



State of Vermont
PERMIT AND LICENSE INFORMATION

SOLID WASTE: CERTIFICATION OF COMPOSTING FACILITIES

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF PERMIT Certification authorizes owner/operator to compost various materials, such as: leaf and yard waste, agricultural waste, and source separated organic wastes (e.g. food waste). The type of certification depends upon the source, type, and amount (cubic yards per year) of materials handled by the facility.

TRIGGER QUESTIONS Are you going to collect and compost materials?
 Are you going to collect and compost more than 100 cubic yards per year of total feedstocks?
 Are you going to collect and compost any amount of food residual of food processing residuals?

EXAMPLES OF ACTIVITY Windrow composting operation; Municipal in-vessel composting operation

CRITERIA FOR JURISDICTION Facilities which compost the following materials are exempt from the Solid Waste Management Rules:

- 1) less than 100 cubic yards per year of any feedstocks;
- 2) less than 3,000 cubic yards per year of solely leaf, yard, plant and untreated wood residuals;
- 3) any amount of animal manure, absorbent bedding and clean high carbon bulking agents provided the compost is used for soil enrichment;
- 4) farm generated vegetative waste in any amount if composted on a farm
- 5) less than 1,000 cubic yards of food processing residuals when composting takes place on a farm; and
- 6) animal mortalities and slaughter house wastes when composted on the generating farm.

Note: If the Secretary determines that a composting activity has or may pose a threat to the public health and safety, the environment, or constitutes a nuisance, the activity will not be exempt from the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules.

Facilities that do not meet the exemption criteria may qualify for a small composting facility registration, a medium composting facility categorical certification, or a large composting facility full certification upon submission of an application that contains the information required by Sections 6-1104, 6-1105, 6-1106, 6-1107, 6-1108, 6-1109 and 6-1110 of the Solid Waste Management Rules as applicable.

applicant qualifies for a large composting full certification public notice shall be conducted in accordance with 6-304(h).

The maximum term for certifications is 10 years. There is no expiration for small composting facility registrations.

ADMINISTERING AGENCY

AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION WASTE MANAGEMENT AND PREVENTION DIVISION
CONTACT: Dennis Fekert 802-522-0195 Dennis.Fekert@vermont.gov
ADDRESS: 1 National Life Drive, Davis 1 Montpelier, VT 05620-3704 802-828-1138

AUTHORITY

[10 VSA Chapter 159](#)

APPLICABLE RULES

[Solid Waste Management Rules](#)
Subchapter 11, Subchapters 3, 5, 7, 9, & 10

APPEAL PROCESS

Within 30 days of the date of an act or decision, any person aggrieved by an act or decision of the secretary, or any party by right, may appeal to the environmental court in accordance with the provisions of [10 VSA Chapter 220](#).

OTHER PERMITS AND APPROVALS

Contact a Permit Specialist for a Project Review Sheet, see: <http://dec.vermont.gov/environmental-assistance/permits>