

# Recycling Authority May 2020

20000 West Eight Mile Road | Southfield 248-208-2270 | www.rrrasoc.org



# **May Is Composting Month!**

The beginning of May always brings International Compost Awareness Week (ICAW) which is the largest and most comprehensive education initiative of the compost industry. We don't think a week is enough so to learn more about composting visit CompostFoundation.org and EPA.gov.

### Composting is good for many reasons...

- Soil with compost needs less watering, fertilizer, and pesticides
- Improves soil fertility
- Stimulates healthy root development in plants
- Provides food for microorganisms, which keeps the soil in a healthy, balanced condition
- Free soil additive and natural fertilizer
- Promotes weed control
- · Conserves all sorts of resources
- Diverts up to 40% of your waste stream



#### What Can You Compost?

#### **GREENS**

Fruits
Vegetables
Egg Shells
Tea Bags/Loose Tea
Grass Clippings
Plant Trimmings
Water
Seaweed/Kelp
Manure from herbivores

#### **BROWNS**

Dry Leaves
Twigs
Straw/Hay
Pine cones & needles
Shredded Paper/Newspaper
Shredded Boxes/Paperboard
Old Potting Mix
Sawdust/Wood Shavings
Coffee Grounds/Filter

Watch this short video for beginner composting tips and tricks!



# **EGLE - Michigan's Composting Law**

Prior to 1995, leaves and grass comprised over 30% of all household solid waste going to landfills and incinerators.

Not only is that a lot of space being filled by a clean resource, but yard clippings in landfills may contribute to methane gas and leachate production which may pollute the air and local water supplies. The moisture in yard waste causes it to burn poorly in incinerators, raising pollution levels, and operating costs.



Because of the many problems caused by yard clippings in landfills, starting in 1995, yard clippings were banned

from Michigan landfills. Yard clippings are defined as leaves, grass clippings, vegetable or other garden debris, shrubbery, or brush or tree trimmings, less than 4 feet in length and 2 inches in diameter, that can be converted to compost humus.

Check out this informational flier from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy for more information. <u>Home Composting: Reap a Heap of Benefits</u>

## **Cancelled HHW Events**

Please remember that all of the Spring Household Hazardous Waste events have been cancelled.

RRRASOC is working diligently to schedule extra weekday HHW collections and shredding events. Specific details such as dates, times and locations will be announced upon determination.



At this time and with the understanding of the fluidity of this situation, the intent is to hold the July and October collection events as scheduled however, this is subject to change as the situation changes.

## **RRRASOC Recycling Directory**

Not sure what to do with stuff?

Visit <u>rrrasoc.org</u> and use the Recycling Directory search bar to type in keywords and get recycling, composting, reuse or disposal instructions.

The searchable, intuitive format of the Recycling Directory provides RRRASOC specific information.

## Also Available:

- Mobile App
  - From your App Store or Google Play, search for "Recycling Authority"
- Alexa Enabled Device
  - Simply say, "Alexa, enable Recycling Directory."



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