

Franklin County Solid Waste Management District

50 Miles Street

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PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Amy Donovan, Program Director

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For Immediate Release

BACKYARD COMPOST BINS AVAILABLE

Spring is here, and along with planting a garden or sprucing up the yard, it's a great time to start composting. Fill up a compost bin with food and yard waste and have finished compost by next year. Composting food waste can reduce your household trash by 25% and the waste turns into soil amendment for lawns and gardens. Composting is easy, and it can be even easier with an effective compost bin. Attractive, durable bins for backyard composting are available for District residents through the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District at several locations. Greenfield residents can purchase a compost bin at the Greenfield Transfer Station. Due to a limited supply, the Solid Waste District is unable to sell compost bins to Greenfield residents.

The "Earth Machine," which now sells for \$40, is made of a rigid recycled polyethylene plastic and has a twist-on lid. The bin stakes to the ground and is easy to assemble, is rodent resistant, and designed for good aeration. The Earth Machine is available at these four locations: Colrain Transfer Station, Sat. 8-4; Wendell Transfer Station, Tues. 12-6, Sat. 7:30-3:30; Orange Transfer Station, Tues., Thurs, & Sat.: 8-2:45; and the District office, 50 Miles Street, Greenfield (hours vary; call 772-2438).

The District office also carries kitchen collectors, plastic buckets with a swinging handle and a lid that snaps shut. They hold approximately one gallon of food scraps, and can be placed on a counter or under the kitchen sink. The buckets offer a handy way to collect scraps and tote them out to your compost bin. The kitchen collectors are sold for \$4. In addition, the District office sells blue recycling bins for \$6.

For more information on composting or waste management programs, call the Solid Waste District at 413-772-2438, email info@franklincountywastedistrict.org, or visit the District website at www.franklincountywastedistrict.org. MA Relay for the hearing impaired: 711 or 1-800-439-2370 (TTY/TDD). The District is an equal opportunity provider.

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