



MEDIA RELEASE

Compost bins for sale, part of city's sustainability plan

FREDERICK, MD – Oct. 11, 2016: The City of Frederick still has some compost bins for sale to its residents at minimal cost, as part of a city-wide sustainability program.

Compostable material makes up more than 20 percent of residential trash by weight, according to Jenny Willoughby, the sustainability manager. The city's Sustainability Plan states, "If just 10 percent of the city's trash were diverted for home compost use, the city could save about \$127,000 annually," Willoughby said.

"The city would like to reduce the amount of waste going to the landfill, and compost makes up a significant amount of weight in our waste stream," Willoughby said. "By composting, that weight is taken out of the stream altogether."

Compost is excellent for home gardens to help replenish nutrients used growing vegetables, herbs, flowers, shrubs, and trees. Finished compost from the bin can be added back into the garden soil. Things that can go into the bin:

- vegetable and fruit scraps
- egg shells
- coffee grounds
- flower stems
- leaves
- grass clippings

She recommends having about 50 percent greens (grass clippings, vegetables, fruits) and 50 percent browns (dried leaves, straw from fall holiday decorations, sawdust).

The bins will help keep piles neat and prevent animals from getting in. They are 2.5 feet tall by 2.5 feet wide. (See photo attached.)

(more)



An order form is available on the city [website](#). The price is \$20 plus tax. The city started with 310 bins for sale. They are for sale only to city residents, and the bins will be delivered to the home by Department of Public Works staff.

Further information is available from Willoughby, 301-600-2843, jwilloughby@cityoffrederick.com.

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For more information, contact Patti Mullins: 301-600-1385; pmullins@cityoffrederick.com.