with windows or skylights is going to be impacted by that. Adding glass on the south side of a home, where the sun spends most of its daytime arc, will generally provide the most brightness for your buck.

Consider experimenting with your home's layout as it relates to the sun. If your living room feels trapped in perpetual twilight, but a seldom-used, south-facing dining room is drenched in sun, try swapping their functions.

January 2023 EFC Communications Content

1. EFC Green Awards Application Reminder

E-blast Newsletter

The Village of Winnetka's Environmental and Forestry Commission invites nominations for the fourth-annual Green Awards Program. The purpose of the program is to recognize properties and households within Winnetka that demonstrate exceptional commitment to sustainable and environmentally friendly practices. Residents, businesses, and other organizations are encouraged to nominate their house, property, building or project that has been completed within the past five years. The award categories include: Green Building, Recycling/Waste Reduction, Land, Air, Water/Stormwater, Energy, and Innovation/Other.

If you believe your recent project has helped make Winnetka a more environmentally-friendly or sustainable community, the Commission asks that you consider applying. Applications are available through the Public Works Department at 1390 Willow Road, or by clicking here (<https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/244/Green-Awards>). The application deadline is February 28, 2023. Category winners will be announced on Earth Day (April 22, 2022). If you have any questions about the program, contact Diana Puga at 847-716-3550 or dpuga@winnetka.org.

2. Reduce Energy Use and Costs in your Home and Business

E-blast Newsletter

During the winter months, there are some easy adjustments you can make in your home to increase energy efficiency and reduce costs. Below are several tips to reduce energy consumption and maintain comfortable temperatures in your home this winter:

- Properly maintain your furnace to keep it clean and running efficiently.
- Open curtains on winter days to allow natural sunlight to help heat your home.
- Put on an extra sweater or layer of clothing instead of turning up the heat.
- Only heat rooms you regularly use and close off vents to guest rooms or storage areas.
- Invest in proper insulation to prevent heat from escaping.
- Decorate with LED holiday lights that use less energy and last longer than incandescent bulbs.

3. Make the Switch from Incandescent Bulbs to LED

E-blast Newsletter

Switching from incandescent to LED bulbs will not only save on electric costs but will reduce your overall energy consumption. For example, the energy consumption to use a 60-watt incandescent bulb would cost about \$90 over the course of 10 years. For a 5-watt LED bulb, running over the course of 10 years the actual cost would be only \$18 to operate. LED bulbs also use less wattage while producing the equivalent amount of light of an incandescent bulb. Additionally, CFL bulbs can be recycled at the Municipal Yards Facility at 1390 Willow Road during normal business hours of Monday through Friday, 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

4. Holiday Lights Recycling

E-blast Newsletter

As you decorate for the holidays, you may discover that some old lights and extension cords do not work. Recycle them with the Village's year-round light recycling program! All types of holiday lights and cords are accepted for recycling at the Public Works Yards, 1390 Willow Road, weekdays from 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM. The Village cannot accept garland, live greens, wreathes, or other non-recyclable items. If you have questions about the program, please call 847-716-3568.

5. Ways to Avoid Using Poisonous Mouse Bait

E-blast Newsletter

In the winter months, many people find mice in their homes. While this is obviously suboptimal, poisonous bait is not the best way to resolve the problem. Poisonous bait often harms not only the mouse, but also birds of prey. Since the poison does not immediately take effect, the mouse can leave your home and be eaten by predators, such as owls and hawks, who are then poisoned. The best solution is to prevent mice from coming into your home by sealing cracks and holes in your home's foundation with steel wool or foam, covering dryer vents, and making sure they don't get into your home in the first place. Mice can enter holes as small as a nickel, so if you don't know the source of the mice, you can live trap them and relocate them (outside).

Leave the Leaves!

You may think of fallen leaves as lawn litter that should be removed. If so - it's time for some new thinking! Fallen leaves enhance wildlife habitat by providing food, shelter, and nesting material, form a natural mulch that helps suppress weeds, and fertilize the soil as they break down. Leaving the leaves has a positive effect on human and environmental health by supporting biodiversity, improving soil health and water quality, and reducing the need for chemical fertilizers.

Consider Leaving the Leaves -- and the Leaf Blowers -- Behind!

Removing leaves often involves intensive yard equipment, such as gas-powered leaf blowers, as well as trucks to haul away leaves. Gas-powered leaf blowers emit exceedingly high levels of pollutants, contribute to greenhouse gas emissions, are linked to a number of serious diseases, and can cause hearing loss. Gas-powered leaf blowers are allowed in the Village after Oct. 1, but consider raking or leaving your leaves instead of blowing them away. Leaving the leaves reduces your eco-footprint, saves money, and equitably improves our collective health and air quality.

