

For many years, our Woody Waste collection site was open to the public twelve Saturdays each year. In 2018, we expanded this to eighteen days, by adding six Wednesdays. Despite our adding days to the schedule, we still had residents asking for more flexibility and we listened. In 2020, we applied to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for a “902 Recycling Grant” and were approved. A portion of this grant is currently being used to upgrade our Woody Waste facility to allow for greatly expanded flexibility through the use of access cards our residents can use to access the site during daylight hours.

This project is currently under construction and should be complete in time for a spring re-opening. Please refer to our Township website for updates. Residents interested in using the facility will need to acquire an access card once the project is completed.

On February 1, 2022, the Board of Supervisors adopted the following new rules and regulations for our Woody Waste site:

I. Access Requirements

- §1.1. West Hempfield Township residents may use the compost facility by purchasing an access card for their household. The cost for an access card is \$15 per year and is valid from the date of purchase to December 31 of the calendar year. One access card may be purchased per household.
- §1.2. If an access card is lost and needs to be replaced, there will be a replacement fee of \$20.
- §1.3. Persons desiring to obtain an access card must complete an application form provided by the Township which will require the name or names of the persons in the household who may use the access card, a description of the vehicle and license plate which may be used to deliver material to the compost facility, and contact information. No more than two vehicles may be registered for an access card, and no person may use an access card to allow a different vehicle to access the compost facility.
- §1.4. The Township may revoke, without a refund, the right to access the compost facility for violation of these rules and regulations. Revocation of the access card is in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other penalty which the Township may impose.
- §1.5. All persons entering the compost facility must exercise due caution and care.

II. Materials which may be deposited.

- §2-1. Persons may only dispose of yard waste which originated on their own property. No person may deposit yard waste at the compost facility from any other property. No commercial entities may use the compost facility.
- §2.2. Persons may dispose of only residential yard waste and woody materials. Material deposited may not exceed 8 inches in diameter or 8 feet in length. Grass clippings must be in brown composting bags.
- §2.3. Disposal of any of the following items is prohibited:
 - A. Trash, garbage, or other municipal waste.
 - B. Strings, ropes, or plastic bags.
 - C. Metal, concrete, building materials, or any other man-made materials.
 - D. Tree stumps, rocks, or branches in excess of 8 inches in diameter or 8 feet in length.
 - E. Treated lumber, landscaping timber, cross ties, painted wood, or commercially chipped wood.
 - F. Fruits, vegetables, or similar garden refuse.
- §2.4. All materials must be disposed of at their designated locations within the composting facility. Bags and/or containers used to bring materials to the compost facility must be removed.
- §2.5. The use of chain saws and similar equipment is prohibited.
- §2.6. All children under age 16 must remain in the vehicle.
- §2.7. Skateboarding, rollerblading, bicycling, or any similar activity is prohibited within the compost facility.

III. Miscellaneous.

- §3.1. The compost facility will generally be open 8:00 a.m. until dusk, Tuesdays through Saturdays, from April to mid-December. The Township will post the dates the compost facility will be open and closed each calendar year on its website.
- §3.2. The Township reserves the right to close the facility for maintenance or any other reason at any time.
- §3.3. The Township reserves the right to increase fees and change these rules and regulations.
- §3.4. The Township reserves the right to establish additional rules and regulations.

In order for access to the facility to remain as flexible as possible, we are asking that residents adhere to the above rules and help the Township monitor any issues which may arise.

Check Website for Updates On Access Card Availability.