

Additional Support

For further support or additional information regarding the organics recycling rule, please contact Francine Joyal with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection at (850) 245-8747 or Francine.Joyal@dep.state.fl.us



Composting Resources

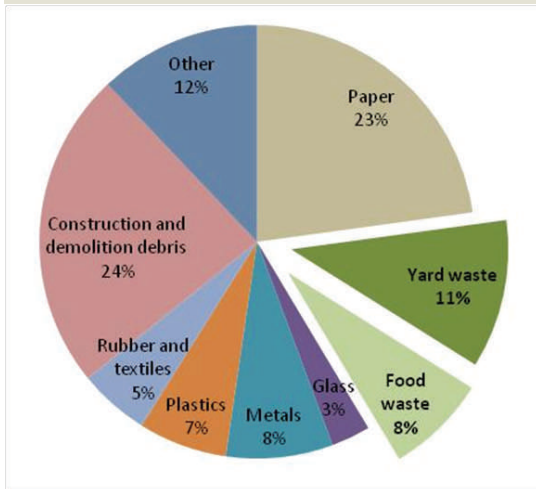
- **U.S. Composting Council (USCC)**
The USCC is a national non-profit trade and professional organization promoting the recycling of organic material through composting.
www.compostingcouncil.org
- **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**
The EPA Organic Materials website provides information on yard trimmings, food waste, and wood waste composting and recycling.
<http://www.epa.gov/wastes/conserve/materials/organics/index.htm>
- **Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA)**
SWANA provides composting certifications, publications and technical training courses.
www.swana.org
- **Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)**
The FDEP Organics/Composting Recycling website provides information on organics recycling, yard trash facilities, rulemaking, and regulations.
www.dep.state.fl.us/waste/categories/solid_waste/pages/composting.htm

About FORCE

The Florida Organics Recycling Center for Excellence (FORCE), established in 2001, is a legislatively funded project that promotes organics recycling and research in Florida through compost demonstrations, marketing, and education.

FORCE is a cooperative effort involving various public and private sector organics and agricultural representatives. FORCE is hosted by Sumter County, FL.

Yard and food waste together constitute 19 percent of the Florida municipal solid waste (MSW) stream disposed in 2008. That's a lot of waste to send to the landfill when it could become useful and environmentally beneficial compost or mulch instead!



Total MSW Disposed in Florida based on FDEP's 2008 Solid Waste Management Annual Report

For more information on FORCE or organics recycling in Florida, please call/visit/email:

Phone: 1-800-566-4413

Email: info@floridaforce.org

Website: www.floridaforce.org



SUMMARY of FLORIDA ORGANICS RECYCLING RULE CHANGE 62-709

Organics Recycling Facility Regulations (Chapter 62-709)

The newly revised organics recycling facility regulations (Chapter 62-709) were officially adopted on February 15, 2010. The regulations include significant changes that are summarized in this brochure. **Please note this is a summary and does not describe all changes made in the regulations. To view the complete Chapter 62-709 Rule, please follow this link:** http://www.dep.state.fl.us/waste/quick_topics/rules/default.htm.

Facilities that are Eligible for Registration

Facilities that handle the following materials may operate under an annual registration much like the current yard trash facilities. Solid waste permits are not required, provided that facilities meet the design, operating, and product quality criteria:

- Source-separated vegetative materials (including vegetables, fruits, or breads from commercial and institutional generators)
- Source-separated animal by-products (including meat, fats, dairy, or eggs from commercial and institutional generators but excluding butchers and abattoirs)
- Manure
- Yard trash

Disinfection

Facilities that handle pre-consumer source-separated vegetative materials and/or yard waste are excluded from regulatory disinfection requirements. All other composting operations must meet disinfection requirements. Facilities subject to disinfection requirements must meet one of the following two options:

Option 1:

- Fecal coliform <1,000 Most Probable Number per gram or Salmonella sp. <3 Most Probable Number per four per gram, and
- One of the following process controls:
 - 55° or higher for 3 consecutive days in an aerated static pile or in-vessel composter, or
 - 55° or higher for 15 consecutive days in a windrow with at least 5 windrow turnings.

Option 2:

- Fecal coliform <1,000 Most Probable Number per gram or Salmonella sp. <3 Most Probable Number per four per gram, and
- Enteric virus <1 Plaque Forming Units per four grams, and
- Helminth ova <1/4 grams.



Activities Exempt from Regulation

On-site composting activities that meet the following limits are exempt unless they cause a nuisance or adversely affect public health or the environment:

- Backyard composting
- <100 cubic yards of materials in total on-site at any time
- Normal farming operation as defined below:
 - Composting or anaerobic digestion of on-farm or off-farm yard trash, manure or vegetative waste for on-farm use
 - Composting of on-farm materials for off-farm use (must test and classify)
 - Including off-farm trash, manure or vegetative waste when it optimizes composting of on-farm materials for off-farm use (must test and classify)
 - Facilities that are regulated under 62-670 for manure management as animal feeding operations

Pilot Projects

The revisions provide a less involved permitting process that allows a facility to try a technology/process for a limited volume and time when the operation does not qualify for registration.

The pilot project must meet the following parameters:

- Do not qualify for registration
- Handle no more than 10,00 cubic yards of feedstock during the entire project
- Operate no more than 18 months (with the option to extend an additional 18 months)