

MULTIFAMILY COMPOSTING

Proposed URO Amendments

ZWAC 8/9/2023



Agenda

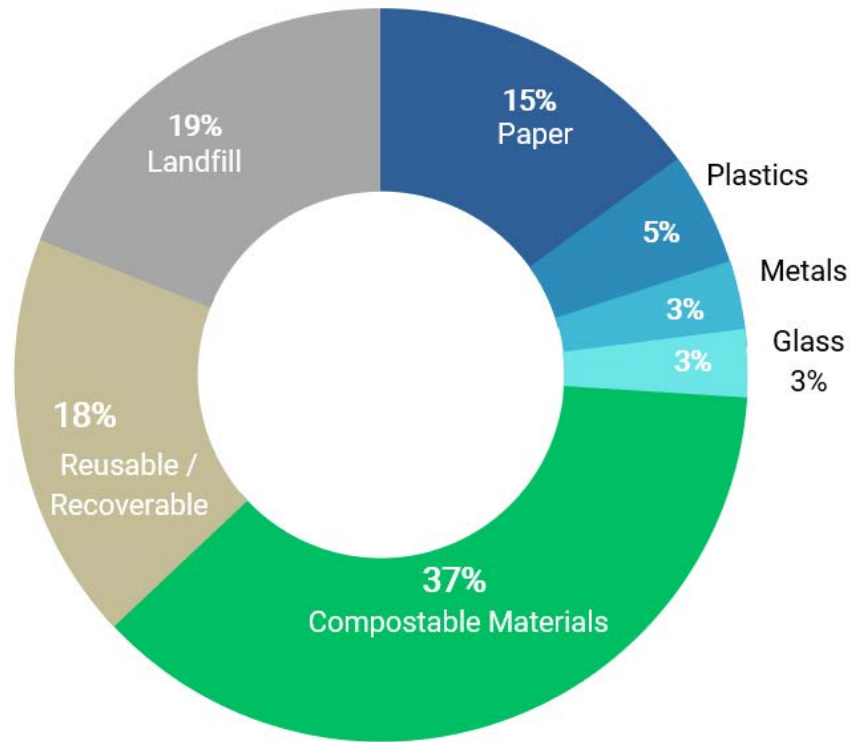
- URO Overview
- Policy Development Process
- Existing Policy
- Proposed Amendments - Code
- Proposed Amendments – Admin Rules

Universal Recycling Ordinance

- In effect since 2012
- Requires recycling at multifamily & commercial properties
- Requires organics diversion at food permitted businesses
- Convenient access
- Education and signs
- Report annually
- Enforcement: Class C Misdemeanor



Why Compost?



Community Engagement Process



PILOT

- Spring '21 – Winter '22
- Tested composting at 8 properties
- Findings published in report

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PHASE 1

- Fall 2022
- 5 Meetings
- Online Survey
- URO Committee Recommendations
- ZWAC Recommendations

2

PHASE 2

- March – Draft 1 Speak Up Austin Survey
- April – Draft 2 Speak Up Austin Survey
- 2 Meetings

Phase 1 Feedback

- Convenient access
- Education
- Contamination a concern
- Costs a concern, how they are passed on
- Flexible requirements
- Residents overall in favor, with some concerns
 - Contamination, education, cleanliness

Phase 2 Feedback

- Draft 1 Survey – Open 3/1 -3/31
 - 191 Comments (62 participants)
- Draft 2 Survey – Open 4/10 – 5/7
 - 202 Comments (54 participants)
- Speak Up Austin – draft documents and FAQ
 - <https://publicinput.com/w0633>

Composting service required at all multifamily properties



Minimum 1 gallon per unit per week and no overflowing containers



Annual education, signs and labels on containers*



Convenient access required



Annual reporting*



Enforcement: Class C misdemeanor*

• Effective Oct. 1, 2024

* Indicates existing code/rules language

Proposed Policy Overview

Existing Policy

- Education
- Annual Reporting
- Convenience
- Signs
- Waivers
- Enforcement

Existing Policy References

- § 15-6-93 - EDUCATION.
- § 15-6-101 - ANNUAL DIVERSION PLAN.
- Rules 8.8 – Exterior Collection Areas, Points, and Containers
- Rules 8.9 – Interior collection & containers in common areas
- Rules 8.10 – Promotion and Education
- Rules 8.11 – Waiver Process
- Rules 8.12 - Compliance and Enforcement

Proposed Amendments

§ 15-6-91

AFFECTED PREMISES.

(A)(2) After October 1, 2024, and for premises with five or more dwelling units, ensure that tenants and employees have access to composting services described under this article, for that portion of the premises that is multi-family residential

§ 15-6-92

DIVERSION REQUIREMENTS FOR AFFECTED PREMISES.

(A) On-site recycling and organic material diversion services required under this article shall:

...

(3) collect at least the following materials, if a premises is subject to Part (A)(2) of section 15-6-91 (*Affected Premises*):

(a) food scraps (including meat, bones, and dairy);

(b) food soiled paper; and

(c) BPI certified compostable products; and

...

§ 15-6-93

EDUCATION.

- (A) The responsible party for an affected premises shall provide recycling, landfill diversion information and instructions in accordance with rules adopted by the director to:
- (1) all tenants and employees of the premises annually;
 - (2) a new employee or tenant no later than the thirtieth day after the tenant occupies or the employee begins work at the premises; and
 - (3) all employees or tenants not later than the 30th day after a substantive change in the recycling-landfill diversion service offered at the premises.

§ 15-6-93

EDUCATION.

- (B) The responsible party shall provide ~~recycling~~, landfill diversion information and instructions in accordance with rules adopted by the director to:
- (1) each business, tenant, or organization located at the premises annually;
 - (2) a business, tenant, or organization newly located to the premises not later than the 30th day after any change in occupancy; and
 - (3) all occupancies at the premises not later than the 30th day after a change in the ~~recycling~~ landfill diversion service offered.

15-6 Admin Rules

8.5 - Capacity and Diversion Performance Standards

8.5.1.1.3 Multifamily properties – Responsible Parties shall ensure that onsite composting services are sufficient to accommodate the regular accumulation of organic materials and avoid overflowing containers by having at a minimum:

8.5.1.1.3.1 One gallon of composting capacity per dwelling unit per week.

15-6 Admin Rules

8.8 - Exterior Collection Areas, Points, and Containers

8.8.2 Convenient Access - Responsible Parties shall ensure that ~~all~~ a minimum of one recycling, and when applicable, organics diversion, containers, ~~compactors,~~ or other collection points ~~are~~ is located within 25 feet of ~~a~~ all landfill trash ~~diversion~~ containers, compactors, or other collection points. Reference Section 8.11, Waiver Process.

15-6 Admin Rules

11.0 – DEFINITIONS

11.50 OVERFLOWING CONTAINER means a trash, recyclable, or compostable container that is too full to close the lid, is too full to place additional material in, or has material on the ground within 5 feet of a container.

QUESTIONS

