

Compost Harvest Check List

CT DEEP Office Compost Program, 79 Elm Street, Hartford

- Remove cement blocks from in front of Tub and place down tarp. (Tarp is in locker.
- Remove discharge hatch door and shovel out compost into wheelbarrows. Save about 1/3 wheelbarrow of compost as inoculant.
- Screen Compost directly into truck.
- Weigh tailings: _____ lbs. Then, dispose in compactor.
- Measure compost: _____ cubic feet _____ cu. yd.
- Weigh 1 cubic foot of compost in a bucket and estimate weight of entire load of compost _____ lbs.
- Grease auger fitting, check center pole, do other maintenance as needed.
- Remove aeration floor and clear channels in Tub.
- Clean-out aeration pipe at bottom of Tub to make sure it is clear of debris.
- Sweep down aeration floor to open holes and put in Tub with metal plate over the aeration pipe with plate facing up. Make sure zip-ties (and temperature probe if using) are under the floor.
- Add one bag of pine bark nuggets to evenly cover aeration floor.
- Replace discharge hatch door and lock.
- Fill Tub with 25 – 30 bags of shavings while adding water. Don't overflow. Use your judgement on if it can handle more shavings.
- Distribute food scraps from temporary storage barrel; compost from wheelbarrow; and any leachate that is in the red collection tank into Tub while turning. Be careful not to move the Tub. It is light at this point and can be easily shoved out of position...not good, as the Tub is still warped and this could cause problems. Turn well.
- Replace blocks & gray loading hatch; put away tarp.
- Sweep the entire area, including loading dock. Use Simple Green solution (2-3 oz/gallon H₂O) to clean top of Tub. Strive for zero discharge, so don't hose-down with water – use sponge & bucket method.
- Drain hose and return to locker. Do general clean-up of area.
- Close metal doors to compost area and place concrete block in front of them on driveway side.