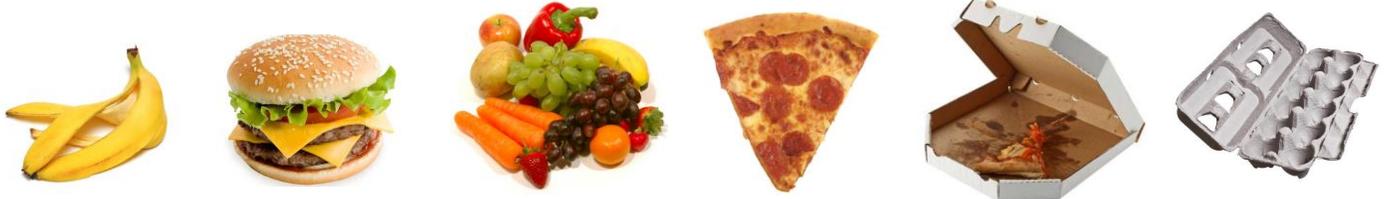


FOOD & PAPER WASTE COMPOSTING

FREE*! At Conway Transfer Station



Yes - DO Compost:

ALL food wastes:

- Meat, poultry, fish, bones, shells
- Cheese, dairy (no liquids)
- Eggs, eggshells
- Fruits, vegetables
- Bread, rice, pasta, cereal
- Tea bags, coffee grounds & paper filters

Paper:

- Paper napkins, paper towels
- Paper plates, paper cups (*no plastic lids, plastic straws!*)
- Waxed cardboard, waxed paper
- Soiled pizza boxes, cardboard
- Paper egg cartons, fruit packaging
- Paper take-out containers
- Paper bags (*recycle paper if clean*)

Wood:

- Wooden chopsticks, skewers, stirrers
- Small wooden fruit crates

Compostable plastic products:

- Compostable cups (i.e. Greenware)
- Compostable bags (i.e. BioBag)
- Must be BPI-certified brands:

www.bpiworld.org



No - DO NOT Compost:

- **NO plastic bags, wrappers, cling wrap**
- **NO liquids**
- **NO styrofoam (trash)**
- **NO plastic cups, plates, utensils, straws (place in trash)**
- **NO plastic, aluminum foil, metal, glass (*recycle* in container recycling)**
- **NO chemicals, hazardous residues**
- **NO beverage cartons, aseptic cartons (*recycle* with containers)**
- **NO ice cream cartons, frozen food boxes, or soda cases (place in trash)**
- **NO kitty litter**



DO NOT DEPOSIT MATERIALS IN PLASTIC BAGS!



Food waste and other biodegradable materials are sent to a permitted compost farm for composting. Commercial composting accepts a wider range of materials than a home compost bin does.

**Program available to permit holders only.*

Franklin County Solid Waste District:
413-772-2438; info@franklincountywastedistrict.org

*MA Relay for the hearing impaired:
711 or 1-800-439-2370 (TTY/TDD)*

The District is an equal opportunity provider.

11/2019

Franklin County Solid Waste Management District

117 Main St., 2nd Floor, Greenfield, MA 01301

(413) 772-2438

www.franklincountywastedistrict.org, info@franklincountywastedistrict.org

New! FREE Food and Paper Waste Composting at the Conway Transfer Station

The Franklin County Solid Waste District and the Conway Board of Health announce the December 7, 2019 launch of a food and paper waste compost program at Conway Transfer Station. The program is accessible to Conway residents with a current transfer station permit.

Similar programs are successful at nine other transfer stations in the county: Bernardston, Deerfield, Greenfield, Leverett, New Salem, Northfield, Orange, Wendell, and Whately. These programs are also well established in 25 schools in the county, including Frontier Regional School. Conway Grammar School will also be starting a school wide compost program in early December 2019! Franklin County is a statewide leader in school and transfer station compost programs.

Triple T Trucking will place a special compost dumpster at the Conway Transfer Station. The container will be emptied weekly and the contents brought to Martin's Farm in Greenfield for composting. **This commercial compost facility is different from your average backyard compost system in that it can compost meat, bones, cheese, paper products, and other materials that are not appropriate for your home compost bin or pile.** Martin's Farm sells finished compost to gardeners as a nutrient-rich soil additive. (Want to also compost at home? The Solid Waste District sells home compost bins "at cost.")

The new compost program will accept many materials that are currently destined for the trash. All food wastes are acceptable including meat, bones, poultry, fish, cheese, dairy (no liquids), eggs, eggshells, shellfish, fruits, vegetables, bread, grains, tea bags, coffee grounds and paper filters. Also acceptable are non-recyclable paper wastes such as napkins and paper towels, paper egg cartons, paper to-go containers, and greasy pizza boxes. (*Clean* pizza boxes should be recycled in paper recycling.)

It is very important to keep the following items OUT of the compost dumpster: liquids; pet wastes, kitty litter; plastic bags, wrappers or cling wrap; polystyrene foam or other conventional plastic; metal; glass; or anything else that is not biodegradable. Yard waste and leaves are not accepted in this container.

To collect compostable items at home, residents can use a compost pail, 5-gallon bucket or any other closed container that works for them. 2-gallon "Sure-Close" compost collection pails are sold at the Solid Waste District office in Greenfield for \$5 each (NEW office location: 117 Main St., 2nd floor, Greenfield, MA.) To make clean up easier, residents can line pails with newspaper, a paper bag, or a BioBag (see reverse: all compostable bags must be BPI-approved: www.bpiworld.org). **If compostable wastes are transported in a traditional plastic bag, the bag must be emptied into the compost container and then the plastic bag must go in the trash. Never put plastic bags in the compost container.**

Why compost? Composting makes a valuable soil amendment from waste, saves money, and reduces trash! By removing food waste from bagged trash, hauling costs and tipping fees can be reduced for the town. Trash tipping fees are high because disposal space in Massachusetts is extremely limited. Composting food and paper waste helps slow climate change. When food waste and paper degrade in a landfill, methane is released. Methane is a greenhouse gas 23 times more potent than the same amount of carbon dioxide. In contrast, since oxygen is part of the composting process, negligible amounts of methane are released from compost facilities.

Questions? Contact the Franklin County Solid Waste District at: info@franklincountywastedistrict.org or 413-772-2438. *MA Relay for the hearing impaired: 711 or 1-800-439-2370 (TTY/TDD.) The District is an equal opportunity provider.*