

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Department of Agricultural Resources

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Secretary

JOHN LEBEAUX
Commissioner

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES ("MDAR") HEREBY GIVES NOTICE OF A GENERAL HEARING, PURSUANT TO M.G.L. C.30A, § 2 and 950 CMR 20.04, which require the Commissioner of MDAR to hold a public hearing to amend the following regulation: 330 CMR 25.00, AGRICULTURAL COMPOSTING PROGRAM ("Regulation"). The purpose of this Regulation is to establish program criteria whereby the Department of Agricultural Resources may register and provide education and technical assistance to agricultural composting operations. Agricultural Compost Operations registered by the Department of Agricultural Resources are conditionally exempt from site assignment pursuant to the Department of Environmental Protection regulations pursuant to 310 CMR 16.03(2)(c). The program is intended to ensure compostable materials are composted properly on farms in order to protect the natural resources of the Commonwealth and to minimize potential for nuisance conditions.

All persons desiring to provide oral testimony are hereby notified to appear upon the following date and time at the respective designated location:

Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, 1 Rabbit Hill Road, Richard Cronin Building Room 110, Westborough, MA, for a public hearing to be held on October 20, 2016, from 1:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.

In addition to oral testimony, written comments will be accepted before and at the Hearing. MDAR will continue to accept written comments until October 20, 2016, at 5:00 P.M. Written comments should be addressed to Gerard Kennedy, Director, Division of Agricultural Conservation and Technical Assistance, Department of Agricultural Resources, 251 Causeway Street, Suite 500, Boston, MA 02114.

The full text of the regulations and background information is available at <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/agr/proposed-amendments-to-regulations.html>. A hard copy of the full text of the regulation and background information are also available upon written request made to at the address set forth above.

By: John Lebeaux, Commissioner