What to Do With Leaves Instead of Blow Them Away?

There are so many options!

- Create compost! Combine equal parts fallen leaves ("brown material") with food waste and grass clippings ("green material") and mix well for nutrient-rich compost to use next spring.
- Create a natural lawn mulch by cutting leaves into small pieces, so they fall into the grass canopy instead of resting upon it, and allows for faster decomposition and nutrient absorption.
- Use as mulch and winter ground cover for gardens and around shrubs and trees. Pile shredded leaves on top of an annual garden or around perennial plants and shrubs, which helps insulate and protect plants from winter freeze damage. Till the leaves into garden beds in the spring.
- Build a brush shelter using leaves, branches, sticks and stems for overwintering native wildlife.

Want to Start Backyard Composting?

Composting is nature's way of recycling food and other organic waste – and composting what you can in your yard uses the fewest resources to convert that waste into a healthy soil amendment called compost. Everything that was once alive may be composted. The magic that is compost rests on two main ingredients: carbon-rich material and nitrogen-rich material. The carbon camp is often referred to as "browns," because it includes things like dried leaves, dried grass clippings, cardboard, and straw. Nitrogen-rich "greens" include fresh leaves, fresh grass clippings, and food waste. You generally want two to four times as much brown or carbon-rich material as you have green or nitrogen-rich material.

Start small and be patient. A covered bin or tumbler works best to help keep animals out and temperatures up. Select a dry, shady, or partly shady spot for your bin. For every measure of food waste material (nitrogen/green) you put in your bin, add double or more that measure of landscape material (carbon/brown). It can be hard to find this much carbon material in your yard. Consider using peat moss as your carbon/brown material, which is readily available at local retailers and very inexpensive.

Want to Start Using One of Winnetka's Compost Services?

Did you know the Village of Winnetka is facilitating more options for residents (and businesses!) to reduce their food waste and compost that food waste instead of sending it to landfill?

Collective Resource Compost and WasteNot Compost offer container-swap services (5-gallon buckets or 32-gallon carts) to residents for a fee, while Lakeshore Recycling Services offers free drop-off sites to residents at locations throughout the Village. Winnetka businesses and institutions may also utilize cart-based services offered by all three vendors for a fee.

ALL food waste may be collected through commercial composting, resulting in much greater waste diversion than on-site or backyard composting. Food waste (meat, dairy, bones), food-contaminated 100% paper and cardboard (greasy pizza boxes!), compostable take-out containers, and other organic materials are collected and hauled to a composting facility. There it is mixed with landscape waste, which allows the waste to decompose aerobically and properly, and the resulting finished compost is sold commercially.

To start, choose a container to collect your food waste indoors. The most common options are a 1-gallon ceramic bin, a 1.3-gallon stainless steel bin, and a 1.75-gallon plastic bin. Then choose where you want to keep your container, for example, on or under a counter. Finally, choose your service – container swap provider that comes to your house or the more “DIY” version where you take your scraps to a drop off site in the Village. You have choices!

A Smashed Pumpkin Is Better Than a Rotted One

You may know watermelons are mostly water (it's in the name!). Did you also know pumpkins are mostly water (it's why they are so heavy!)? And did you know that when it comes to pumpkin production, Illinois “smashes” the competition? Leading in acreage and yield, Illinois produced 564 million pounds of ornamental (for decorating) and processing (for eating) pumpkins in 2020 – as much as the other top 5 most productive states (CA, IN, MI, TX, and VA) combined.

Before composting or smashing any pumpkins, please note - only the pumpkins themselves may be composted. Do not use or be sure to remove any non-biodegradable decorating materials such as plastic, metal, stickers, candles, etc. Once you're ready to dispose of your pumpkins in Winnetka, you have lots of options! Find one or more that are a good fit for you and your family.

- Anytime: find an out-of-the-way spot in your yard. A sunny spot speeds the process but is not required. Put one pumpkin in the sun and one in the shade and compare notes! Place your pumpkin in the spot, smash it a bit, cover it with an equal or greater amount of leaves, and let nature do its work.
- Anytime: use the regular container swap services offered by Collective Resource Compost and WasteNot Compost or one of the drop-off sites throughout the Village offered by Lakeshore Recycling Systems.
- After Halloween: Winnetka's annual Pumpkin Collection event, now called a “Smash” (although residents will not actually smash their pumpkins) will take place from 9 am to 1 pm on Wed., Nov. 2 at the Public Works building at 1390 Willow Rd.