FOOD & PAPER WASTE COMPOST PROGRAM

FREE!* at Conway Transfer Station



YES - DO Compost:

Solid food wastes:

- Meat, poultry, fish, bones, shells
- Cheese, dairy (no liquids)
- Eggs, eggshells
- Fruits, vegetables, peels
- Bread, rice, pasta, cereal
- Coffee grounds, filters, tea bags

Paper:

- Paper napkins, paper towels
- Paper plates, paper cups, takeout containers (*BPI certified** *preferred*)
- Waxed cardboard, waxed paper
- Cardboard/pizza boxes with stuck on food (rip up to save space)
- Paper egg cartons, molded fiber packaging (rip up to save space)
- Paper bags (*recycle* paper if clean)

Wood:

- <u>Wooden</u> chopsticks, skewers, stirrers
- Small wooden fruit crates

Compostable plastic products:

- Compostable cups (i.e. Greenware)
- Compostable bags (i.e. BioBag)

NO - DO NOT Compost:

• NO liquids

• **NO** plastic bags, wrappers, cling wrap



- NO Styrofoam[™]
 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, ice cream cartons, Chinese food take-out boxes, butter wrappers (put these in trash)
- NO kitty litter, pet waste, diapers
- NO disposable cleaning wipes

<u>DO NOT DEPOSIT</u> MATERIALS IN PLASTIC BAGS!



Food waste and other biodegradable materials are hauled weekly to a permitted commercial composting facility. Plastic harms this process.

*Transfer station permit required.

(To buy a home compost bin, contact FCSWD below. It is not recommended to put meat, poultry, dairy, or oily foods in home compost bins.)

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) 2022

Franklin County



BPL

On May 11, 2022 the food and paper waste compost program will resume at the Conway Transfer Station on Old Cricket Hill Rd. There is no cost to participate in this program. *A residential transfer station permit is required. This program operated successfully from Fall 2019 - Summer 2021, but was paused due to a reorganization of the hauling company.

Why compost? Composting makes a valuable soil amendment from waste, saves money, slows climate change, and reduces trash.

The Compost Cooperative will place special receptacles at the transfer station. The containers will be emptied weekly, and the contents brought to Martin's Farm in Greenfield for composting. This commercial composting 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 home compost bins or piles.

The compost program accepts many materials that are currently destined for the trash. All solid food wastes are acceptable including meat, bones, poultry, fish, cheese, dairy (no liquids), eggs, eggshells, shellfish, fruits, peels, vegetables, bread, grains, tea bags, coffee grounds and paper filters. Paper is also accepted: napkins and paper towels, paper egg cartons, paper to-go containers, and pizza boxes with stuck-on food. (Pizza boxes that are empty and free of food should always go in paper recycling.)

It is very important to keep the following items OUT of the compost container: liquids; pet wastes, kitty litter, diapers; plastic bags, wrappers or cling wrap; polystyrene foam; conventional plastic, metal, foil, glass; or non-biodegradable items. Yard waste, leaves and brush are not accepted in this program.

To collect compostable items at home, residents can use a compost pail, 5-gallon bucket or any other closed container. Check with the transfer station attendants about the availability of compost pails at the transfer station. To make clean up easier, line pails with newspaper, a paper bag, or a compostable BioBag. All "compostable plastic" bags must be BPI-certified; for more information, see bpiworld.org.

If compostable wastes are transported to the transfer station 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!

As always, residents are also encouraged to compost at home. The Solid Waste District sells home compost bins to Conway residents for a subsidized price of \$25, by appointment. Please call 772-2438. For more information, visit: https://franklincountywastedistrict.org/Composting

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