Help our farm and the environment!

The Little Barnyard Preschool is now offering a way for preschool families to compost food from home that would otherwise be sent to the landfill.

Did you know the average American wastes about 30% of the food they purchase? Here are some tips to avoid food waste:

* Meal plan
* Get creative with the food in your pantry and fridge before buying more
* Save and eat leftovers before making new meals

We understand there will always be some food waste and scraps, so let’s put the unwanted food to good use and feed our animals and garden with it!

When collecting food scraps in my kitchen, I reuse two small plastic tubs with handles and lids. They are easy to clean and transport. Labeling your containers “compost” and “chicken food” will help presort the food in your kitchen before dropping it off in our bins. If you will be storing the chicken food for more than a day or two before dropping it off, please refrigerate or freeze it to keep from spoiling. I will have two labeled compost bins outside the front door. Please pour your unwanted food in the correct bins and take your containers with you to use again.

Here is a list of foods to avoid putting in the “chicken food” bucket; these items need to go into the “compost” bin.

* Onion (a little is fine if it’s cooked into other food)
* Raw eggs (shells and cooked eggs are fine)
* Spinach
* Potatoes
* Citrus
* Dried or undercooked beans and rice
* Avocado skin or pit
* Sugary stuff
* Rotten or moldy food
* Chocolate or candy
* Anything containing caffeine
* Tomato or eggplant leaves (the fruits of these plants are fine, though unripened fruits or the plant itself should be avoided)
* Large pits from fruits
* Wild mushrooms
* Rhubarb
* Raw meat (cooked is fine)
* Compostable paper products (acceptable if ripped into small pieces)

Below are items not allowed in either the “compost” bin or the “chicken food” bucket. These do not break down quickly in a home compost system. Industrial compost facilities may accept these.

* Bones
* Compostable plastic cutlery and bags

