Browns

- Fall leaves
- Hay & straw, cornstalks
- Shredded cardboard & newspaper (newspaper inks are soy-based which are OK)
- Paper plates, bags, towels (shredded or torn into pieces will decompose faster)
- Chipped brush, sticks, twigs, branches, bark
- Sawdust (un-treated)
- Pine needles (but not more than 10% of the pile)

Greens

- Vegetable & fruit wastes
- Eggshells
- Coffee grounds, filters, & teabags
- Weeds without weed seeds & other yard waste (preferably without chemicals)
- Grass clippings (preferably without chemicals)

What not to add. As a general rule, avoid composting the following to keep your pile free of toxins, odors, pests, and weeds:

- Meat/pork, chicken, fish, bones
- Fat, grease, oils
- Peanut butter
- Dairy products
- Foods cooked with sauces or butter
- Dog, cat, or human waste
- Plants with diseases
- Weeds with seeds
- Weed vines