

## Market of Choice Vegetable Pickup Program

The Compost Specialists (CS) have an arrangement with the Market of Choice (MoC) at 29<sup>th</sup> and Willamette in Eugene to pick up vegetable waste on a periodic basis for use in making compost, either for public demonstrations or for private use by Compost Specialists. The agreement stipulates that the vegetable waste will be used by CSs for compost only. Legal issues prevent MoC from giving it away for human consumption.

Compost Specialists can sign up for Monday, Wednesday or Friday pickup on a centrally maintained calendar. The electronic monthly calendars are usually emailed out three months at a time. Initially, because of the high demand, CSs are asked to sign up for one pick up date per month. After a few weeks, when all CSs have had an opportunity, the calendars are sent out again. When full, the calendars are available for viewing at [//extension.oregonstate.edu/lane/gardens](http://extension.oregonstate.edu/lane/gardens) in the page “for Master Gardeners only”.

The pickup location is a locked, wooden bin behind MoC. Store employees put the vegetables in compostable, plastic bags that are quite large which means that each bag can be very heavy. The key to the bin is kept at the Extension office. The office is closed on Friday so the person picking up on Friday must get the key on Thursday. The key should be returned to Extension as soon as possible after picking up, so the next CS can have access. This is especially important for Friday pickup – return the key on Monday morning. The best time to pick up is after 2 pm because there isn't as much delivery activity occurring at that time.