



## HOW DO I GET RID OF IT?

The A to Z Guide for Recycling & Disposal in Pinellas County

<http://www.pinellascounty.org/utilities/getridofit>

Questions? Call Solid Waste at 464-7500.

All phone numbers are area code 727, unless otherwise indicated.

### Food

*perishable = food that spoils such as meat*

*non-perishable = food that does not spoil such as canned or packaged goods*

1. **Reduce** waste:
  - a) Buy perishable food (such as fruits or meats) in small quantities.
  - b) Freeze food you don't plan to eat right away.
  - c) Use up leftovers (such as making soup from leftover vegetables or smoothies from fruit).
  - d) Plan menus, and write a shopping list to buy only what you need.
  
2. **Donate** extra food to charity:
  - a) [Local food banks](#) – Some offer free pickup, as noted.
  - b) [Tampa Bay Harvest](#) – Call 538-7777, ext. 1 for free pickup of leftover food from a business such as a restaurant, hotel, supermarket, or caterer. Pickup is also available for special event donations such as leftovers from a wedding. The food will be donated to local food banks, soup kitchens, and shelters.
  - c) Second Saturday in May = annual National Association of Letter Carriers “[Stamp Out Hunger](#)” food drive. Non-perishable food items will be picked up at your mailbox for distribution at local food banks and shelters. For more information, call 531-1477.
  
3. **Compost** food waste (such as vegetable scraps, coffee grounds, tea bags, egg shells, etc.). For more information, call the Pinellas County Extension Service at 582-2100 or visit [University of Florida Living Green](#).
  
4. **Dispose** large quantities of food waste at [Solid Waste Operations](#) (\$37.50/ton or flat rate for qualifying vehicles):
  - a) No liquids accepted.
  - b) Load may be subject to \$100 surcharge if strong odors require immediate cover of the material.

*This guide is provided as a service for our residents. A listing does not constitute an endorsement by Pinellas County.*

*The listing is not all-inclusive or exclusive, and is subject to change. Contact the organizations listed to verify program details.*

**Help us keep the guide up-to-date! Please [click here](#) to give us comments, corrections, or additions.**