

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
COUNTY OF KITTITAS  
STATE OF WASHINGTON**

ORDINANCE NO. 2022 014

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A COMPOST PROCUREMENT POLICY FOR KITTITAS COUNTY.**

**WHEREAS**, in March 2022, ESSHB 1799 was signed into Washington law; and

**WHEREAS**, the primary goal of the law is to increase the diversion of organic materials going to landfills in order to reduce methane emissions as landfills are a significant source of methane emissions; and

**WHEREAS**, as more organic materials are diverted and recycled, it is critical that the compost manufactured be procured by local jurisdictions and others in order to support the economic viability of these processes and programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the legislature has found that compost production and use provide significant environmental benefits to our soil and food; and

**WHEREAS**, ESSHB 1799 requires that most cities and counties in Washington adopt a compost procurement ordinance by January 1, 2023,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED**, that:

Kittitas County Code Chapter 8.22 is created to read as follows and Kittitas County Information Technology (IT) is hereby directed to make such changes to the published online version of Kittitas County code:

**Chapter 8.22  
COMPOST PROCUREMENT**

**Sections**

8.22.010 Definition.

8.22.020 General Policy

8.22.030 Local Purchasing.

8.22.040 Planning.

8.22.050 Education.

8.22.060 Reporting.

8.22.010 Definition. A “Finished Compost Product” means a product created with “composted material” as defined in RCW 70A.205.015(3). Finished Compost Products include, but are not limited to, 100% finished compost or blends that include compost as a primary ingredient.

Mulch is considered a Finished Compost Product if it contains a minimum of sixty percent composted material. Bark is not a Finished Compost Product.

8.22.020 General Policy. Kittitas County shall purchase finished compost products for use in public projects in which compost is an appropriate material in county projects or on county land. Pursuant to RCW 43.19A.130, Kittitas County will strive to purchase an amount of finished compost products that is equal or greater than fifty percent of the amount of organic materials delivered to the compost processor.

8.22.030 Local Purchasing. Kittitas County will purchase finished compost products from companies producing compost locally, are certified by a nationally recognized organization, such as the United State Composting Council, and produce finished compost products that are derived from municipal solid waste compost programs while meeting quality standards adopted by the department of transportation or adopted by rule by the Department of Ecology.

8.22.040 Planning. In order to meet the general policy, Kittitas County shall plan for compost use in the following categories:

- (a) Landscaping projects;
- (b) Construction and postconstruction soil amendments;
- (c) Applications to prevent erosion, filter stormwater runoff, promote vegetative growth, or improve the stability and longevity of roadways; and
- (d) Low-impact development of green infrastructure to filter pollutants to keep water onsite or both.

This plan will be re-assessed by December 31, 2024, and each December 31<sup>st</sup> of even-numbered years thereafter as part of its reporting obligations in Section 5.

8.22.050 Education. Kittitas County Solid Waste shall conduct educational outreach to inform residents about the value of compost and how the jurisdiction uses compost in its operations each year.

8.22.060 Reporting. By December 31, 2024, and each December 31<sup>st</sup> of even-numbered years thereafter, Kittitas County shall report the following information to the Department of Ecology:

- (a) The total tons of organic material diverted each year;
- (b) The volume and cost of composted material<sup>1</sup> purchased each year; and
- (c) The source(s) of the finished compost product purchased.

Effective Date. The effective date of this Ordinance is January 1, 2023.

The Prosecuting attorney's Office, at its sole discretion, is hereby given the authority to direct IT to correct scrivener's errors in the published website version of this code without needing to return to the BOCC for any further authorization.

ADOPTED this 6 day of December 2022.

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BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Chair

Vice-Chair

Commissioner



ATTEST:

CLERK OF THE BOARD

Clerk of the Board- Julie Kjorsvik

Deputy Clerk of the Board- ~~Mandy Buchholz~~

*Erin Smite*

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

D. R. Mitchell, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney