



2024 Residential Compost Program Application

About the Program: This program offers free compost system installations and training on a first come, first served basis to residents of Santa Fe County who are customers of the County's solid waste convenience centers. Over one third of household waste consists of organic matter (e.g. food and yard trimmings). The goal of the residential compost program is to reduce the amount of waste that ends up in the landfill. This saves residents time and money needed to transport waste to County convenience centers, reduces the greenhouse gas emissions generated from landfills, and produces a soil amendment to help plants flourish!

Eligibility: You must be a resident of Santa Fe County with a valid County solid waste permit to apply. This typically means that you do NOT have a curbside trash pick-up service and instead dispose of your trash and recycling at one of the County's six convenience centers.

The residential compost program is intended for residents who do not currently compost. Exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis (e.g. if a new composting system will help the resident divert more organics from the landfill than current composting system).

Compost Systems: Residents who are selected for the program may choose between a black plastic composting system or a straw bale composting system. Compost system installations and scheduling will be provided by a third-party community compost partner in the summer and early fall.

Application Instructions: Complete the application on p. 2-3 and the attached Residential Compost Program Agreement on p. 4-5. Do not leave any fields blank. Write "N/A" if not applicable.

Submit the completed application and agreement via e-mail, mail, or in-person by **5:00 PM on May 31, 2024**. Eligible applications will be reviewed and accepted on a first come, first served basis. Any applications received after the deadline will be added to a waiting list for future installations. You will receive notice indicating if you have been selected for the program by June 7, 2023.



Strawbale Compost System



Black Plastic Bin Compost System

Mail	Santa Fe County Community Development Department Sustainability Division Backyard Composting Program 100 Catron St., Santa Fe, NM 87501
E-mail	sustainability@santafecountynm.gov
In-person drop off	Deliver to first floor kiosk at the Santa Fe County administration building at 100 Catron St., Santa Fe, NM 87501

Questions: Direct questions to Michael Carr, Santa Fe County Sustainability Specialist, at mcarr@santafecountynm.gov, (505) 995-9515

Visit <https://www.santafecountynm.gov/community-development/sustainability/go-green-learn/compost> to learn more about composting!

Residential Compost Program Application

First Name: _____ Middle Initial: ____ Last Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Physical Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____ How many people live at this residence? _____

1. How many meals, on average, do you prepare at home each week? *(Only include meals where preparation includes cutting or processing raw fruits and vegetables)*

0-7 7-14 14-21 More than 21

2. Access to the property is safe and passable for County staff and the contractor responsible for installing the compost system?

Yes
 No

3. In what condition is the road and driveway to access the property on which you wish to install the compost system?

Paved road Low clearance 2WD dirt road
 High clearance 2WD dirt road High clearance 4WD dirt road

4. Are any of these other road or driveway conditions encountered to access the property on which you wish to install the compost system? Please check all that apply.

Narrow bridge Area in which a trailer would have difficulty turning around

5. Do you own the property on which you wish to install a compost system? *(Not a requirement)*

Yes
 No

6. Is cell service available in your area to allow for communication during scheduling and installation of compost unit?

Yes
 No

7. Do you have a 6'x6' area on your property in which a compost system can be installed? (*An alternative will be provided for those who do not*)

- Yes
- No

8. Do you generate yard waste such as leaves and grass at your residence? (*Not a requirement*)

- Yes
- No

9. Do you have access to an outdoor water source such as a hose or spigot? (*Not a requirement*)

- Yes
- No

10. Are you able to lift 20 pounds? (*Not a requirement*)

- Yes
- No

11. Do you consent to having a photograph taken of the compost installation? (*Photos will potentially be used to advertise the program in future years*)

- Yes
- No

12. How often do you make a trip to one of the County's Solid Waste Convenience Centers?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than once per month | <input type="checkbox"/> Once per week |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Once per month | <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple times per week |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 times per month | |

13. What is your Santa Fe County Solid Waste Permit or Bag Tag Number?

(See photo below)

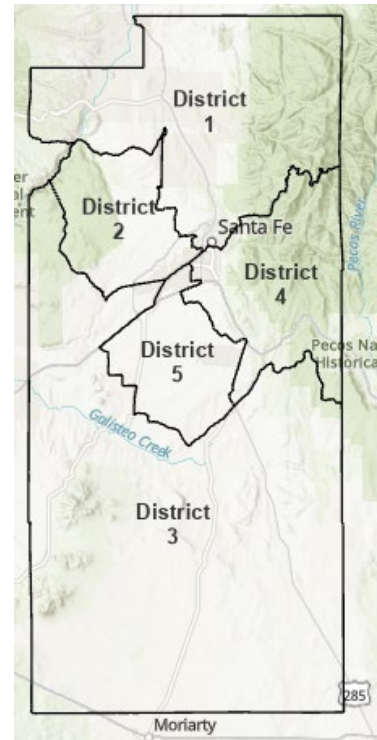


Where to locate your bag tag or permit number

14. Which County Commission District do you reside in?

([view map](#))

