

NJDEP Update on implementation of P.L. 2020 c.24 – An Act concerning food waste recycling and food waste-to-energy production

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Overview of law

- ▶ Signed into law April 2020 – goes into effect October 14, 2021
- ▶ Requires large food waste generators, who produce more than 52 tons of food waste per year, to source separate and recycle their food waste
- ▶ DEP shall adopt rules and regulations necessary to implement law
- ▶ Law establishes a Food Waste Recycling Market Development Council

Compliance and exemptions

- ▶ Compliance if using other recycling methods as approved by Department and/or on-site composting, aerobic or anaerobic digestion (AD)
- ▶ 25 road mile exemption – may send to landfill if no recycling facility is within 25 road miles.
- ▶ Cost exemption
 - ▶ Need to file waiver petition!

NJDEP implementation

- ▶ Initial focus on outreach and education
- ▶ Rulemaking in progress
- ▶ Stakeholder meetings as part of rulemaking process

Next steps for generators

- ▶ Generators need to comply by October 14, 2021
- ▶ Although no rules by then, DEP will be enforcing the law and compliance is required!
- ▶ Start making plans:
 - ▶ Measure food waste
 - ▶ Determine distance to nearest food waste recycling facility
 - ▶ Look into ways of reducing food waste – donation or waste reduction actions
 - ▶ Reach out to haulers

For more information

- ▶ <https://www.nj.gov/dep/dshw/food-waste-recycling-law/>
- ▶ reducefoodwaste@dep.nj.gov
- ▶ Bureau of Planning and Licensing (609) 984 4250