

RESIDENTIAL COMPOSTING

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

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HOW CAN I START COMPOSTING AT HOME?

Begin by referring to the Home Composting guidance at Michigan.gov/documents/DEQ/deq-whmd-swp-HomeComposting_247546_7.pdf. The U.S. Composting Council and the MSU Extension, are also good sources of information. There are also many good gardening books and web sites, like [EPA's Home Composting webpage](#), that you may find helpful.

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.

HOW DO I FIND A COMPOST FACILITY THAT WILL TAKE MY YARD WASTE?

Check with your local city or township, or check the [Michigan Recycling Directory](#) to find the facilities nearest to you. A list of registered composting facilities is posted at Michigan.gov/eglecompost.

CAN I PUT INVASIVE WEEDS IN THE TRASH?

No. At this time, only diseased or infested plants, or 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.

WHAT IS AN ERADICATION OR CONTROL PROGRAM?

There are various organizations and agencies with specific programs in Michigan that target the control and removal of invasive species. Many of these groups are part of Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas (CISMAs) across Michigan. For more information on CISMAs and invasive species, visit Michigan.gov/invasives.

If you have questions about participating in an eradication or control program, contact Mr. Aaron Hiday, Sustainable Materials Management Unit, at HidayA@Michigan.gov or 517-282-7546.