The Cougar Compost Initiative offers residents of the Warren residence halls (1, 10, 20) the opportunity to practice a zero food-waste lifestyle, providing participants the services of CompostNow for free! CompostNow will provide a 4 gallon bin to each participating room, which they will pickup weekly and replace with a clean one. Up to 45 rooms may participate.

To register visit:

https://sustain.cofc.edu
and find the Cougar Compost Initiative under "Programs"

Thanks for doing your part to help our campus achieve zero waste and climate neutrality!
This is a student led program created through the Cougar Changemaker Challenge grant.

What we offer for the 2021-2022 academic year is a pilot program in which this concept is tested at small scale and vetted by the school. If this year is successful, we may be able to make this program available to more residence halls and a lasting part of campus life.

You can help us in this mission by being an active participant and looking out for surveys. You can start with our interest survey, regardless of whether you're participating or live at the Warren residence halls: https://forms.gle/dgSWP293LkmB1zBu5

To give thanks for your help, we'll be giving prizes to those who stick with program, and a chance to win big for those answering our surveys!
**Tuesday** evening, students will be reminded to drop-off their bins to one of the containers located in the alley of the 10 Warren parking lot. CompostNow will receive the bins early Wednesday morning.

Make sure the lid is closed tight! Place your bin upright in one of the designated containers. Stack no more than two bins high.

After delivering your bin, scan the QR code labeled "Confirm drop-off" to confirm your drop-off.
Your new, clean bin will be available **Wednesday**, at noon at the latest. Participants will be alerted when clean bins are available. If you did not drop-off a bin, there will not be one available for you.

New compost bins are available for pickup! You will collect it from the same designated containers.

If at any point the containers are messy with trash, smells or bugs, please scan the QR labeled "Report Bin Messes"
The location for the pick-up and drop-off site is the alleyway in the parking lot of 10 Warren Place.

There you will find the **4 grey, labeled containers** where you may pick-up or drop off your bins.

The QR codes will be posted on the bins themselves.
We are glad for every participant who takes part in this program. We aim to serve all with the desire to live sustainably! However, to offer this service we must keep students accountable for their participation in order to keep our residence halls clean and pest free.

Participants who miss a drop off will be asked to keep their bin closed until the next pickup.

A missed drop off (tracked through the QR confirmation) will be recorded as a strike. Three strikes and a student is removed from the program.
If fruit flies become a problem a participant can try some of the following solutions:

- Keep the lid closed while bin is not in use
- Store food waste in the freezer before composting
- Try a homemade fruit fly trap
- Visit the compost program website to pause your participation

If a participant is failing to keep their bin clean, publicly posted QR's will be available for roommates or RA's to report this, resulting in a strike.
CompostNow accommodates the "Eco" dining ware used at the campus dining centers!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YES. Compostable</th>
<th>NOPE. Not compostable with CompostNow</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Put it in the bucket</td>
<td>Put it in the recycling or trash</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fruit and vegetable scraps  
Meat, bones, fish products  
Pasta, bread, cereal  
Cooked foods  
Dairy products, egg shells  
Coffee grounds, filters, & tea bags  
Paper towels and paper towel rolls  
Soiled paper food packaging  
Pizza boxes  
Muffin wrappers  
Flour and sugar bags  
Paper plates  
Candies, cookies and cake  
Baking ingredients, herbs, spices  
Household plants including soil  
100% cotton cheesecloth  
Pet food  
Items labeled BPI Certified Compostable  
Items labeled ASTM D6400 or D6868

PLASTIC (unless labeled compostable)  
Styrofoam meat trays  
Aluminum foil  
Clams, oysters, mussels (basically rocks)  
Candles, synthetic corks and gum  
Artificial flowers and plants  
Rugs, carpets  
Cigarette butts, tobacco  
Dental floss and Q-tips  
Baby wipes  
Disposable mop sheets  
Dryer lint sheets  
Vacuum cleaner bags  
Hair, pet fur, pet waste  
Dead animals  
Fireplace or BBQ ashes  
Recyclable materials  
Items labeled biodegradable (meaningless)  
Items labeled Oxo-Biodegradable

Still not sure?  
Got Questions?  
Contact us at thedirt@compostnow.org
YOUR IMPACT

CompostNow will track the total weight of what we compost and provide figures monthly. We'll know exactly our impact!

Meanwhile, the compost you produce will be donated to community gardens across the county, including on our campus through Sustainable Agriculture!

If 45 rooms composted just 5 pounds of their waste every week, we could divert 6,750 pounds of food waste from landfills and 560 pounds of methane from the atmosphere, putting that nutrients instead in local gardens!

The College of Charleston has pledged to achieve zero-waste by 2035, however, this goal is only as meaningful as the students who support it. With your help we may be able to continue and expand this program. Also, opportunities abound for you to make your own impact! To learn more about the Center for Sustainable Development, and our Sustainability Action Plan, visit sustain.cofc.edu. Thank you!