

# City of Saint Paul Backyard Composting Ordinance

## Ordinance 357.08 **Residential composting.**

Composting by residents on their own property is permitted provided the following regulations are complied with:

- (1) *Container.* Composting shall be conducted within an enclosed container(s) not to exceed a total of one hundred (100) cubic feet in volume for city lots less than ten thousand (10,000) square feet and one hundred fifty (150) cubic feet for lots greater than ten thousand (10,000) square feet, and five (5) feet high. The container(s) shall be of a durable material such as wood, block or sturdy metal fencing material.
- (2) *Container location.* The compost container(s) shall be located at least five (5) feet from lot lines and be placed no closer than twenty (20) feet to any habitable building, other than the resident's own home, nor less than two (2) feet from the alley if any alley exists.
- (3) *Materials allowed.* Only organic yard materials, including grass clippings, leaves, faded flowers, weeds, sawdust, wood ash and plant trimmings, lake plants, straw; kitchen scraps such as fruit and vegetable peels and trimmings, and other raw, nongreasy food wastes; and commercially available compost materials, may be placed in the compost container(s).
- (4) *Materials not allowed.* None of the following materials shall be placed in the compost container(s): meat, bones, fat, oils, dairy products and other greasy kitchen wastes, whole branches or logs, plastics, synthetic fibers, human or pet wastes or heavily diseased plants.
- (5) *Odors.* Compost shall be properly managed to minimize odor generation and promote effective decomposition of the material.

(Ord. No. 17830, § 2, 5-16-91; C.F. No. 94-538, § 8, 5-18-94; C.F. No. 99-567, § 1, 7-14-99)

Source: Go to [this website](#). Click on Title XXIX LICENSES; Chapter 357 Solid Waste; Sec 357.08 Residential Composting