

About the FCSWMD

- Municipal entity formed in 1989
- Members: 21 towns
- 17 transfer stations; 3 towns with curbside; 2 towns with no municipally-funded service
- \$2.5 million annual budget - combination of assessments and fee-for-service programs
- 2.5 FTE staff

Organics Collections

- 14 out of 17 town transfer stations have organics collection for residents
- Gill has new organics drop-off site for residents (curbside town)
- Public and private schools
- Public events and Franklin County Fair
- Backyard compost bins

Organics Collection - Transfer Stations

- Three haulers serving different sites
- Two local composting facilities
- Agawam AD facility



Public Education

- All programs receive assistance from the solid waste district
- Customized sign per site
- Flyer/handout
- Publicity

FOOD & PAPER WASTE COMPOST PROGRAM

at 15 municipal transfer stations in Franklin County, MA (see list on page 2)



YES - DO Compost:

Solid food wastes:

- Meat, poultry, fish, bones, shells
- Cheese, dairy (no liquids)
- Eggs, eggshells
- Fruits, vegetables, peels
- Bread, rice, pasta, cereal
- Coffee grounds, filters, tea bags

Paper:

- Paper napkins, paper towels
- Paper plates, paper cups, take-out containers (*BPI certified* only*)
- Waxed cardboard, waxed paper
- Cardboard/pizza boxes with stuck on food (*recycle empty pizza boxes*)
- Paper egg cartons, molded fiber packaging (rip up to save space)
- Paper bags (*recycle paper if clean*)

Wood:

- Wooden chopsticks, skewers, stirrers
- Small wooden fruit crates

"Compostable plastic" products:

- Compostable cups (i.e. Greenware)
- Compostable bags (i.e. BioBag)
- "Plastic" brands must be BPI certified:

*bpiworld.org



NO - DO NOT Compost:

- **NO** liquids
- **NO** plastic bags, wrappers, cling wrap
- **NO** Styrofoam™
- **NO** plastic, aluminum foil, metal, glass (*recycle in container recycling*)
- **NO** produce stickers, rubber bands, etc
- **NO** chemicals, hazardous residues
- **NO** beverage cartons, aseptic cartons (*recycle with containers*)
- **NO** frozen food boxes, ice cream cartons, Chinese food take-out boxes, butter wrappers (put these in trash)
- **NO** kitty litter, pet waste, diapers
- **NO** disposable cleaning wipes



DO NOT DEPOSIT MATERIALS IN PLASTIC BAGS!



Food waste and other biodegradable materials are hauled weekly to a permitted commercial composting facility. Plastic harms this process.

(To buy a home compost bin, contact FCSWD below. It is not recommended to put meat, poultry, dairy, or oily foods in home compost bins.)

Franklin County Solid Waste District:
413-772-2438; info@franklincountywastedistrict.org
MA Relay for the hearing impaired:
711 or 1-800-439-2370 (TTY/TDD)



Community Compact

- The newest transfer station program received start-up funding from the Community Compact grant. They paid for dumpster service, purchased Sure Close compost pails and backyard compost bins. Pails and bins were distributed at no cost.
- Apply to Community Compact Best Practices - Energy & Environment: Waste Management best practices.

Gill Organics Drop-off Program

- Curbside town - 585 households
- Considered curbside organics collection since 2013. Costs were daunting.
- Idea to create a drop-off location behind an accessory town-owned building.

Gill Organics Drop-off Program

- Solid Waste District designed program with Gill's board rep
- Purchased 8'x 8' dog kennel (\$1200)
- Local organics hauler, The Compost Cooperative, supplies three 64-gallon carts; collects weekly
- Program start 9/1/24

Gill Organics Drop-off Program

- Created a mailer for USPS Every Door Direct Mail (EDDM) program. Distributed mailer to USPS route closest to drop-off site
- Electronic sign-up provides lock combination
- Free Sure Close pail offered
- 57 households signed up (almost 10%)
- No contamination to-date
- EDDM to 2nd USPS route week of 10/21/24

Gill Organics Drop-off Program



COMPOST
FOOD + PAPER

NO PLASTIC

YES - DO Compost:

Food waste:

- Meat, bones, poultry, fish, shells
- Cheese, dairy (no liquids)
- Eggs, eggshells, shellies
- Vegetables, fruit, peels (no citrus rinds)
- Bread, rice, pasta, cereal
- Coffee grounds, sugar
- Stems, tea leaves, paper tea bags

Food-related paper:

- Paper napkins, paper towels
- Paper plates, take-out containers (no metal liners)
- All kinds of cardboard, waxed paper
- Pizza boxes with spots on food
- Paper egg cartons, mailer boxes (excluding Styrofoam inserts)
- Paper bags (inside paper if clean)

Woods:

- Shredded newspapers, shavings, sawdust
- Small amounts of sawdust

Compostable plastic products:

- Compostable bags (e.g. GreenCycle)
- Compostable liners (e.g. BioBag)
- Compostable bags for food waste (e.g. BioBag)

NO - DO NOT Compost:

- NO liquids including oil
- NO PLASTIC BAGS, plastic wrap or wrappers
- NO plastics, metal, foil, glass
- NO produce stickers, dried tea, instant ramen, etc.
- NO frozen food boxes, ice cream cartons, Cheese food takeout boxes, frozen vegetables (more so as to avoid)
- NO yard waste, grass clippings
- NO pet wastes, cat litter, diapers

Never place plastic bags or trash in the food waste receptacles!

NO

If you bring your waste to a public use, please empty the bag into the compost bin and take the waste home with you. The materials collected here are brought to a compost facility, where they are transformed into compost, or soil. Please keep this message.

For more information, please contact the City of Gill, 111 Main Street, Gill, MA 01445. Phone: 413-542-2222. Fax: 413-542-2223. Email: gill@cityofgill.com

Public and Private Schools

- Solid Waste District helps bid public school solid waste services, including organics
- Provide technical assistance to schools - lunch room, students, facilities staff
- In 2015 helped start/expand six private school organics collections

Public Events and Franklin County Fair

- Loan organics event bins, bags, signage for member-town events
- Coordinate and staff 3-day Franklin County Fair with 15,000 attendees



Backyard Compost Bins

- Solid Waste District starting selling Earth Machine compost bins in 1994. Sold over 2,200 by 2001.
- 16 towns subsidize the price for RDP credit
- Sell Sure Close compost pails



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franklincountywastedistrict.org