

O-41-16

Compostable Food Waste

Staff Report

This legislation would amend the Annapolis City Code definition of “Solid Waste” to exclude compostable food waste and would exempt collectors of compostable food waste from having to obtain a solid waste permit and pay the associated fee.

Currently, the City Code defines Collectors of compostable food waste as solid waste haulers. Paragraph 10.16.005P of the Code defines solid wastes as “refuse, recyclable, yard waste, and other waste matter, not to include explosives, poisons, corrosives, flammable liquids, hot ashes and coals, medical waste, or other similar hazardous materials and wastes.” Food waste fits into the "other waste matter" category. The annual permit fee is \$210. Food waste is a commodity that can be used in a beneficial manner through composting. It generally is collected in a much smaller quantity than refuse, recycling and yard waste, and is not typically transported in a conventional solid waste packer truck. Separate collection and use of food waste benefits both the City and the environment by diverting approximately 15-20% of the waste stream from going to a landfill, and creating a beneficial material instead.

Prepared by David Jarrell, Director, Public Works Department.