

# **Home Composting with Kennebunkport's Yellow Lobster Trap Compost Bins is Wonderful.**



**Kennebunkport's lobster trap compost bins are a simple once a year solution to turning your kitchen scraps into wonderful gardener's gold. Your kitchen scraps are the greens in a compost mix while old leaves and browned lawn clippings, sawdust or woodchips are the browns in the compost. Start your pile with about 8" of old leaves in the bottom then add 1-part kitchen scraps to 2-parts browns into your bin. After 1 year unhook the clips holding your bin together and move the bin next to your pile. Re-hook the bin together and shovel the top half of the compost back into your bin. The remaining pile will be ½ yard of great compost that will be golden for your garden.**





# COMPOSTING BASICS

*What you can compost and what you should pitch*



Along with your bin you will get a 1.9-gallon covered kitchen scrap bin that will fit under your sink. It will take 1 to 2 weeks to fill the bin. Empty the scraps into your lobster trap bin and cover the scraps with about 4 gallons of brown material from an outdoor leaf pile. There are other composting methods but that is basic composting. Materials that go in your kitchen bin include fruit and vegetable scraps; eggshells; coffee grounds and filters; tea bags; nut shells; cooked lobster shells, old bread and ashes from the fireplace. Do not add meat, bones, fats and dairy products. No diseased, bug-ridden and chemically treated plants or weeds that have gone to seed. Do not add manures from meat-eating animals (dogs and cats included).

Avoid attracting animals to the compost bin by burying food scraps in the pile or covering them with leaves or grass clippings. If your bin has too much brown material and is not composting, mix in more greens to add nitrogen. If your bin pile is slimy-looking and has a gas smell it is high in greens, add carbon with more browns. If you're seeing unwanted rodents, birds or bugs, bury attractive food scraps in the pile with leaves, grass or pulled plants on top and for 6" inside the bin circumference.

## How to Fix a Smelly Compost Pile

If your pile has offensive odors, it's usually an easy fix.



**Is the pile too wet?**

### FIX IT:

Compost piles can become soggy from water or too much nitrogen. Aerate the pile by turning it well to get as much oxygen into it as possible. Add some brown materials such as cardboard, news paper, and small wood chips.



**Too much nitrogen clumped together?**

### FIX IT:

A pile of grass clippings can become anaerobic (devoid of oxygen) and create a stink. Use a pitchfork to break up clumps. Mix it with a carbon material such as dried leaves or shredded newspaper.



**Did you add undesirable items to the pile such as meat, fish, eggs, dairy, or grease?**

### FIX IT:

Remove these items from the pile if possible. If they can't be removed, turn the smelly stuff over and cover it with a brown material until it breaks down.