





FLORIDA ORGANICS RECYCLING PROGRAM UPDATE

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Permitting and Compliance Assistance Program

Division of Waste Management

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

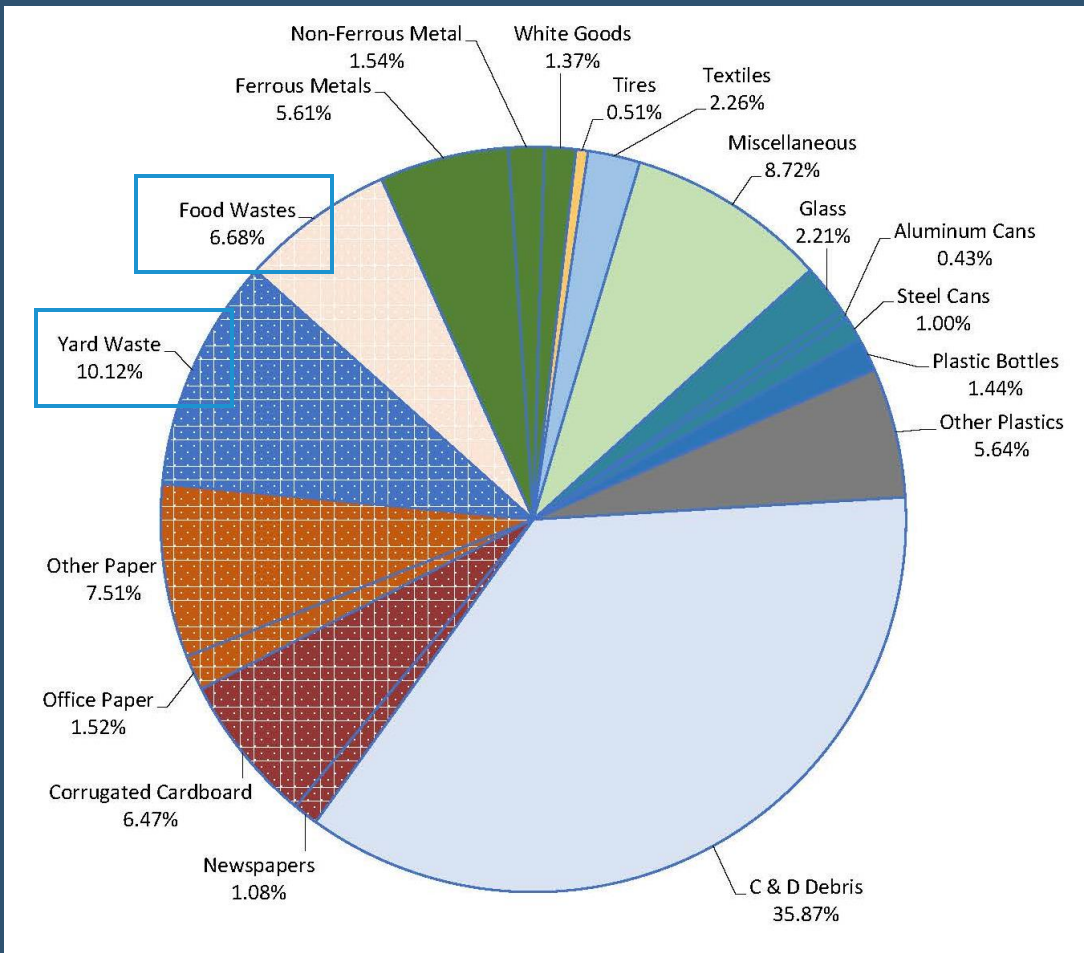
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CURRENT STATE OF ORGANICS IN FLORIDA

