

## Tricks and Treats for a Zero-Waste Halloween

Need ideas for Halloween crafts and recipes? Try these zero-waste tips for eco-friendly fun at home this holiday.

### CRAFTY TRICKS



#### Build a robot costume from cardboard boxes:

Cut holes in a box for your head and arms. Decorate with scrap paper, markers, and bottle caps. Use a smaller box for a hat. Flatten and recycle cardboard afterward.



#### Paper Towel Roll Bats:

Color toilet paper rolls, then use a cardboard box or scrap paper to cut out a wing shape. Draw a face and hang by a string. When you're finished with your bats, the paper and cardboard are recyclable.

### DELICIOUS SNACKS



#### Jack-o-Lantern Stuffed Peppers:

Before you stuff peppers with your favorite recipe, carefully cut out a Jack-O-Lantern face. Zero waste and delicious!



#### Ghost bananas

Cut bananas in half so they stand on the flat end and use chocolate chips for eyes and mouth. Bananas peels can go in your compost cart.

**Contamination is scary!** Remember it's important to recycle right. Candy wrappers and plastic bags belong in the garbage. Never put plastic in your compost. It's ok to throw it away if it belongs in the garbage.



## Greener Living Community Classes

We are offering free community classes to help you make sustainable choices at home this fall and winter. The popular "Greener Living" workshops are updated regularly based on need and interest. Current workshop topics include the following:

- Curbside Composting and Beyond
- Plastics: Problems and Possibilities
- Safer Cleaning and Healthy Home
- Reduce Wasted Food
- Super Sorter
- Sustainable Shopping

For class listings, dates, and times, visit [BellevueWA.gov/greener-living-classes](https://BellevueWA.gov/greener-living-classes).

Registration is required to attend classes. To register, email [recycle@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:recycle@bellevuewa.gov) or call 206-949-1787

# Reduce and Recycle – Food Waste!

Food waste and food-soiled paper make up about 30 percent of a typical household’s waste and about 16 percent of our landfill! Try these tips to help reduce food waste.

**Reduce first!** Make the most of the food you purchase! Visit [BellevueWA.gov/recycle-food-waste](http://BellevueWA.gov/recycle-food-waste) to learn how to store food to keep it fresh longer, meal plan to reduce waste, and learn what dates on food labels actually mean.

**Compost Right – Food in, plastic out!** Plastic bags, containers, and packaging do not break down and can contaminate compost soil that people use on their lawns and gardens. You CAN compost:

- Meat, fish, poultry, and bones
- Vegetable and fruit trimmings (including fall pumpkins)
- Paper towels, napkins, and coffee filters
- Dairy (yogurt, cottage cheese, etc.)
- Egg shells, bread, pasta, and coffee grounds
- Food-soiled cardboard like pizza boxes

**Apartment/Condo communities** can receive up to two compost carts per garbage container, collected weekly by Republic Services at no extra cost. The city can provide a free small kitchen compost container for individual households, signage, and more. Contact 425-452-6932 or [recycle@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:recycle@bellevuewa.gov) if you have more compost questions.



## The Scoop on Dog Poop

**The Problem:** Pet waste contains harmful bacteria that can make people sick. When left outside, rain washes poop into storm drains that flow into our local lakes and streams.

**The Solution:** Scoop it, bag it, and place it in the trash.

- At home, scoop at least twice a week, especially before it rains
- On walks, bring extra bags and scoop every time

Bagged pet waste belongs in the garbage can. Even if you use compostable bags to scoop, curbside yard waste and home compost piles do not get hot enough to kill the harmful organisms in dog poop.

Thank you for keeping our families healthy, protecting our streams, and keeping our shoes clean. For more information, visit [BellevueWA.gov/pet-waste](http://BellevueWA.gov/pet-waste).

**Bellevue Utilities News is available online and in other languages at [BellevueWA.gov/utilities](http://BellevueWA.gov/utilities)**

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Tin Tức Về Tiện Ích của Bellevue (Bellevue Utilities News) có bản tiếng Việt trong [BellevueWA.gov/utilities](http://BellevueWA.gov/utilities).

**General information:** 425-452-6932  
[utilities@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:utilities@bellevuewa.gov)  
[utilities.BellevueWA.gov](http://utilities.BellevueWA.gov)

**Customer Service/Billing:** 425-452-6973

**Drinking Water Quality:** 425-452-6192

**24 Hour Emergencies:** 425-452-7840  
(flooding, water main breaks, no water, sewer overflows, pollutant spills)

**Republic Services (solid waste service):**  
425-452-4762