

## Composting and Yard Waste

Yard waste, if separated for use as compost, must be managed according to Rule 120 and 121

(R 299.4120) and (R 299.4121) of [Part 115](#).

### COMMON VIOLATIONS INCLUDE:

- Homeowners: mixing yard waste with household waste with the resultant mixture then disposed in a landfill.
- Composting site operators: not excluding solid waste from yard waste that is to be composted.
- Composting site operators: managing yard waste in a manner resulting in nuisance conditions, such as an odor or litter nuisance.
- Solid waste haulers: allowing customers yard waste to be mixed with solid waste or intentionally mixing yard waste with solid waste in the same vehicle.
- Landfill operators: allowing yard waste to be disposed of in the landfill.
- Landfill operators: using unfinished compost as daily cover or using finished compost as an alternate daily cover without department approval.

Above are violations that have been identified during inspections by Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Waste Management Division (WMD) staff. The violations are not listed in order of severity or frequency of findings. The requirements are referenced in [Part 115](#) of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA, as amended (Act 451).

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCE LINKS:

The WMD has developed operational memos to clarify several areas of solid waste regulations, including a memo that discusses the *Use of Yard Clippings Compost as [Landfill Cover](#)*. For more information on composting visit the following sites: [Michigan Department of Agriculture](#) or the [United States Environmental Protection Agency Composting Site](#).