

# FoodCycler<sup>®</sup> by Casella

— RESIDENT GUIDE —



ESTABLISHED 1975



## Casella Welcomes You!

Dear Customer,

Thank you for your commitment to recycling your food waste at home! FoodCycler® by Casella is a great choice for you and the planet. You will reduce your waste, return nutrients to your lawn or garden, and maybe even reduce your trash pickups. The planet will enjoy lower emissions, cleaner air, and healthier soil. And when you eliminate food from your trash, old nuisances like heavy trash bags, odors, and pests will become a distant memory.

Together with Food Cycle Science, Casella is pleased to provide this comprehensive guide to support your household. Within these pages, you will find helpful resources, including:

- An informative FAQ section,
- A detailed list of items you can process with your FoodCycler,
- Creative suggestions for using the Foodilizer® produced by your FoodCycler, and
- Customer support contact information.

We are thrilled to welcome you to this innovative program! Together we are reimaging our community's approach to food waste and **Giving Resources New Life®**.

Sincerely,

Casella





# Frequently Asked Questions



## WHERE CAN I SET UP MY FOODCYCLER?

Nearly any covered area with access to an outlet. The FoodCycler must be in a closed, dry environment where there is no risk of it being rained on or otherwise subjected to the elements. Possible locations include heated garages, basements, or your kitchen.

## WHAT SHOULD I CYCLE?

The best cycle is one with a lot of variety. Please see the following page for a general list of what you can and cannot process in the FoodCycler Eco 5.

## WHAT COMES OUT OF THE FOODCYCLER? AND WHAT CAN I DO WITH IT?

After you run your FoodCycler and open the lid, you'll see your food waste has shrunk by about 90% and now resembles dry coffee grounds. We call this material Foodilizer®. It is not compost, but it can be used as an ingredient for producing great compost.

### You have options for what to do with your Foodilizer:

- Add it to your existing backyard composter if you have one, or bring it to a neighbor who composts. Follow your normal backyard composting routine, treating Foodilizer like food scraps.
- Apply it to your lawn by lightly broadcasting across the grass.
- If applying to a garden bed, Food Cycle Science recommends an application rate of one part Foodilizer for every 10-20 parts soil. In general, apply more Foodilizer if you have a mostly vegetarian diet, and less if you have a more omnivorous diet. Till your Foodilizer into the soil four weeks before planting seeds or transplants.
- No garden or lawn? No problem! Bring your Foodilizer to a local drop-off or community garden that accepts food waste. And don't worry! Time is on your side – since the material is shelf stable, you can hold onto it for several weeks or more as long as you keep it dry.

## HOW LONG DOES THE CYCLE LAST?

In the FoodCycler Eco 5®, a typical cycle takes between 4-9 hours for the food waste to become completely dehydrated and processed. The time needed depends on the amount of food waste being processed, the density of the food wastes and the moisture levels contained in each. The unit's cooling time lasts less than a half hour on average.

## HOW MUCH ENERGY DOES THE UNIT CONSUME?

Each cycle consumes approximately 1.5 kWh per cycle, which is roughly equivalent to having a desktop computer running for the same amount of time as the cycle. Depending on where you live, using the FoodCycler regularly should not cost you more than \$2-\$4 per month. The FoodCycler has built-in sensor technology that monitors the dryness and humidity of the food waste. Once complete, the unit will stop the cycle automatically.

## HOW LONG WILL MY FILTERS LAST?

The carbon filters last between 3-6 months with regular use, or 500 cycle hours. Customers receive a full year supply of filter media with their FoodCycler. After the first year, customers will receive filter media refills by mail. To request an earlier refill, reach out via our app or email. The life expectancy of the carbon filters is determined by the moisture content of the food waste, and the natural odors of the food waste. Denser, wetter and smellier food wastes will go through filters faster than simple veggie scraps and eggshells. The filter light sensor is a guide only - the best indication of whether your filters require replacement is odor. Please see your device manual for instructions to reset the filter light.



