

Local Government Compost Procurement Ordinance (CPO) Adoption and Reporting Requirements

[RCW 43.19A.150](#)

Why an organics management law?

The law aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by:

- Expanding markets for compost.
- Diverting organic materials from landfills.
- Making and using more compost locally.

Who is required to adopt a CPO and report to Ecology?

- Cities and counties with a population of 25,000 residents or more.
- Cities and counties (less than 25,000 residents) that directly provide, contract to provide, or require their UTC-franchised hauler to provide residential curbside organic material collection services.

Who is not required to adopt a CPO and report to Ecology?

- Cities and counties with less than 25,000 residents where residential organic collection is not provided or where the hauler provides residential organic collection service but is not required to by the city or county.
- Cities with less than 25,000 residents where residential organics collection are provided by the UTC-franchised hauler(s) under a requirement set by the county.

What to report to Ecology

Cities and counties required to adopt a CPO should report the following:

- Total tons of organic material diverted from landfills:
 - by all curbside programs they directly provide, or contract with a hauler(s) to provide.
 - at drop-off sites they operate, or they contract with a third-party to operate.
 - by residential curbside programs they require the UTC franchised hauler(s) to provide in their jurisdiction or county.
 - If only the amount of cubic yards is available, then use conversion factors in [Ecology's General Measurement Standards and Reporting Guidelines \(wa.gov\)](#) to convert cubic yards to tons.
- The facility(ies) used for processing this organic material. This is typically permitted or conditionally exempt compost facilities.

What to report to Ecology (continued)

Cities and counties with a CPO should also report:

- The total volume and total cost of compost purchased throughout the report year, not including sales tax, transportation cost, etc.
 - Only report the compost purchased directly by city, county, or their contractors. If the compost was not purchased, do not report it.
 - If 100% compost is not purchased, for example soil and compost mixes, report the quantities and costs based on the percentage of compost in the blended product.
 - Cities and counties that enter into collective purchasing agreements should only report the volume and cost of compost purchased under those agreements for use by their jurisdiction.
 - Report the volume of compost in cubic yards. Use Ecology's standard conversion of 1,100 pounds per cubic yard of compost, if necessary.
- The source or sources of the compost purchased. This is typically compost facilities that have a solid waste permit, or they have a conditional exemption. If a soil blend was bought with compost as an ingredient, find out who made the compost. If bagged compost was purchased, look on the bag for the name of the facility that made the compost.

When to report to Ecology

- The first annual report is due March 31, 2025, and should include data for 2024.
- Reports will be due March 31st each year for the previous years' data.
- Ecology is developing an online system for local governments to submit their compost procurement activity reports. We anticipate the reporting portal will be available in Secure Access Washington by the end of 2024.

How to learn more

- Visit the [Compost procurement ordinances and report](#) website.
- [Compost Procurement Ordinance and Reporting focus sheet](#)
- Visit the [BOX platform](#) for more resources like examples of compost procurement ordinances.
- [Subscribe to the Organics Management Newsletter.](#)
- Contact our Organics management Team at Organics@ecy.wa.gov or (360) 628-7374.



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