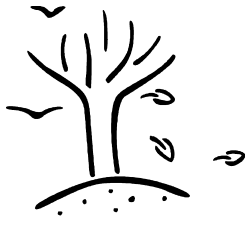


# **Yard Waste**



# **Recycling Guide**

**Spring/Fall 2005**



**--SUPPLIED BY--  
BARNSTABLE TRANSFER STATION  
45 FLINT ST  
MARSTONS MILLS, MA 02648**

508-420-2258

**COMPOSTING SITE**

**45 FLINT STREET  
MARSTONS MILLS, MA 02648**

**ACCEPTABLE MATERIALS:**

**Rakeable yard waste (NO CHARGE)**

- ❖ **LEAVES**
- ❖ **GRASS CLIPPINGS**
- ❖ **WEEDS AND OTHER GARDEN WASTE**
- ❖ **NON-WOODY PLANTS**
- ❖ **ORGANIC MULCHING MATERIAL**

**NON ACCEPTABLE MATERIALS:**

**\*\*BRUSH, BRANCHES, STUMPS, LOGS,  
WOODY PLANTS, SHRUBS**

**These can be disposed at:**

**CAPE RESOURCES CALL (508) 428-2613**

**For more information**

**\*PREPARATION-**Materials may be delivered in any container. Yard waste in plastic bags must be emptied and bags taken home for reuse or proper disposal. Paper leaf bags should also be emptied and may be taken home for reuse or left to decompose.



**Christmas Tree Recycling  
(NO CHARGE)**

- ❖ **\*\*No wreaths or garland**



## **Managing Yard Waste in your own backyard**

**The best way to manage leaves, grass, and other yard waste is in your own back yard. That way, nutrients will stay to feed your plants and trees just as Mother Nature intended them to.**

**Spread leaves, grass clippings, and pine needles around the base of trees, shrubs, and in gardens. It will decompose in place, keeping down weeds holding in moisture, and adding nutrients directly to the soil below.**

**If you have too much to use as mulch, try Composting. With proper care, a four-foot-high pile of leaves will be gone by the next leaf season. Large piles of leaves and other yard waste must be managed, or they will decompose VERY VERY SLOWLY.**

### **HOW TO COMPOST**



**Rake leaves into a pile in your yard. After the pile thaws in the spring flip the pile over using a pitch fork. This adds necessary air and allows water to penetrate the pile. (Flip two more times later in the season).**

**Throughout the growing season, add grass clippings and other plants from your yard DO NOT ADD WEEDS THAT HAVE GONE TO SEED OR DISEASED PLANTS.**

**Make sure the pile remains moist. Within one year, the pile will have been reduced to about one eighth of its original volume-a four-foot-high pile of leaves will turn into a pile of compost about six inches high! Sticks take longer to decompose. Use a 1" screen to separate sticks from finished compost.**

**Compost can be added to your garden soil, placed around trees and shrubs, or sprinkled on**

lawns. It improves the health of all types of plants.

## **TIPS**



- ❖ **All types of leaves, including oak, will decompose within one year as long as they remain damp and are aerated periodically.**
- ❖ **Ideally leaves should make up 75% of the pile, with grass, weeds, and other greens making up about 25% of the entire pile. Pine needles should be no more than 10%. Oak leaves decompose very slowly. Mowing over leaves before collecting will reduce their original volume and help them decompose much more quickly.**
- ❖ **Pine needles decompose very slowly and tend to be acidic. They are best as mulch around acid-loving plants, such as pine trees, rhododendrons, azaleas, blueberry bushes, and other conifers.**

## **DON'T**

- ❖ **No matter how much property is around your yard, DON'T RAKE LEAVES AND YARD WASTE INTO WETLANDS. Filling wetlands with leaves interferes with their ability to absorb moisture when it rains-this contributes to flooding.**
- ❖ **DON'T dump leaves over your fence, into woodlands, onto town property, or into someone else's yard.**
- ❖ **DON'T set out yard waste with your regular household trash for disposal. Leaves and yard waste are banned from all landfills, incinerators, and**

## **Transfer Stations in Massachusetts.**

### **HOME COMPOST BINS**

**Compost bins are an ideal way to manage food scraps and small amounts of yard waste at home**



### **Teach a neighbor!**

**Everyone could benefit from learning how to compost yard waste and food scraps in their own backyards. Improve soil, reduce trash, conserve water, save fuel-and make new friends.**





**Hours of operation: Tuesday-Saturday**  
**7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.**  
**Closed Sunday-Monday**

**Barnstable Transfer Station**

**45 FLINT ST**

**MARSTONS MILLS, MA 02648**

**508-420-2258**

**[WWW.TOWN.BARNSTABLE.MA.US.COM](http://WWW.TOWN.BARNSTABLE.MA.US.COM)**