Additional Q&A can be found at [casella.com/foodcycler](https://casella.com/foodcycler) >



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# FOODCYCLER®

## Guidance for Using Your FoodCycler ECO 5

### ✓ ACCEPTED



**Fruit &  
Vegetable Scraps**



**Meat, Fish,  
& Poultry**



**Poultry &  
Fish Bones**



**Natural, Non-Synthetic  
Coffee Filters & Tea Bags**  
(including coffee grinds & tea leaves)



**Beans, Seeds,  
& Legumes**



**Eggshells  
& Eggs**

### ✓ ACCEPTED IN SMALL AMOUNTS



**Sauces, Gravies,  
& Dressings**



**Dairy  
Products**



**Jellies, Jams,  
& Puddings**



**Starches**  
(including bread,  
rice, cake, etc.)



**Pork &  
Lamb Bones**



**Hard Pits**  
(including peach,  
apricot, lychee,  
& mango)

### ✂ CUT UP PRIOR

**Paper Towel/Tissue, Corn Cobs & Husks, Whole Vegetables,  
Pineapple Leaves, & Fibrous Plants** (including Celery, Asparagus, etc.)

### ⊘ NOT ACCEPTED

Liquids such as Soup & Beverages, Cardboard, Oils & Fats, Candy & Gum, Most "Compostable" Plastics, & Beef Bones



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## How to Use Your FoodCycler® Foodilizer®

**Foodilizer is the output of your FoodCycler, produced by grinding and drying your food waste. It is not compost, but it can be used as an ingredient for producing great compost.**

### ADD IT TO YOUR COMPOSTER

Mix your Foodilizer into your existing backyard composter - or give it to a friend who composts! Adding Foodilizer will accelerate the composting process and add nutrients. Users have found that Foodilizer works best in non-tumbling composters.

In your compost recipe, think of Foodilizer as a “green” (or nitrogen) material and mix it with “brown” (or carbon) materials at the same ratio you normally would with regular food scraps. Your carbon materials can be dry leaves or paper products. Your finished compost will be dark, earthy, and ready to use in your yard and garden.

### APPLY IT TO YOUR LAWN

Some users may choose to apply their Foodilizer directly to their lawn or garden. For best results, apply thinly over a dispersed area. Do not allow the material to pile up as this may create odors or attract pests. The key is to maintain aerobic conditions for your Foodilizer to finish breaking down and returning to the soil.

### GIVE IT AWAY

Give your Foodilizer to family and friends who compost. They will quickly realize how it kickstarts their compost process. Don't be surprised if they offer to swap some fresh tomatoes or cucumbers in exchange!

### DROP IT OFF

Visit [casella.com/foodcycler](https://casella.com/foodcycler) for a list of local drop off sites that will gladly receive your Foodilizer. Our goal is to get your carbon- and nutrient-rich Foodilizer back to the land in the form of soil-building compost!



## Foodilizer FAQs



### WHAT SHOULD IT LOOK LIKE?

Your Foodilizer will vary in color and texture depending on the composition of the materials you added to the cycle. In general, it should resemble coffee grounds. If you find a batch comes out clumpy, simply run a second cycle.

### STORING MY FOODILIZER

You can store your Foodilizer in a sealed container or bucket prior to use. The material will remain stable as long as it is kept dry.

### WHAT HAPPENS IF IT GETS WET?

Please note that Foodilizer will produce odors if exposed to liquid and left in anaerobic conditions (such as your garbage bin or an untended compost pile). Incorporate Foodilizer into a compost pile or apply it to your lawn to ensure your by-product remains odorless and has the greatest environmental benefit!



## Contact Information

### LEARN MORE

To learn more about the Casella FoodCycler® Program, please use the following resources:

- **Website:** [casella.com/foodcycler](https://casella.com/foodcycler)
- **Casella customer care:** 888-353-1109
- **Mobile app:** Download today by scanning a QR code with your smartphone camera



SCAN FOR THE APP STORE



SCAN FOR THE GOOGLE PLAY STORE

### TECHNICAL SUPPORT

For technical support, please reach out to the FoodCycler Support Team:

- **Email:** [casella@foodcycler.com](mailto:casella@foodcycler.com)
- **Please title your support ticket:** Casella FoodCycler Program

### WARRANTY NOTES

Please keep your receipt. Food Cycle Science may require a proof of purchase to validate your warranty period. Do not disassemble the FoodCycler. Disassembling the FoodCycler will void the standard manufacturer's warranty.

## Connect With Casella and FoodCycler

Learn more about Casella and how we are  
*Giving Resources New Life®.*



Learn more about the FoodCycler community  
and submit content of your FoodCycler in action.



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