

RESIDENTIAL YARD CLIPPINGS COMPOSTING FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q.1. How can I start composting at home?

Q.2. How do I find a compost facility that will take my yard waste?

Q.3. Can I put invasive weeds in the trash?

Q.4. What is meant by an eradication or control program?

Q.1. How can I start composting at home?

A.1. As a beginning point, see the Home Composting guidance at http://www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/deq-whmd-swp-HomeComposting_247546_7.pdf [Local recycling and composting coordinators](#), along with [MSU Extension](#) also have information. There are many good gardening books and websites like www.mastercomposter.com that contain information as well.

Do not compost materials if they promote disease, cause odors, attract pests, or create other nuisances. These include meat, fish, poultry, dairy products, foods containing animal fats, and human/pet feces.

Q.2. How do I find a compost facility that will take my yard waste?

A.2. Check with your [local recycling and composting coordinator](#) to find the facilities nearest to you. Lists of Department of Environmental Quality registered composting facilities will be posted at www.michigan.gov/deqwaste "Composting" when compiled.

Q.3. Can I put invasive weeds in the trash?

A. 3. No. At this time only yard clippings that are inappropriate for composting because they are diseased or infested or are invasive plants that were collected through an eradication or control program can be landfilled or incinerated. Examples of invasive plants include, but are not limited to, garlic mustard, purple loosestrife, and spotted knapweed.

Q. 4. What is meant by an eradication or control program?

A. 4. There are various organizations and agencies with specific programs in Michigan that target the control and removal of invasive species.

Some programs require people to officially join the group. For example, the Stewardship Network (www.stewardshipnetwork.org) requires one to become a member of the Network and sign an MOU (memorandum of understanding with them). If someone has done that and they are removing invasive species that are being specifically addressed by the Network on their private property, then that waste is part of an eradication or control program and could be disposed of in a landfill or incinerator if those disposal facilities accept it.

If you have questions about participating in an eradication or control program, contact Mr. Aaron Hiday, Sustainable Materials Management Unit, Office of Waste Management and Radiological Protection Division, at 517-284-6580.