Foodscraps360 - Bin Health and Maintenance

Show your bin some love!

Keeping up with some very simple "Good Bin Maintenance" habits can help ensure that your bins stay clean and fresh and that your composting experience remains issue FREE!

Good bin maintenance includes:

- 1) Make sure to close the lid tightly after each use
- 2) Keep liquids out of your bin as best as possible- eg. squeeze teabags
- 3) Line bin with compostable bags/paper bags
- 4) Rinse bin after being emptied
- 5) Sprinkle baking soda in bottom of bin to reduce smell and absorb liquid
- 6) Keep the bin out of the sun
- 7) Freeze scraps until day of pickup (especially meats, cheeses, table scraps)
- 8) Some even wrap meat/fish in newspaper like a burrito prior to freezing

*FoodScraps360 is not responsible for the bin if lost, stolen or damaged. Please label your bin with your address. Replacement bins and parts can be ordered easily through the Shop in your customer portal.



As "yucky" as these issues can be for some... bugs, worms and, yes, even larva ARE really what make composting work! They are among all the critters, bacteria, and microorganisms that help break down our food waste and turn it BACK into soil! That said... we definitely don't want them in our bins which are in our homes or in our garages. The good news is that there are ways to prevent these things from happening, and here is how:

FRUIT FLIES - Eliminate the flies' food and water source from your countertop by keeping fruit in the fridge and a lid on your countertop compost container. Empty your countertop container before it overflows. Wash and dry the container before filling it up again. To catch fruit flies, fill up a mason jar with apple cider vinegar and a drop of dish soap. Secure plastic wrap over the top and poke small holes into the top. Leave it near your countertop container.

MAGGOTS - After your bin is emptied, wash it out with a mild dish soap, let it air dry and sprinkle a small amount of baking soda on the bottom to trap any liquids or odors. Do this weekly in the warmer weather. Keep your bin out of the sun and if you can, in a cool dry place. Double lining helps as well. Keeping bagged compost in the fridge or freezer until collection day also helps if you have the space.

ANIMALS - In some neighborhoods animals can try to get into the bins. While our lids do latch and keep out the majority of perpetrators, they do not lock, and there are some clever and determined animals out there. Some feisty squirrels have been known to eat right through the plastic and some dexterous raccoons have opened the latch. Sprinkle some chili powder on the lid to discourage animals. Reinforcing the lid with an additional strap will prevent clever animals from opening it. You can construct your own with a bungee cord or clip or purchase a Strong Strap - Universal Garbage Can Lid Lock Utility Strap from Amazon. Sometimes, even a simple rock or brick on top will do the trick!

If you have any other issues, please don't hesitate to let us know! We want to ensure that your composting experience is easy and extremely rewarding! And nothing more! :)

