

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF SANTA FE COUNTY  
RESOLUTION NO. 2018 - 59**

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**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A PILOT  
RESIDENTIAL COMPOSTING PROGRAM**

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**WHEREAS**, compost improves soil vitality; retains moisture; reduces the need for watering and irrigation; protects plants from diseases; encourages perennial growth of trees; and mitigates greenhouse gas emissions by increasing the amount of carbon stored in the soil; and

**WHEREAS**, Santa Fe County has the goals of minimizing landfill disposal, reducing waste, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions per the targets set in the Paris Agreement as stated in Ordinance No. 2014-10, Resolution No. 2013-7, and Resolution No. 2017-68; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Environmental Protection Agency reports that compostable materials, food waste, and yard trimmings comprise 29.5 percent of total municipal solid waste landfill; and

**WHEREAS**, the degradation of organic materials such as food waste in the landfill produces methane, a potent greenhouse gas; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2015 Sustainable Growth Management Plan identifies developing a County-wide composting program as Strategy 15.3.3; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2014 Food Plan of the Santa Fe Food Policy Council identifies developing a County-wide composting program as a tactic to achieve regional food security; and

**WHEREAS**, removing waste from the solid waste stream of a resident saves that household money on solid waste permits and bag tags by reducing the frequency of disposal at the solid waste convenience center; and

**WHEREAS**, decreasing the volume of waste disposed at the County's solid waste convenience centers can reduce the County's hauling frequency and associated costs while prolonging the life of the regional landfill and delaying the need for future capital investment in the landfill; and

**WHEREAS**, the County wishes to provide residents with home-based composting systems in order to achieve the adopted goals, strategies, and cost-savings identified above; and

**WHEREAS**, the County is authorized by the Refuse; Collection and Disposal Act, Section 4-56-1, NMSA 1978, to maintain a system of refuse storage, collection, and disposal and it may contract with individuals to further that purpose; and

**WHEREAS**, per NMSA 1978, Section 4-56-2A, it is within the County's authority to enter into agreements that establish the circumstances under which the County will provide a composting system and training to private residents for the purpose of maintain a compost system.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

- 1) Santa Fe County supports and encourages residential composting systems and will work with other organizations to provide technical assistance to all County residents wishing to install them.
- 2) The County will launch a pilot program to promote residential composting, hiring the services of a contractor to construct and install residential composting systems for users of the County's solid waste convenience centers.
- 3) The residential composting program will be implemented and administered in accordance with the state constitution, state laws, and applicable County ordinances and resolutions.
- 4) One year after implementing this pilot program, the Board will receive a report from the Sustainability Manager regarding the amount of waste diverted, greenhouse gases reduced by the residential composting program, and general success of the program.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 12<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2018.**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF SANTA FE COUNTY**

By: Anna Hansen  
Anna Hansen, Chair  
Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners

**ATTESTATION:**

Geraldine Salazar  
Geraldine Salazar, Santa Fe County Clerk

Date: 6-12-2018



SFC CLERK RECORDED 06/13/21

Approved as to form:

*R. Bruce Frederick*  
R. Bruce Frederick  
Santa Fe County Attorney

Date: 5-31-18

COUNTY OF SANTA FE )  
STATE OF NEW MEXICO ) ss

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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for  
Record On The 13TH Day Of June, 2018 at 03:45:18 PM  
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # **1860120**  
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County



Deputy *Estrella Martinez* Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office  
County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM Geraldine Salazar

SFC CLERK RECORDED 06/13/2018