



SCHOOL & COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE FOR
RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING EDUCATION
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September 2017

Greetings,

Thank you for your interest in participating in the fourth annual pumpkin collection. This year we are excited to re-brand the event and supporting materials. The Pumpkin Collection will now be the annual Pumpkin Smash! We hope this shift will bring new excitement and help even more people green their Halloween. The 2017 Pumpkin Smash will be held on **Saturday, November 4th** from 9am-12pm.

Last year the event exploded with 31 collection sites across Illinois. To date, we've diverted over 93 tons of pumpkins from landfills and back into nutrients for our soil! We're even getting calls from people as far away as New York and California for this awesome project we've grown together.

We saw a lot of creativity last year and encourage locations to have fun with the Pumpkin Smash by including simple games, tossing contests and more. You can view pictures for inspiration on our website via this shortened link <http://bit.ly/2idCDoV>.

Our goal for this event, besides reducing valuable resources from being sent to the landfill, is to *educate residents about composting and how to do it correctly*. This means teaching residents about removing contaminants before composting, such as candles, stickers and any sort of decorations on their pumpkins. Together, we are helping to pave the way for successful municipal curbside composting programs.

Thank you TONS for helping your neighbors green their Halloween and for helping us to grow organics recycling in Illinois. We look forward to your participation.

Regards,

The SCARCE Team





How to Host a Pumpkin Collection

This guide was created to help anyone in Illinois organize and hold a 1-day pumpkin collection event after Halloween to collect Jack-o-Lanterns from residents for composting. This guide includes:

Intro letter
Pumpkin Factsheet
IEPA Conditions for One-Day Pumpkin collection events

Event Coordination: Approval, Haulers, Pick-up

1. Determine a visible location with good entrance and exit paths
2. Obtain written approval from city (or county if unincorporated) for event. *No permit is required for this event.* Details below.
3. Submit approval letter to your county's recycling coordinator.
4. Work with your hauler to arrange for a roll-off container, with tarp⁽¹⁾. Drop off time is the afternoon before, if possible. Arrange a Monday morning pick up⁽²⁾. *Depending on the size of your community you may need two roll-offs.*
5. Hauler must provide the destination for pumpkin composting⁽³⁾.
6. Hauler must provide weight of pumpkins collected from the event.
7. Let SCARCE know of your participation so that we can help promote the event. Visit www.scarce.org/pumpkins to register your site with us.

Contact SCARCE info@scarce.org or 630.545-9710 with any questions.

(1)Haulers have provided this service free-of-charge for many locations. Some are required to do special collection events each year as part of their contract with a municipality.

(2)Collected pumpkins must be picked up within 48 hours per IEPA guidelines

(3)A list of licensed compost facilities can be found on the [IEPA website](#).

Approval Letter & Notification Details

All hosts must obtain a written letter/email from their city (or county if event location is unincorporated). The letter must include the date of the event, location, and time. It must also list the types of compostable waste being collected ("pumpkins", in this case).

A copy of the approval must be sent to the county recycling coordinator 30 days prior to the event if it is to be held in a county with a population greater than 400,000 and less than 2,000,000.

Promotion

Included with this guide is a factsheet. A poster and sample fliers are available for download from www.scarce.org/pumpkins that can be used in promotion. *Update the fliers with your location and any other pertinent information* or create your own.

There is a mini-flier sheet (8/sheet, double sided) that is used for promoting the event to trick-or-treaters with a blank space for details on your location. Encourage people to hand them out with their treats on Halloween.

Get fliers or notices in your city newsletter, on the city website, in school newsletters, at the library, grocery store, anywhere you can! If a local business or city has a scrolling outdoor message board, try to get it on there.

Make large signs for the event to direct cars to the location.

Social Media

When posting on social media, share it with us! You can find us on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter @scarcecoed. Tag your post with #pumpkinsmash2017.

Staffing & Volunteers

On the day of the event, make sure to have a couple adults present at all times and a 3-5 volunteers depending on the size of your event.

Recruit volunteers from high school or college environmental clubs, honors societies, volunteer clubs etc. It's a fun event where they get to smash pumpkins!

This event can be a bit messy so volunteers should wear closed-toe shoes and appropriate clothing. Volunteers may want to bring work gloves as well.

Day of the Event

Supplies:

- Signs!
- Something to secure signs
- Scissors
- Tally Sheet (included)
- Work gloves or plastic gloves (some pumpkins will arrive in a messy state)
- Trash bin and/or recycling bin for contaminants from pumpkins (see list below)

Arrive early to place signs, some residents may show up early. Please keep track of how many cars visit and how many pumpkins you collect at your site.

Remember the goal is to educate! When residents drop off pumpkins, explain to them the importance of contaminant-free food scrap composting.

This means **NO:**

- **candles**
- **yarn**
- **stickers**
- **googly eyes**
- **plastic ears**

In other words, only the pumpkins themselves can be composted! No plastic or metal of any kind.