- District 1
- District 2
- District 3
- District 4
- District 5



Expected Program Timeline
(subject to change)

- **May 31st, 2024:** Deadline to submit application
Applications reviewed and participants selected by Santa Fe County Sustainability Staff
- **June 7th, 2024:** Applicants to be notified on acceptance into 2024 program
Applicants will be notified by Santa Fe County Sustainability Staff on acceptance or rejection from 2024 program
- **June – October 2024:** Participants contacted by contractor to schedule and install composting units on property.
Participants will be provided educational materials following installation by the contractor, developed in collaboration by Santa Fe County Sustainability and the contractor. Participants are encouraged to reach out to the Santa Fe County Sustainability Division for questions.
- **Fall 2024:** Installation of all compost units at participant properties completed.
- **Fall 2024:** Participants receive initial seasonal “composting tips” e-mail communication from Sustainability Staff.
- **Winter 2025:** Participants receive second seasonal “composting tips” e-mail communication from Sustainability Staff.
- **Spring 2025:** Participants receive third seasonal “composting tips” e-mail communication from Sustainability Staff.
- **Summer 2025:** Participants receive fourth and final “composting tips” e-mail communication from Sustainability Staff.
- **September - October 2025:** Participants will be asked to complete a one-year survey on the successes and challenges during the participation in the program.
Program concludes

Residential Compost Program Agreement

I, or we, _____

(collectively, "Participants") are the owner(s) or tenants of real property or a residence at _____

(the "Property") in Santa Fe County (County). In consideration of being allowed to participate in the County's compost program, Participants make the following representations, warranties, and agreements:

1. Participants understand that their participation in this compost program supports the County's goals to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions and costs associated with disposing of organic material (e.g., food and yard waste) in the landfill, while also producing a soil amendment to enhance soil water retention and support plant growth.
2. Participants are the owners of the Property, or are tenants who rent or lease the Property.
3. If a tenant or lessee of the Property, Participants affirm that:
 - i) They have informed the landlord or Property owner that they are participating in the County's compost program; and
 - ii) They have received any necessary permission from the landlord or Property owner to have a compost system installed at the Property.
4. Participants hold a valid permit to use County solid waste convenience centers.
5. In exchange for the receipt of a compost system at no cost, Participants agree to do all of the following:
 - i) Engage in training and instruction from the County and the contractor responsible for installing the compost system regarding the proper use of the system;
 - ii) Provide access to the Property by the County and the contractor installing the compost system for the installation, Participants who are not responsive to scheduling requests or who are unable to provide access for the installation in a timely manner will be removed from the program;
 - iii) Acknowledge that inclement weather, unsafe, or unpassable roads as determined by County staff or the contractor installing the compost systems may result in participants being removed from the program.
 - iv) Compost all appropriate materials generated at the Property to the capacity of the compost system for at least three years;
 - v) Maintain the compost system in accordance with the training and instructions provided and be responsible for making all necessary repairs to the compost system;
 - vi) Contact the County for technical assistance if questions and/or concerns arise;

- vii) Upon advance notice from the County, provide County personnel access to inspect the compost system whenever necessary during the first year of Participants' participation in this program;
 - viii) One year after the installation of the compost system, submit photos of the compost system (including provided materials) and complete a survey provided by the County about the Participants' experience in the compost program; and
 - ix) Notify the County immediately if Participants discontinue the use of the compost system.
6. Participants acknowledge and agree that the compost system is personal property rather than a fixture to real property and the County may come on to the Property to retrieve the compost system, including any equipment or tools that may have been provided to Participants through this program, if Participants discontinue using the compost system or vacate the Property.
 7. Participants agree to hold harmless, defend, and indemnify the County and its agents, contractors and employees from any and all claims by Participants and any third parties, including the owner of the Property where the compost system is installed if Participants are not the owner, related to the compost system which Participants permitted to be installed at the Property as a part of this compost program.
 8. Participants agree to notify the County Sustainability Office prior to vacating the Property, so that the County may, should it choose to do so in its absolute discretion, retrieve the compost system that has been installed at the Property.
 9. Participants address and telephone number where Participants may be contacted is:

Signature: _____ Date: _____