



FAIRFAX RECYCLES

Summer 2022

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/recycling-trash

Months of celebrations!

We celebrated our waste and recycling workers in June by thanking them for their dedication to serving the public. In July, we recognized Independence Day, which is a time of great appreciation for our Country! During any celebration or commemoration try to remember the importance of waste reduction. Do your part by encouraging waste-free events using reusable plates, cups, and cutlery.

Waste and Recycling Workers Week Spotlight

Tracy Ashton is the Operations Manager at Bates Trucking of Northern Virginia, which has been serving the DMV for over 50 years. Its mission is to serve its customers and protect the environment by providing first class trash and recycling disposal services.

Ashton has been in the solid waste industry for 34 years, starting his career with BFI in 1987 as a helper on the back of a collections truck. His background in Business Administration worked in his favor when he became interested in the business side of the solid waste industry.

When asked what his global message would be if given the chance to speak to the world about the industry, he said he would remind the public that solid waste workers are essential personnel, they provide a vital service to the community, and they are also 100% human.



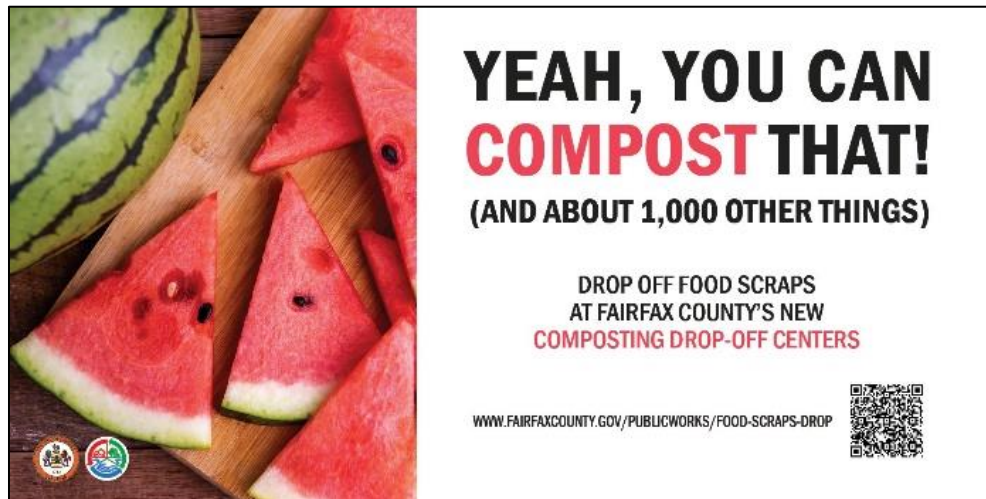
Tracy Ashton

Selected Farmers Markets to Serve as Collection Sites for Food Scraps

Food scraps make up a large part of our municipal solid waste stream. While there are strategies to reduce food waste, there will always be peels, scraps, plate scrapings, and food that just doesn't get eaten. Not everyone is able to compost their food waste at home, which is why Fairfax County started a program to collect food scraps. There are two permanent sites, one at the I-66 Transfer Station and another one at the I-95 Landfill Complex (open seven days per week, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the weekends), as well as five farmers markets that will accept food scraps. The market locations are as follows:

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
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Mount Vernon Farmers Market from 8 a.m. - noon	Herndon Farmers from 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Kingstown Farmers Market from 3 p.m.– 7 p.m.	Burke Farmers Market from 8 a.m. to noon	Mosaic District Farmers Market from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
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For more information, go to [Food Scraps Composting Drop Off | Public Works and Environmental Services \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/food-scrap-drop-off)

How to Correctly Dispose of Your American Flag

Did you know the average outdoor flag lasts only about 90 days? The ever-changing weather and the blistering rays of the sun will inevitably result in a worn-out flag. It is important to regularly replace flags that are faded or torn. The United States has a [U.S. Flag Code](#) governing the use and disposal of the national flag, a practice known as “retiring the flag”

The U.S. Flag Code states that, if the flag is not in good enough condition to represent our country, it should be taken down and destroyed. There are four ways to respectfully retire an American flag:

Donate/Dispose Tattered Flags	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fairfax County Government Center – there is a flag disposal box in the main lobby near the information desk – 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Collected flags are retired properly by The American Legion. • Flag disposal boxes are located at the I-66 Transfer Station and I-95 Landfill Complex and are available during residential hours. At the residential disposal center, flags in need of recycling can be handed to an attendant. • All Fairfax County Police Stations accept American flags. They are collected twice a year by Police Honor Guard for proper disposal.
Burning	<p>First check with your local Fire Marshall about what state and local fire codes and ordinances you must follow prior to burning a flag.</p> <p>There are special steps to be carried out when using this method of disposal, including folding the flag properly, saluting the flag and observing a moment of silence, or reciting the Pledge of Allegiance while the flag burns.</p>
Flag Burial	<p>Bury a flag in the ground in a well-constructed container to keep it protected. In the U.S. Flag Code, it states the cloth should not meet the ground or dirt. Fold it properly and place it in the box. Take a moment of silence or respectfully say a few words as you bury the box.</p>

Shredding	Separate each of the white and red stripes. The other option is to cut the flag in half vertically, and then again horizontally. The most important step for both procedures is to make sure the blue section with the stars stays intact. Shredding gives you multiple options to either burn, bury or recycle the material once it is disassembled. Flag recycling is common with synthetic, and nylon made flags because burning these materials can be hazardous.
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Bikes for the World – Be Part of the Solution

Imagine having to walk miles uphill in the blazing sun or pouring rain to reach your school or your job site? Due to limited affordability and accessibility of other transportation options in developing countries, bicycles play a significant role in providing reliable and inexpensive transportation.



Bikes for the World, in partnership with Fairfax County, is making a difference one bicycle at a time by providing access to affordable transportation and by promoting sustainable development abroad. If you or someone you know is trying to dispose of a gently used bike, please consider bringing it to one of the [county's drop-off locations](#) for donation to Bikes for the World. To find out more about the communities they are supporting world-wide and how your donation may help, check out their website: [International Programs \(bikesfortheworld.org\)](http://InternationalPrograms(bikesfortheworld.org)).

To request this document in an alternate format, call 703-324-5230, TTY 711.



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