

CITY OF ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

301 E. Huron St., P.O. Box 8647 • Ann Arbor, Michigan 48107-8647

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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CITY COMPOST COLLECTION RESUMES ONE WEEK EARLY

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — March 21, 2011 — **Due to the usually warm weather in March, the weekly curbside collection of residential compostables in the City of Ann Arbor will resume one week earlier than usual, starting Monday, March 26, 2012** on regular curbside trash collection days. The compost program accepts yard trimmings including leaves, plants, garden debris, twigs, and branches up to six inches in diameter and four feet in length. Ann Arbor residents using optional compost carts may also place grass clippings; fruit and vegetable scraps; and uncoated paper plates, paper cups, and napkins inside compost carts for municipal collection.

Residents may use **paper yard waste bags** (available from local retailers) or **city-approved compost carts** (available for \$50 each from the city's Customer Service & Payment Center at Larcom City Hall during weekday business hours). **Brush and tree limbs (up to 6" in diameter) may be tied into bundles up to 18 inches in diameter.** Each bag or bundle of compostables has a maximum weight of 50 pounds. Food scraps and grass clippings are not allowed in paper yard waste bags outside of a compost cart in order to avoid attracting wildlife, generating odors, or creating unsafe conditions from wet, overweight, or broken paper bags at the curb. The compost program does not accept plastic bags, trash, stones, dirt, sod, animal waste, or logs over six-inches in diameter. Details of the city's compost collection program are posted online at www.a2gov.org/compost.

Residents must place their compostables at the curb before 7 a.m. on their weekly waste collection day. Compost carts must be positioned with the handle facing the sidewalk and at least 3 feet from other carts, vehicles, mailboxes, and any other potential obstructions.

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The city sells authorized, municipal 96-, 64-, and 32-gallon compost carts for a one-time price of \$50 each (same price for any size). Residents may purchase compost carts from the city's Customer Service Center & Payment Center at Larcom City Hall (734.994.7336 or 99.GREEN) during weekday business hours at 301 E. Huron, and pay by cash, check, or credit card. Sample carts may be viewed on curbsides around the city. An online summary of the city's compost, recycling, and trash cart collection options is posted online at www.a2gov.org/carts.

Ann Arbor residents may also deliver up to one cubic yard (6 paper yard waste bags) of acceptable compostable materials to Recycle Ann Arbor's Drop-Off Station, 2950 E. Ellsworth, 734.971.7400, at no charge with proof of residency (water bill). The \$3 entry fee is also waived. This facility is open Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Details are posted at www.recycleannarbor.org.

For 24-hour information on the city's compost operations, more details on the expanded fruit and vegetable materials accepted for seasonal collection, and compost cart sales, call please 99.GREEN (734.994.7336) or view the city's website at www.a2gov.org/compost.

Ann Arbor has 114,000 residents, spans 27.7 square miles, and is frequently recognized as a foremost place to live, learn, work, thrive and visit (www.a2gov.org/news). To keep up with City of Ann Arbor information, subscribe for e-mail updates (www.a2gov.org/subscribe), follow us on Twitter (<http://twitter.com/a2gov>) or become a city fan on Facebook (www.facebook.com/thecityofannarbor). The city's mission statement reads: The city of Ann Arbor is committed to providing excellent municipal services that enhance the quality of life for all through the intelligent use of resources while valuing an open environment that fosters fair, sensitive and respectful treatment of all employees and the community we serve. # # #