

### **What is composting?**

According to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, compost is a “mixture that consists largely of decayed organic matter and is used for fertilizing and conditioning land”. Composting is the process by which we create this material.

### **What are the benefits to composting?**

Composting not only diverts food waste and other materials from going into landfills, it can yield nutrient rich soil. Composting builds from the natural process by which the earth operates.

### **How can I get rid of odors?**

Food scraps such as **meat** and **dairy** release more powerful odors when decomposing than other food.

If burying these scraps underneath approved dry materials does not help get rid of the odor, consider taking meat and bones straight to the disposal site. Rinsing out egg shells before placing in the compost will also help reduce any smell. Placing scraps in the freezer as a temporary solution is also helpful.

### **How often should I take out my compost?**

Unless there is a strong odor or pest problem, the compost bag should be taken out to the disposal site weekly

### **Where can I find more information about composting?**

For additional information about composting, check out the Facilities - Administration page on the MCAD Intranet.

### **How do I get rid of bugs or other pests in and around my compost bin?**

If a bug problem still persists after ensuring that food scraps are buried beneath dry material, here are some options for solving the problem:

*Fruit flies.* These little flies are attracted to fruit and other food that may be left out. Maintaining a clean kitchen area will help curb the problem. To get rid of fruit flies, pour 1 1/2 cups of apple cider vinegar into a cup and put a tiny amount of soap in it. Place this nearby the compost to attract the flies and trap them in the mixture, causing them to sink into the bottom.

*Other Pests.* Dispose of all food in the area and report the pest issue immediately to the Housing Office at 612-874-3780 or [housing@mcad.edu](mailto:housing@mcad.edu).

### **Can I place compostable materials directly into the disposal site containers without a bag?**

Yes! However, please do not place regular trash bags, twist ties, or any other non-compostable materials into the containers.

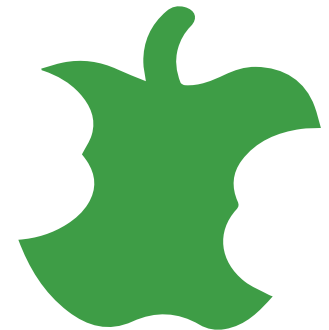
### **Can I make a suggestion in relation to composting in the dorms?**

Yes! We welcome your suggestions to help make this program a complete success. Email your suggestions to the Sustainability Team at [sustainability@mcad.edu](mailto:sustainability@mcad.edu).

### **Additional Questions?**

Email Facilities at [facilities@mcad.edu](mailto:facilities@mcad.edu).

# Composting in the Dorms



**MCAD provides composting for students living on campus in the dorms. This brochure contains information on materials and guidelines for how to compost.**

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

It is your responsibility to maintain the compost properly by keeping the bin and waste stream clean, disposing of the bags properly, and alerting Facilities to any problems that may occur.

## WHAT TO COMPOST

Food Waste (Produce, Meat, Dairy, Bakery & Dry Goods)

Food Soiled Paper, Napkins & Cardboard (Pizza boxes, Paper plates, Wax paper)

Tea Bags

Compostable Take-out Containers, Cups, Plates & Utensils\*

Plant Materials

## DO NOT COMPOST

Recyclable Materials (Plastics #1-7, Glass, Cans)

Liquids, Grease or Cooking Oils

Paper Containers with Plastic Coating\*

Trash

Any container that does not have the following labels should **NOT** be composted:



\*paper to-go containers, freezer boxes, and paper cups (except from MCAD Bistro) are no longer accepted as compostable materials due to plastic liners.

## MAINTENANCE & DISPOSAL

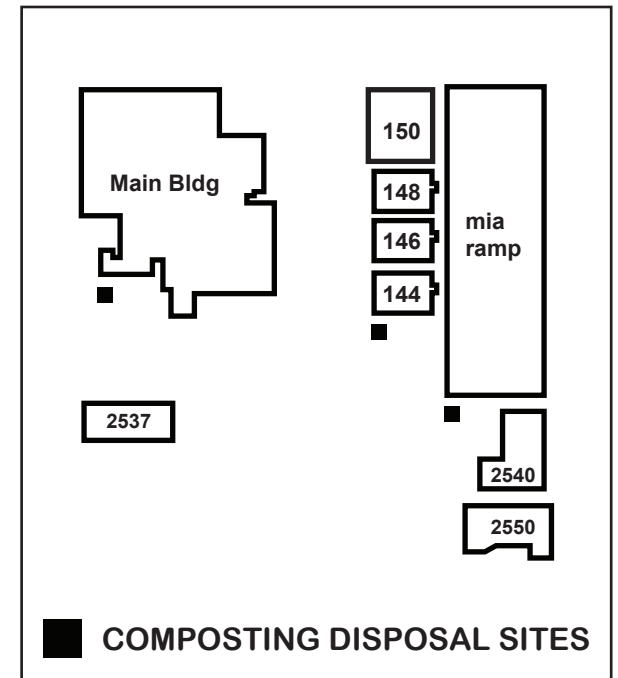
*Pest and Odor Control*

Always bury food scraps under dry material.

Twist and/or fold the top of the liner.

*Disposal Sites*

Take out your compost weekly to one of three sites on campus.



*Compost Liner Supply*

For more compost bags, see your RA!