

Lachat Community Garden

Composting & Garden Debris Disposal

Composting & Wheelbarrow Responsibilities

Each gardener is responsible for complying with the Community Garden rules regarding composting and garden debris removal. There are a number of ways you can comply with the rules.

- 1) Using the provided wheelbarrows and being compliant with what goes into each wheelbarrow as posted (see onsite signage). It will then be your responsibility to empty the wheelbarrows in the correct compost/debris area when the wheelbarrows are close to capacity.
- 2) Remove your own garden debris and composting materials as needed and bring them directly to the Compost area using a free wheelbarrow or your own garden container – or bring to your home to compost or dispose of. It is often desirable to take care of your own garden compost and debris yourself using your own garden bins if the wheelbarrows are too burdensome for you to empty in the Compost area.

Wheelbarrow System

There is a wheelbarrow system in place for compost and debris plant material. It is important to follow guidelines carefully, otherwise diseased plants will spread problems from bed to bed over the seasons.

There are 2 wheelbarrows and 2 corresponding piles in the compost area. There is also 1 trash can (for garden debris ONLY).

- Wheelbarrow #1 GARDEN GREENS
- Wheelbarrow #2 WEEDS & SEEDS
- Trash Can ALL TOMATO & DISEASED PLANTS

What goes into the Wheelbarrows & Compost Area

- **Wheelbarrow #1 (Acceptable Garden Materials to Compost)**
Cutting stems of woodier vegetables like broccoli and brussel sprouts will help quicken the composting process.
 - Broccoli stems and plants
 - Brussel sprouts and stems
 - Pepper plants
 - Pea plants
 - Bean plants

- Collard Greens
- Kale
- Potatoes and potato plants
- Sweet potatoes and sweet potato plants
- Garlic plant leaves (no garlic bulbs)
- Lettuces
- Pumpkin vines (pumpkins go in the trash)
- Squash vines (squash fruit go in the trash)
- Radishes
- Beets

Wheelbarrow #2 (Weeds & Seeds)

- **Weeds**
 - Crabgrass
 - Knotweed
 - Chickweed
 - Anything you did not plant in your bed and cannot be identified as a "volunteer vegetable" should be treated as a weed.
- **Vegetables with seeds or pods**
(These items could potentially germinate and regrow within the compost bin or sprout once you've placed the compost within your garden plot).
 - Peppers
 - Tomatoes
 - Squash
 - Zucchini
 - Beans
 - Peas
 - Okra
 - Pumpkins
 - Cucumbers
- **Other Undesirable Items**
 - Flower heads
 - Flower bulbs
 - Garlic bulbs

Trash Can (Garden Debris considered as Trash)*

- **Dispose of in Trash Can or take home**
 - Tomato Plants (these are often blighted)
 - Any Diseased Plants

***PLEASE NOTE:** The Trash can is to be used ONLY for Garden debris – no personal trash, garden markers, etc. are to be placed in the Garden Trash can) Only Tomato plants and Diseased plants.