Try to engage residents: check for and remove any contaminants in/on the pumpkin. If delivered in a garbage bag, remove the pumpkin from the bag. You can offer them the opportunity to smash their own pumpkin in the roll-off container (it can be fun!). Return usable decorations or candles to residents.

Painted pumpkins

Some residents may bring painted pumpkins, especially blue (it's a way to designate their house as peanut free). Most of this will be acrylic paint and is fully compostable.

Fun Ideas:

TAKE PICTURES! Email them to carrie@scarce.org & to city newsletter staff

Play music from Smashing Pumpkins!

Dress up! Encourage staff and volunteers to wear green, orange or even pumpkin costumes!

Have pumpkin-toss themed games. Get creative with it.

Clean-Up

When the collection is over, the roll-off must be covered with a tarp (provided per *your* request from the hauler) which must be secured to the container. The roll-off must be picked up within 48 hours per the IEPA guidelines.

Event Follow Up

Send photos from the event, your tally, and weight of pumpkins collected to your local city newsletter staff & SCARCE at carrie@scarce.org. We will conduct a final tally and quantify our collective impact in amount of greenhouse gases prevented and water saved. We want to share your successes!

415 ILCS 5/22.55

(d-5) One-day compostable waste collection event. To further aid in the collection and composting of compostable waste, as defined in subsection (b), a municipality may approve the operation of one-day compostable waste collection events at any site or facility within its territorial jurisdiction, and a county may approve the operation of one-day compostable waste collection events at any site or facility in any unincorporated area within its territorial jurisdiction. The approval granted under this subsection (d-5) must be in writing; must specify the date, location, and time of the event; and must list the types of compostable waste that will be collected at the event. If the one-day compostable waste collection event is to be operated at a location within a county with a population of more than 400,000 but less than 2,000,000 inhabitants, according to the 2010 decennial census, then the operator of the event shall, at least 30 days before the event, provide a copy of the approval to the recycling coordinator designated by that county. The approval granted under this subsection (d-5) may include conditions imposed by the county or municipality as necessary to protect public health and prevent odors, vectors, and other nuisances. A one-day compostable waste collection event approved under this subsection (d-5) must be operated in accordance with the approval, including all conditions contained in the approval. The following requirements shall apply to the one-day compostable waste collection event, in addition to the conditions contained in the approval:

(1) Waste accepted at the event must be limited to the types of compostable waste authorized to be accepted under the approval.

(2) Information promoting the event and signs at the event must clearly indicate the types of compostable waste approved for collection. To discourage the receipt of other waste, information promoting the event and signs at the event must also include:

(A) examples of compostable waste being collected; and

(B) examples of waste that is not being collected.

(3) Compostable waste must be accepted only from private individuals. It may not be accepted from other persons, including, but not limited to, owners and operators of rented or leased residences where it was generated, commercial haulers, and other commercial, industrial, agricultural, and government operations or entities.

(4) Compostable waste must be managed in a manner that protects against releases of the waste, prevents nuisances, and otherwise protects human health and the environment. Compostable waste must be properly secured to prevent it from being accessed by the public at any time, including, but not limited to, during the collection event's non-operating hours. One-day compostable waste collection events must be adequately supervised during their operating hours.

(5) Compostable waste must be secured in non-porous, rigid, leak-proof containers that:

(A) are covered, except when the compostable waste is being added to or removed from the containers or it is otherwise necessary to access the compostable waste;

(B) prevent precipitation from draining through the compostable waste;

(C) prevent dispersion of the compostable waste by wind;

(D) contain spills or releases that could create nuisances or otherwise harm human health or the environment;

(E) limit access to the compostable waste by vectors;

(F) control odors and other nuisances; and

(G) provide for storage, removal, and off-site transfer of the compostable waste in a manner that protects its ability to be composted.

(6) No more than a total of 40 cubic yards of compostable waste shall be located at the collection site at any one time.

(7) Management of the compostable waste must be limited to the following: (A) acceptance, (B) temporary storage before transfer, and (C) off-site transfer.

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(8) All compostable waste received at the event must be transferred off-site to a permitted compost facility by no later than 48 hours after the event ends or by the end of the first business day after the event ends, whichever is sooner.

(9) If waste other than compostable waste is received at the event, then that waste must be disposed of within 48 hours after the event ends or by the end of the first business day after the event ends, whichever is sooner.

