

Organic Materials Processing Permit Guide for Organics Recycling Facilities in Unincorporated San Diego County

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This guide is a visual summary of regulations at the County and State level that apply generally to organics recycling facilities in unincorporated areas within the County of San Diego. It is intended only for informational purposes and awareness of regulations. For additional information and to ask questions about a specific proposed recycling operation, please consult with the agencies involved.

A visual guide to:

County of San Diego Land Use, Zoning, and Local
Requirements

CalRecycle Composting and In-Vessel Regulatory Tiers

State Water Resources Control Board General Waste
Discharge Requirements for Composting Operations



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County of San Diego Land Use, Zoning, and Local Requirements

Land Use and Zoning

Allowed with Conditions	<p><u>6912 Community Gardens</u> Composting at a Community Garden</p>
	<p><u>6156 Residential and Agricultural Use Types, s. Vermiculture or Vermicomposting</u> Materials generated onsite, where Residential and Agricultural Use types are permitted</p>
	<p><u>Update 85 (Refer to Wood and Green Waste Composting Facility definition)</u> Backyard composting by homeowners and composting of material generated by an agricultural operation for the purpose of mulching or soil amendment on property in the same ownership as that where composting takes place</p>
	<p><u>1513 Recycling Processing Facility</u> Recycling Processing Facility, Heavy: Zones: C37, C38, C40, or M54, M58 upon meeting the criteria for a light recycling processing facility</p>
	<p><u>1513 Recycling Processing Facility</u> Recycling Processing Facility, Wood and Green Materials: Zones C37, C40 Subject to Limitations (See Limitations on Permitted Uses #15) Zones: M50, M52, M54, M56, M58</p>

Minor Use Permit

<p><u>1513 Recycling Processing Facility</u> Recycling Processing Facility, Wood and Green Materials (may include composting of wood and/or green material if conditions satisfactory to Director of Public Works): Zones: A70, A72, S80, S82, S86, S88, S90, S92, S94</p>

Major Use Permit

<p><u>1513 Recycling Processing Facility</u> Recycling Processing Facility, Heavy: Zones: C30, C31, C32, C34, C35, C36, C44, C46, M50, M52, M56</p>
<p><u>1730 Animal Waste Processing:</u> Zones: M58, A72, S92</p>

Fire Authority

<p><u>Sec. 96.1.105.6.19.1. of 2014 Consolidated Fire Code</u> An operational permit is required for greenwaste recycling, mulching, composting operations and storage. In 2017, this code section will become Sec. 96.1.105.6.20.1.</p>

Air Pollution Control District (SDAPCD)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authority to Construct and Permit to Operate required for AD (biogas generating) facilities • Permit required under stationary equipment rules for engines (>50 hp) associated with screens and grinders for processing compost material <p>The SDAPCD is currently drafting an update of the RAQS to identify new feasible measures to further reduce volatile organic compounds (VOCs) or nitrogen oxides (NOx) emissions (as ozone precursors). Once a rule is adopted, permits would be required.</p>

Zoning Key:

Agricultural

A70- Limited Agricultural, A72- General Agricultural,

Commercial

C30- Office-Professional, C31- Residential Office Professional, C32- Convenience Commercial, C34- General Commercial Residential, C35- General Commercial/ Limited Residential, C36- General Commercial, C37- Heavy Commercial C38- Service Commercial, C40- Rural Commercial, C44- Freeway Commercial, C46- Medical Center

