



CITY OF ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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EXTREME SALE FOR BULK MUNICIPAL COMPOST

ANN ARBOR, Mich., March 18, 2009 — The price of City of Ann Arbor's bulk compost has been reduced by 50 to 75 percent, compared to last spring. Cured and screened municipal compost is available at \$7/cubic yard for basic sales; \$5/cubic yard for 10-24 cubic yards per truck load; and \$2.75/cubic yard for 25+ cubic yards per load. City Council recently approved the lower prices in order to clear the compost pads of 10,000 cubic yards in anticipation of processing the incoming 2009 growing season yard waste. Consumers will benefit from the surplus sale prices, created by a lower demand from contractors and landscapers throughout the region last year.

Ann Arbor's Compost Center, 4150 Platt Road 734-794-6380, is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and is reached via a one-mile access road in the Wheeler Service Center. Customers place orders and make payments at the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) scale house. An onsite front-load operator is then contacted to load the compost into the buyer's truck. Regular car trunks or station wagons are not acceptable vehicles for collecting materials from the Compost Center. All vehicles must be tarped before leaving the site, according to state law.

Ann Arbor's compost is certified by the US Composting Council, which assesses the city's finished compost to be consistently high in nutrient value, devoid of weed seeds, and tested for germination. Compost test results data is posted on the Web at www.a2gov.org/compost.

Cured and screened compost is especially useful as a soil amendment applied to gardens soils. Compost may also be spread as a top-dressing for lawns, used as slow-release nutrient mulch, or to provide a finished appearance around foundation plantings.

Municipal compost in bushel and cubic yard quantities may also be purchased from Recycle Ann Arbor's Drop-Off Station at 2950 East Ellsworth 734-971-7400, www.recycleannarbor.org. The Drop-Off Station is normally open weekdays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. but is closed on Mondays through March 30. Please contact Recycle Ann Arbor directly for current prices on bushel and cubic yard quantity compost sales and for information on RAA's compost delivery services.

Ann Arbor has 114,000 residents, spans 27.7 square miles, and was named the No. 1 Healthiest Hometown in the U.S. by AARP The Magazine in 2008. Other notable recognitions include: No. 27 of the top 100 U.S. cities to live in by CNN/Money Magazine in 2008, as well as the fourth smartest city in the U.S. by Forbes Magazine. The city's mission statement reads: The city of Ann Arbor is committed to providing excellent municipal services that enhance the quality of life for all through the intelligent use of resources while valuing an open environment that fosters, fair, sensitive and respectful treatment of all employees and the community we serve.

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