(d-6) Permanent compostable waste collection points. To further aid in the collection and composting of compostable waste, as defined in subsection (b), a municipality may approve the operation of permanent compostable waste collection points at any site or facility within its territorial jurisdiction, and a county may approve the operation of permanent compostable waste collection points at any site or facility in any unincorporated area within its territorial jurisdiction. The approval granted pursuant to this subsection (d-6) must be in writing; must specify the location, operating days, and operating hours of the collection point; must list the types of compostable waste that will be collected at the collection point; and must specify a term of not more than 365 calendar days during which the approval will be effective. In addition, if the permanent compostable waste collection point is to be operated at a location within a county with a population of more than 400,000 but less than 2,000,000 inhabitants, according to the 2010 federal decennial census, then the operator of the collection point shall, at least 30 days before the collection point begins operation, provide a copy of the approval to the recycling coordinator designated by that county. The approval may include conditions imposed by the county or municipality as necessary to protect public health and prevent odors, vectors, and other nuisances. A permanent compostable waste collection point approved pursuant to this subsection (d-6) must be operated in accordance with the approval, including all conditions contained in the approval. The following requirements apply to the permanent compostable waste collection point, in addition to the conditions contained in the approval:

(1) Waste accepted at the collection point must be limited to the types of compostable waste authorized to be accepted under the approval.

(2) Information promoting the collection point and signs at the collection point must clearly indicate the types of compostable waste approved for collection. To discourage the receipt of other waste, information promoting the collection point and signs at the collection point must also include (A) examples of compostable waste being collected and (B) examples of waste that is not being collected.

(3) Compostable waste must be accepted only from private individuals. It may not be accepted from other persons, including, but not limited to, owners and operators of rented or leased residences where it was generated, commercial haulers, and other commercial, industrial, agricultural, and government operations or entities.

(4) Compostable waste must be managed in a manner that protects against releases of the waste, prevents nuisances, and otherwise protects human health and the environment. Compostable waste must be properly secured to prevent it from being accessed by the public at any time, including, but not limited to, during the collection point's non-operating hours. Permanent compostable waste collection points must be adequately supervised during their operating hours.

(5) Compostable waste must be secured in non-porous, rigid, leak-proof containers that:

(A) are no larger than 10 cubic yards in size;

(B) are covered, except when the compostable waste is being added to or removed from the container or it is otherwise necessary to access the compostable waste;

(C) prevent precipitation from draining through the compostable waste;

(D) prevent dispersion of the compostable waste by wind;

(E) contain spills or releases that could create nuisances or otherwise harm human health or the environment;

(F) limit access to the compostable waste by vectors;

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(G) control odors and other nuisances; and

(H) provide for storage, removal, and off-site transfer of the compostable waste in a manner that protects its ability to be composted.

(6) No more than a total of 10 cubic yards of compostable waste shall be located at the permanent compostable waste collection site at any one time.

(7) Management of the compostable waste must be limited to the following: (A) acceptance, (B) temporary storage before transfer, and (C) off-site transfer.

(8) All compostable waste received at the permanent compostable waste collection point must be transferred off-site to a permitted compost facility not less frequently than once every 7 days.

(9) If a permanent compostable waste collection point receives waste other than compostable waste, then that waste must be disposed of not less frequently than once every 7 days.



Pumpkins

The Fruit of North America

- Native to North America – earliest traced to Mexico
- They ARE a Fruit
- Made 90% of water
 - Main Nutrients are
 - Lutein
 - Alpha Carotene
 - Beta Carotene – generates Vitamin A
- Pumpkin Pie was declared the Illinois State Pie in April 2015

Where do they grow?

- Pumpkins can literally grow all over the world – EVEN ALASKA! The only place they cannot grow is Antarctica due to the extreme cold.
 - To grow, Pumpkins need:
 - Warm weather
 - Rain – lots of it
 - Soil that can hold water – doesn't drain immediately. The pumpkin needs to soak up the water.
 - Honey Bees – play a significant role in fertilization. If inadequately pollinated, pumpkins will grow, but abort before full development.
- Biggest Producers
 - Worldwide:
 - USA - produces 1.5 billion lbs (680.000.000 kilos) a year
 - Canada
 - Mexico
 - India
 - China
 - Leading producers in the USA
 - Illinois
 - Indiana
 - Ohio
 - Pennsylvania
 - California
 - Top producing Counties in Illinois
 - Tazewell
 - Mason
 - Will

- Marshall
- Logan
- Kankakee
- Kane
- Pike
- Carroll
- Woodford
- Over 85% of pumpkins produced worldwide are canned in Morton, IL at the Libby's/Nestlé processing plant
- 90% of the pumpkins grown in the United States are raised within a 90-mile radius of Peoria, Illinois.

What are pumpkins used for?

- 50 varieties of pumpkins – Most commonly used is the Connecticut Field
Used for:
 - Bread
 - Soup
 - Pies
 - Custard
 - Butter
 - Cookies
 - Animal Feed
 - Seeds
 - Snacks
 - Pumpkin seed oil
 - Paper
 - Phytochemical research
 - Veterinary practices
- Native Americans used pumpkins to make mats, food and medicine

Site: _____

Pumpkin Smash Tally Sheet

of Pumpkins

of Cars

