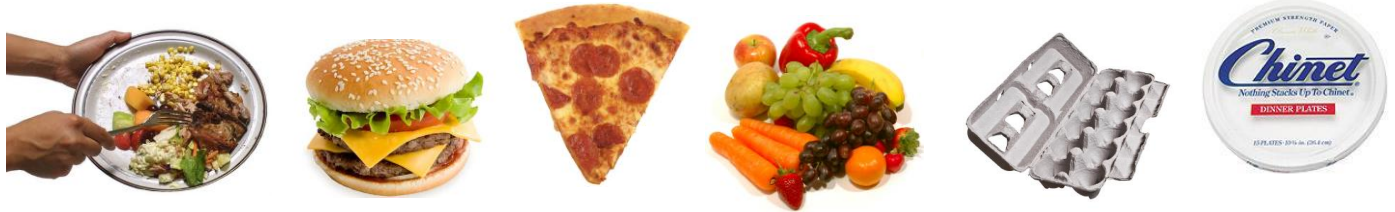


FOOD & PAPER WASTE COMPOSTING

FREE*! At Bernardston 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 (Chinet preferred), paper cups (*no plastic lids /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 plastics:

- Compostable cups (i.e. Greenware)
- Compostable bags (i.e. BioBag, ReNew)
- Compostable plastics must be BPI certified: www.bpiworld.org

*Program available to permit holders only

No - DO NOT Compost:

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



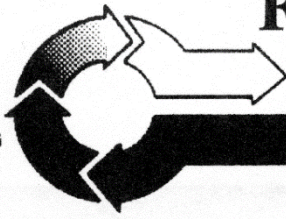
DO NOT DEPOSIT **MATERIALS IN PLASTIC BAGS!**



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

Compostable plastics must be BPI certified (no exceptions): www.bpiworld.org

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.



Franklin County Solid Waste Management District

50 Miles Street, Greenfield, MA 01301 • (413) 772-2438 • Fax: (413) 772-3786
www.franklincountywastedistrict.org • info@franklincountywastedistrict.org

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

The Franklin County Solid Waste District and the Town of Bernardston announce the Spring 2018 launch of a new food and paper waste compost program at Bernardston Transfer Station. Residents can save money by placing compostable items into the free compost dumpster instead of into their Pay-As-You-Throw town trash bags. The program is free to Bernardston and Leyden residents with a transfer station permit. This program will only be successful if residents pay close attention to what materials are and are not acceptable for composting. Similar programs have been successful for several years at seven other transfer stations in the county (Greenfield, Leverett, New Salem, Northfield, Orange, Wendell, and Whately), and in many local schools, including Bernardston Elementary School, Northfield Elementary School, Pioneer, and twenty more. Franklin County is a statewide leader in school and transfer station compost programs.

Triple T Trucking, a commercial compost hauler, has placed a special compost dumpster at the Bernardston Transfer Station. The container will be emptied weekly and the contents brought to Martin's Farm in Greenfield for composting. **This professional, large scale compost facility is different from your average backyard compost system in that it can process 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 homeowners and gardeners as a nutrient-rich soil additive.

The program accepts 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 plates (Chinet or compostable preferred), and food-soiled cardboard such as pizza boxes. (*Clean* pizza boxes may be recycled with paper recycling.)

It is very important to keep the following items OUT of the compost dumpster: plastic bags, wrappers or cling wrap; liquids; pet wastes, kitty litter; Styrofoam; plastic; metal; glass; or anything else that is not biodegradable. **If compostable wastes are transported in a plastic bag, the bag must be emptied into the compost barrel and then the plastic bag must go in the trash.** Yard waste and leaves are not accepted in these transfer station programs; the Solid Waste District sells home compost bins for \$45.

To collect compostable items at home, residents can reuse a 5-gallon pail or any another bucket with a lid. To make clean up easier, residents can line the pail with newspaper, a paper bag, or a BioBag (see reverse: all compostable bags must be BPI-approved: www.bpiworld.org). 2-gallon "Sure-Close" compost collection pails are sold at the Solid Waste District office in Greenfield for \$5 each. (Cash or check only.)

Why compost? Composting makes a valuable soil amendment from waste, saves money, and reduces trash! Composting food and paper waste instead of sending it to a landfill 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. By removing food waste and other biodegradable items from bagged trash, hauling costs and tipping fees may be reduced for the town. Trash tipping fees are high because landfill space in Massachusetts is extremely limited.

If you have any questions, please 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.*