Industrial

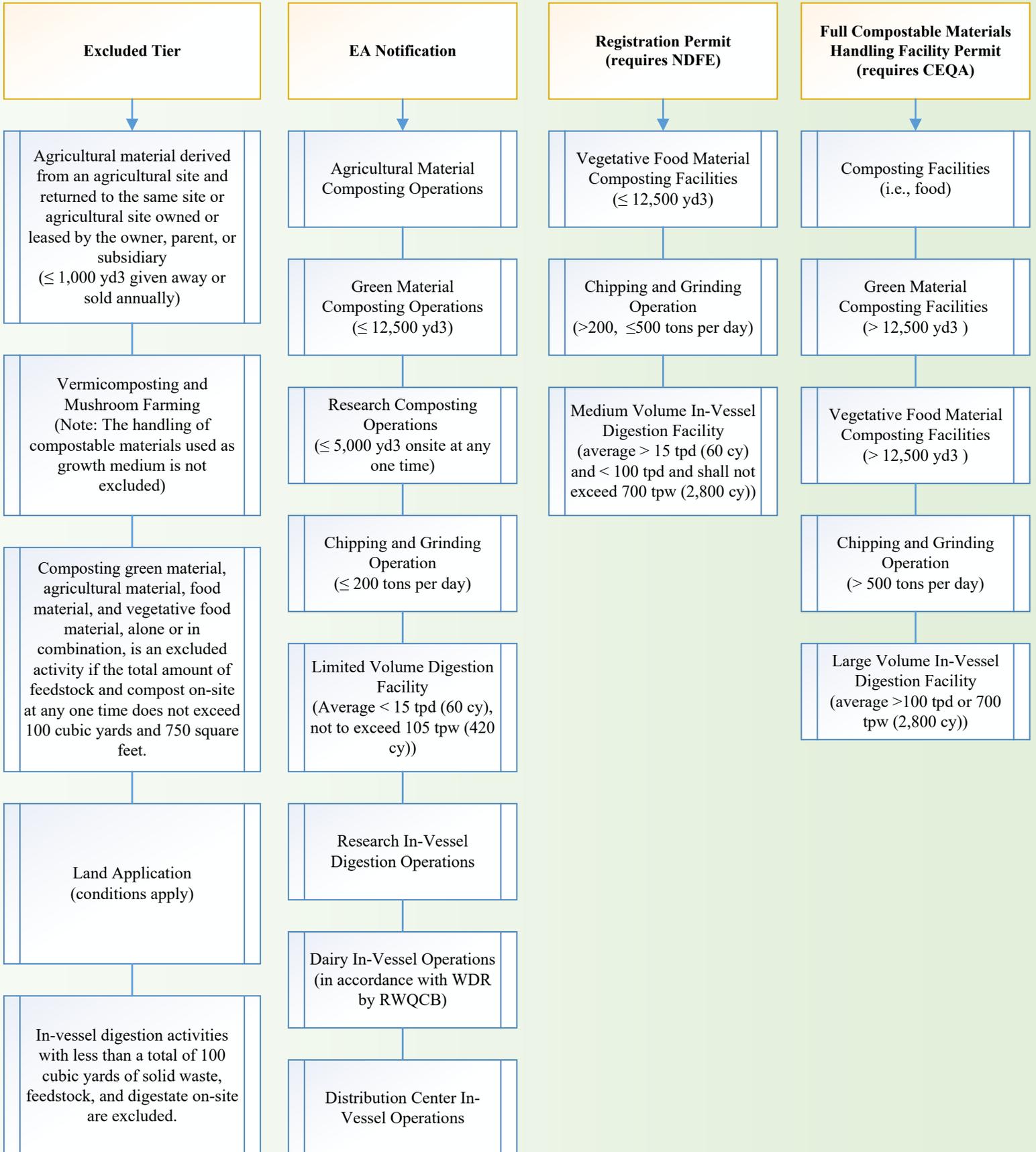
M50- Basic Industrial, M52- Limited Impact Industrial, M56- Mixed Industrial, M58- High Impact Industrial

Special Purpose

S80- Open Space, S82- Extractive, S86- Parking, S88- Specific Plan Area, S90- Holding Area, S92- General Rural, S94- Transportation & Utility Corridor

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CalRecycle Composting and In-Vessel Regulatory Tiers



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State Water Resources Control Board General Waste Discharge Requirements for Composting Operations*

Excluded Tier	Requirement Type	
	Tier I	Tier II
Agricultural Composting (Not including manure composting exceeding the capacities stated below)	Total Facility Capacity	
Chipping and grinding facilities and operations. This includes chipping and grinding facilities and operations at a composting facility if located outside of the composting operations area.	<p>< 25,000 cy (combination of Tier I allowable materials received, processed, and stored: feedstocks, amendments) and meets the siting criteria below.</p>	<p>≥ 25,000 cy (all allowable materials received, processed, and stored: feedstocks, amendments)</p> <p>or < 25,000 cy of Tier I allowable materials, which do not meet the Tier I siting criteria.</p>
Lot clearing by local governmental agencies (i.e., grubbing, tree trimming, etc.) for fire protection	Depth to Groundwater	
Composting activities that are within a fully-enclosed vessel;	<p>Dependent on Soil Percolation Rate as follows (minutes per inch - MPI using percolation test):</p> <p>< 1 MPI : 50 feet 1 MPI - 5 MPI: 20 feet > 5 MPI - 30 MPI: 8 feet > 30 MPI : 5 feet</p> <p>Note that verification is required as part of NOI</p>	
Composting operations that receive, process, and store less than 500 cubic yards (cy) of allowable materials at any given time;	Distance to nearest water supply well, Distance to Surface Water	
Composting operations that receive, process, and store less than 5,000 cy per year of allowable Tier I or Tier II feedstocks, additives, and amendments, and implement the following management practices: 1) Completely cover all materials during rain events to reduce the generation of wastewater; and (2) Manage the application of water to reduce the generation of wastewater.	> 100 feet, > 100 feet	> 100 feet, > 100 feet
	Allowable Feedstocks	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agricultural materials - Green materials - Paper material - Vegetative food materials - Residentially co-collected food and green materials - 10% by volume approved additives (i.e., manure, fertilizing material, anaerobic digestate) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Food materials (non-vegetative) - Biosolids (Class A, B, and/or EQ) - Manure - Anaerobic digestate derived from allowable Tier I and Tier II feedstocks - A combination of allowable Tier I and Tier II feedstocks - 30% by volume approved additives

*Excluded operations may be required to obtain other permits issued by the San Diego Water Board.