



TOWN OF BOONSBORO

21 NORTH MAIN STREET ♦ BOONSBORO, MARYLAND 21713

WWW.TOWN.BOONSBORO.MD.US ♦ 301-432-5141

Composting Application & Information Form

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Boonsboro, MD 21713 (must be Boonsboro resident-please have valid ID present upon returning application)

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Number of people in your household (to estimate waste volume): _____

Signature

Date

Some of the organic materials to be composted at home:

- Food scraps – fruit, vegetable, coffee grounds, tea bags, egg shells, etc.
- Waste paper – used paper towels, napkins, tissue, or other soiled paper
- Tree leaves
- Other yard waste – pulled weeds, hedge trimmings, branches, etc.

Non-compostable materials include:

Meat, Bones, Poultry, Fish, Fatty/Oily Food Waste, Whole Eggs, Dairy Products, Human & Pet Feces, Pernicious Weeds, Pressure Treated Wood, Etc.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Date Received: _____
Fee \$ 20.00 _____
Date Paid: _____
Staff Initials _____

Composting Benefits

Soil conditioner: With compost, you are creating rich humus for lawn and garden. This adds nutrients to your plants and helps retain moisture in the soil.

Recycles kitchen and yard waste: Composting can divert as much as 30% of household waste away from the garbage can.

Introduces beneficial organisms to the soil: Microscopic organisms in compost help aerate the soil, break down organic material for plant use and ward off plant disease.

Good for the environment: Composting offers a natural alternative to chemical fertilizers.

Reduces landfill waste: Most landfills in North America are quickly filling up; many have already closed down. One-third of landfill waste is made up of compostable materials.

What to Compost

| Material | Carbon/Nitrogen | Info |
|--------------------------|-----------------|---|
| table scraps | Nitrogen | add with dry carbon items |
| fruit & vegetable scraps | Nitrogen | add with dry carbon items |
| eggshells | neutral | best when crushed |
| leaves | Carbon | leaves break down faster when shredded |
| grass clippings | Nitrogen | add in thin layers so they don't mat into clumps |
| garden plants | -- | use disease-free plants only |
| lawn & garden weeds | Nitrogen | only use weeds which have not gone to seed |
| shrub prunings | Carbon | woody prunings are slow to break down |
| straw or hay | Carbon | straw is best; hay (with seeds) is less ideal |
| green comfrey leaves | Nitrogen | excellent compost 'activator' |
| pine needles | Carbon | acidic; use in moderate amounts |
| flowers, cuttings | Nitrogen | chop up any long woody stems |
| wood ash | Carbon | only use ash from clean materials; sprinkle lightly |
| chicken manure | Nitrogen | excellent compost 'activator' |
| coffee grounds | Nitrogen | filters may also be included |
| tea leaves | Nitrogen | loose or in bags |
| newspaper | Carbon | avoid using glossy paper and colored inks |
| shredded paper | Carbon | avoid using glossy paper and colored inks |
| cardboard | Carbon | shred material to avoid matting |
| corn cobs, stalks | Carbon | slow to decompose; best if chopped up |
| dryer lint | Carbon | best if from natural fibers |
| sawdust pellets | Carbon | high carbon levels; add in layers to avoid clumping |
| wood chips / pellets | Carbon | high carbon levels; use sparingly |