2022 FLORIDA MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE (MSW)

MSW COLLECTED - 50.7 MILLION TONS



MSW COLLECTED AND RECYCLED - ORGANICS

ORGANIC MATERIALS	MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE COLLECTED ¹		MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE RECYCLED		
	TONS PER YEAR	% OF TOTAL TONS PER YEAR	TOTAL TONS RECYCLED	% OF TOTAL TONS RECYCLED	MATERIAL RECYCLING RATE ² (PERCENT)
Newspapers	548,096	1.1	68,123	0.3	12%
Corrugated Cardboard	3,284,760	6.5	1,292,183	6.3	39%
Office Paper	772,232	1.5	125,677	0.6	16%
Other Paper	3,812,386	7.5	304,762	1.5	8%
Yard Waste	5,132,790	10.1	3,043,215	14.7	59%
Food Wastes	3,391,072	6.7	211,106	1.0	6%
Process Fuel ³	N/A ⁴	N/A	111,460	0.5	100%

¹Municipal solid waste collected is the total recycled, landfilled and combusted.

²Unadjusted traditional recycling rate.

³Process fuel is composed of yard, wood and paper waste used in process boilers.



CURRENT STATE OF ORGANICS IN FLORIDA

- The focus of Florida organics recycling has been on the production and use of compost processed at Source-Separated Organic Processing Facilities (SOPFs). SOPFs include yard trash, manure, animal byproducts and vegetative wastes.
- In 2023, Florida had approximately 400 SOPFs and permitted organics recycling facilities processing over three million tons of organics that were diverted for beneficial use.
- In 2023, there was an increase in community compost operations processing food waste throughout the state.
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is currently in rulemaking to update Chapter 62-709, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) – Criteria for Organics Processing and Recycling Facilities for updates.



FLORIDA COMPOSTING FACILITIES

REGISTERED/PERMITTED

Registered Source-Separated Organics Processing Facilities Recycling/Composting Organics

- Yard trash mulching/composting. 320
- Manure composting/blending. 7
- Pre- and post-consumer vegetative (food) waste composting. 20
- Animal byproducts (meats, eggs and dairy) composting. 5
- Sargassum seaweed. 1

Permitted Solid Waste Composting Facilities

5

Permitted Biosolids Composting Facilities

15

Permitted Anaerobic Composting Facilities

5



COMPOSTING FACILITIES EXEMPTIONS

Composting on the farm:

- Applies to normal farming operations.
- For use on and off the farm.
- [Exemptions - 62-709.305, F.A.C.](https://www.facs.org/62-709.305)
- [Agricultural Best Management Practices - Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services \(fdacs.gov\).](https://www.facs.org/agricultural-best-management-practices)

Community Composting – 15 known operations:

- Composting < 100 cubic yards of organic solid waste.
- Material generated onsite or offsite.
- Neighborhood, school or university and other institutions.
- [Composting for Community Map – ILSR.org.](https://www.ilsr.org/composting-community-map)

Backyard Composting:

- Composting of grass clippings, leaves and food waste.
- Waste is generated by the homeowner or tenant.





ORGANICS RECYCLING FACILITIES REGISTRATIONS AND PERMITS

SOPF Registration:

- Chapter 62-709, F.A.C.
- Chapter 62-701, F.A.C. – general provisions.
- Limited to one year – must renew annually.

Solid Waste Composting Facility Permit:

- Chapter 62-701, F.A.C.
- Chapter 62-709, F.A.C.
- Permit required – five years.

Solid Waste Organic Recycling Pilot Project Permit:

- Chapter 62-709, F.A.C.
- Permit required – 18 months, with option to extend.



ORGANICS RECYCLING FACILITIES

REGISTRATIONS AND PERMITS - CONTINUED

Biosolids Processing/Composting Facility Permit:

- Chapter 62-640, F.A.C.
- Permit required – five years.
- Biosolids with yard trash is regulated under Chapter 62-640, F.A.C.
- Biosolids with organics other than yard trash is regulated under Chapters 62-640 and 62-709, F.A.C.

Air Program Anaerobic Digestion Permit:

- Chapter 62-210, F.A.C.
- Required for digestion of organic waste in the production of renewable natural gas (RNG).

