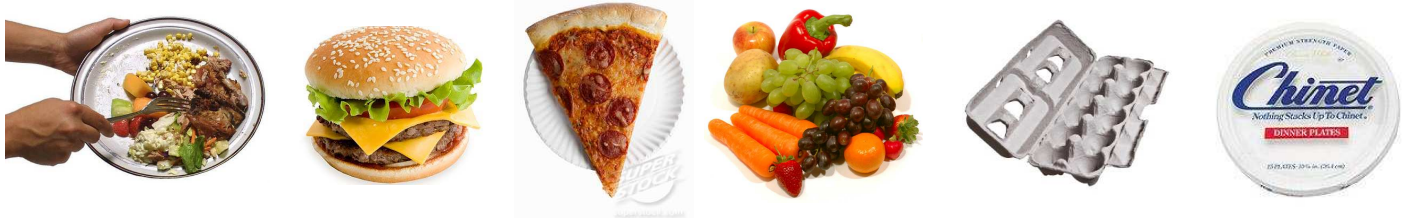


Wendell Transfer Station's **FOOD and PAPER WASTE COMPOST PROGRAM**



YES - DO Compost:

All food wastes:

- **ALL** table scraps/leftovers
- Meat, fish, eggs, eggshells
- Bones (small amounts)
- Cheese, dairy (no liquids)
- Fruits, vegetables
- Bread, rice, pasta, cereal
- Tea bags, coffee grounds & paper filters

Also, *non recyclable paper and cardboard:**

- Paper towels, napkins
- Paper plates (no plastic)
- Paper egg cartons/ paper packaging/ 4 cup carry trays
- *Soiled* pizza boxes and cardboard** (rip into quarters)



***Recyclable** paper and cardboard should always go in the paper *recycling* bin.
****Clean** pizza boxes go in paper *recycling*.

NO - DO NOT Compost:

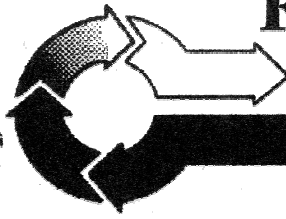
- Plastic bags, wrappers, plastic films, other plastic
- Liquids
- Styrofoam
- Plastic tableware: plastic cups, plates, utensils, straws
- Paper towels contaminated w/chemicals, cleaners, oil, paint
- Pet wastes, bedding, cat litter
- Tissues, medical waste
- Aluminum foil, metal, glass



Biodegradable wastes are collected from Wendell Transfer Station permit holders, free of charge, in designated barrels at WRATS. Clear View Composting of Orange picks up this biodegradable waste for composting. Finished compost is sold to farmers and gardeners as a nutrient-rich soil additive: (978) 544-5872.

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

REDUCTION
RECYCLING
COMPOSTING
DISPOSAL



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

Food and Paper Waste Composting at the Wendell Recycling and Transfer Station

The Franklin County Solid Waste District, Clear View Composting, and the Wendell Recycling and Transfer Station (WRATS) announce the April 30, 2016 launch of a new food and paper waste compost program at WRATS. Wendell residents can save money by placing compostable items into the free compost barrels instead of into their Pay-As-You-Throw town trash bags. The program is free to residents with a transfer station permit, but will only be successful if residents pay close attention to what materials are and are not acceptable for composting. Similar programs are successful at six other transfer stations in the county: Greenfield, Leverett, New Salem, Northfield, Orange and Whately, and in many local schools, including Swift River Elementary School, Gill-Montague School District, Erving Elementary School, and a dozen more. Franklin County is a statewide leader in school and transfer station compost programs.

Clear View Composting, a commercial composting facility located in the Randall Pond Industrial Park in Orange, has placed special collection containers at the Wendell transfer station. **This compost facility is different from your average backyard compost system in that it can process meat, cheese, paper products, and other materials that are not appropriate for your home compost bin or pile.** Clear View Composting 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, poultry, fish, cheese, eggs, eggshells, small amounts of bones, 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, and soiled paper and cardboard such as pizza boxes. (Clean pizza boxes may be recycled with paper recycling.) Before depositing in the compost bins, soiled pizza boxes must be ripped into quarters.

It is very important to keep the following items OUT of the compost collection barrels: plastic bags, wrappers or cling wrap; liquids; pet wastes, bedding, or kitty litter; Styrofoam; plastic; metal; glass; or anything else that is not biodegradable. **If compostable wastes are transported to WRATS in a plastic bag, the bag must be emptied into the compost barrel and then the plastic bag must go in the trash.**

To collect compostable items at home, residents can reuse an empty kitty litter pail or another bucket with a lid. To make clean up easier, residents can line the pail with newspaper or a paper bag. 2-gallon "Sure-Close" compost collection pails are sold at WRATS for \$8 each, and at the Solid Waste District office in Greenfield for \$5 each.

Why compost? 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. 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 very limited.

If you have any questions, please ask at the transfer station or 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.*