

Last Week to Order Discounted Compost Bins

With the arrival of spring, Recycling Committee touts benefits of backyard composting

By Jamie Garvin, Cape Elizabeth Recycling Committee

If you've ever thought about trying your hand at backyard composting, now is a perfect time to get started. Or if you're already an avid composter, consider adding an additional bin. The Cape Elizabeth Recycling Committee is once again sponsoring a compost bin sale for all town residents. Orders will be accepted now through April 30 at a discounted price of \$25 per bin. Kitchen counter pails are also available for \$5.

Composting is an amazingly easy way for you to make an individual difference in reducing the amount of household garbage that you generate. Studies have shown that you can remove more than 500 lbs. of organic matter from your household waste per year (25% or more), reducing tax dollars spent on collection and disposal. When combined with other recycling programs, you can reduce the amount of garbage you generate by up to 80%.

You'll also enjoy the benefits of creating wheelbarrows full of valuable compost to add to your garden, lawn, and landscaping. Compost is a nutrient-rich soil amendment, created by the natural decomposition of kitchen and yard waste by microbes, worms and other organisms. When mixed with your soil, it will revitalize it, make it healthier and more productive, and increase moisture retention.

For more information and tips about composting, you can contact the Recycling Committee. To download an order form, connect to the Recycling Center page on capeelizabeth.com, and click on the 'In the News' link. Or contact Al Ward at Public Works, 207-799-4151. Please note: compost bins will be available for pickup after May 23.

