

## Tier 2 Garden Compost Operation - Best Practices

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Place signage near your compost operation that communicates when gardeners and neighbors can drop off their off-site waste to be composted and what types of waste they can drop off.
- Translate the signage, if languages other than English are widely used in your community.
- Do not accept animal products (exception of egg shells), dairy products, oils, or animal excretia or bedding.
- Immediately incorporate the waste into your compost operation or place the waste in a contained in-vessel, such as a covered steel or rigid plastic container, by the end of the day, whether the waste was generated on-site or received from an off-site source.
- Incorporate dry materials (e.g. straw, newspaper, dry leaves) into the compost operation to reduce odors and maintain a proper carbon:nitrogen ratio.
- Take immediate action if rodent or odor problems occur.
- Maintain open and friendly relationships with your nearby neighbors and address any issues they may have with the compost operation. These relationships may prevent complaints about your compost operation to city officials.
- Register your Tier 2 compost operation by April 1 of each year on CUAMP website ([www.cuamp.org](http://www.cuamp.org)).
- If you have any questions regarding your registration, please send an email to [gardencomposting@cityofchicago.org](mailto:gardencomposting@cityofchicago.org).

### RESOURCES ON COMPOSTING

- Chicago Community Gardener Association's Composting Tips  
Website: <http://chicagocommunitygardens.org/>
- University of Illinois Extension's Compost Central  
Website: <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/compostingcentral/>

### Example signage from a Tier 2 Garden Compost Operation

