

# Mansfield Low Waste Events

## Composting FAQs

### What Can and Cannot Be Composted (at the transfer station)

#### What CAN be composted?

- a. Food scraps (including grains, breads, dairy, fruits, vegetables, tea bags, coffee grinds and small amount of meat)
- b. napkins & paper towels
- c. compostable plates, bowls, cups, and utensils as long as they are BPI certified products -[www.bpiworld.org](http://www.bpiworld.org)
- d. wooden coffee stirrers
- e. paper tea bags (staples are ok) and coffee grinds

#### What CANNOT be composted?

- a. ALL plastics, even if they are labelled as “compostable” or “biodegradable” \*
- b. metal
- c. coffee lids
- d. sugar packets (these are lined with plastic coating)
- e. plastic ketchup or similar dressing and sauce packets (they are made from plastic)
- f. Styrofoam® cups
- g. plastic bags
- h. foil or plastic bags that individually wrapped tea bags come in
- i. tea bags that are plastic

### The Composting Process

#### Where does the compost go?

The Mansfield Transfer Station leaf compost pile, 221 Warrenton Road, Mansfield Center, CT 06250. Hours: Tuesday and Saturday, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm, Thursday, noon to 4:00 pm

#### \*Why don't we allow compostable or biodegradable plastics?

Sadly, many “compostable” or “biodegradable” plastics do not compost well or they need the high heat of a commercial compost facility in order to turn to soil. The transfer station leaf compost pile, although large, is not managed as a commercial compost facility and therefore does not meet the high heat needs of compostable plastics. Currently there are no commercial facilities near Mansfield.