Stormwater and Multi-Sector Generic (MSGP) Permits:

- Chapters 62-620 and 62-621, F.A.C.
- Each facility is evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
- [NPDES Stormwater Program | DEP](#) and [Stormwater FAQ's](#).



ORGANICS RECYCLING FACILITIES

LOCAL REQUIREMENTS

Solid waste management is delegated to the counties and local municipalities by [Chapter 403.706, Florida Statute](#).

Zoning/Land Use:

- DEP does not evaluate local zoning or land use ordinances when determining whether to issue or deny a permit.
- Must comply with local zoning and land use requirements.

Local Restrictions:

- Local solid waste permits, if applicable.
- Franchise agreements with waste haulers.
- Flow control ordinances.
- Local restrictions on processing certain feedstocks (e.g., manure, food waste, etc.).
- Local restrictions for proximity to public utilities.



ORGANICS RECYCLING FACILITIES

REGULATORY CHALLENGES AT COMPOSTING FACILITIES

- Fires at yard trash processing facilities.
- Odor issues.
- Stormwater violations.
- Truck traffic.
- Dust.
- Volume thresholds/pile limits and mis-management of material.
- Timely processing of unprocessed material and removal of finished material.
- Poor recordkeeping.
- Water body impacts.
- Removal of incidental/unauthorized wastes.
- Land use/zoning violations.



CHAPTER 62-709, F.A.C RULEMAKING

CRITERIA FOR ORGANICS PROCESSING AND RECYCLING FACILITIES

- DEP Rulemaking for Chapter 62-709, F.A.C.
- Last rule update in 2010.
- Summary of proposed changes:
 - New definitions.
 - Restructure of registered and permitted composting facilities.
 - Operations plan requirement for registered facilities.
 - Additional criteria for fire protection controls.
 - Yard trash pile dimensions.
 - Revised metal concentration limits for finished compost.
 - Addition of new organic feedstocks (registration and/or permit):
 - Sargassum seaweed.
 - Liquid food waste.
 - Compostable products.
 - Domesticated pet waste.



CHAPTER 62-709, F.A.C RULEMAKING

DEFINITION UPDATES - PROPOSED

New Definitions:

- Feedstock.
- Community composting.
- Mechanical compaction.
- Sargassum seaweed.
- Domesticated pet waste.
- Compostable products – Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) specifications.
- Food waste (discards):
 - Pre- and post-consumer food waste.
 - Opened to residential collection.
 - Will replace current definitions of animal byproducts, pre-consumer vegetative waste and (post-consumer) vegetative waste.



DISASTER DEBRIS MANAGEMENT ORGANICS UPDATE

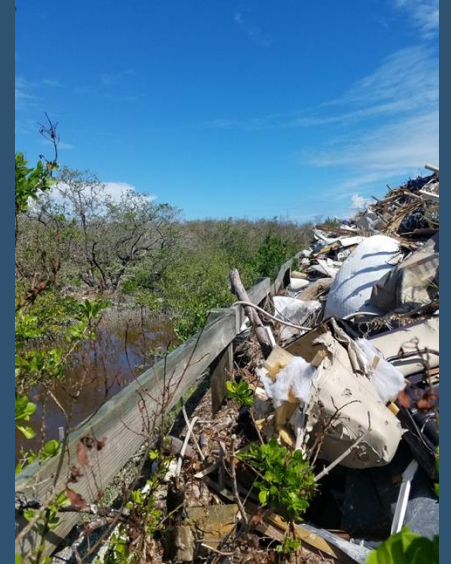
A Disaster Debris Management Site (DDMS) is a temporarily authorized solid waste processing facility subject to an Emergency Final Order. DDMS's Provide unique management challenges.

Pre-authorization process:

- Annual process.
- Request using DEP Business Portal or through DEP district/delegated county office.
- Authorized to county governments.

Distribution and number of sites:

- 697 sites pre-authorized for 2023.
- Sites pre-authorized statewide.





THANK YOU

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