

What's Happening

Thanks in part to Quincy Climate Action Network's advocacy, the City of Quincy has created a task force on recycling food waste. The task force is studying what it would take to pick up food waste in a separate bin on trash day and turn it into rich, planet-friendly compost – and potentially green energy.

Why It Matters

- Food is the largest single component of trash, making up 22% of solid waste in the US by weight.
- Food rotting in landfills represents the third-largest source of the greenhouse gas methane in the US.
- Quincy incinerates 30,000 tons of trash per year to generate electricity; 6,600 tons of that is water-rich food that likely uses energy to burn.
- That waste could instead be turned into compost that improves soils and helps remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.
- Food waste can also generate renewable energy if it is sent to facilities called anaerobic digesters.
- Curbside food-waste bins lock to keep rodents out.

What You Can Do

- Buy or make a **backyard compost bin**. The Department of Public Works offers **subsidized bins** to residents for \$25 (bring a check or credit card to 55 Sea Street between 9 am and 2:30 pm on weekdays).
- Sign up to have your food scraps collected from companies such as Black Earth Compost, Bootstrap Compost, or City Compost.
- Build a worm bin or stealth composter to **compost indoors**.
- Sign up to help **bring citywide composting to Quincy** by emailing us at info@quincycan.org.