This enhancement consists of composting organic waste generated from the agricultural operation(s) on-farm. This includes animal manures, livestock mortality (where state or local laws allow), and waste from on-farm processing of agricultural products (e.g., slaughter by-products or vegetable culls removed from the field during harvest). It does not include any hazardous household waste, any general hazardous waste products or bio-hazard waste products. Yard waste such as grass clippings and leaves can be included but are not required. Composted products must be used in compliance with all federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations.

**Benefits**

Composting reduces the volume of waste, kills pathogens, reduces odors and improves the cycling of nutrients. The reuse of the compost products on the farm where they were produced improves soil quality and reduces the need to bring additional nutrients on to the farm.

**Conditions Where Enhancement Applies**

This enhancement applies to farms that produce livestock manure, vegetable waste and/or other organic waste from on farm processing facilities.

**Criteria for on farm composting of farm organic waste**

All waste products produced on the farm must be composted. This includes:

a. Animal manures from confined areas  
b. Livestock mortality (where state or local laws allow)  
c. Vegetable culls  
d. Waste from on farm processing of agricultural products

It does not include:

a. Household waste  
b. Hazardous waste products  
c. Bio-hazard waste products  
d. Crop residue

Follow a composting plan that includes:

1. Balancing Carbon/Nitrogen ratio based on materials being composted  
2. Management of composting temperatures  
3. Mixing and compost time requirements based on materials being composted
Compost site and environmental considerations

1. Size the composting area according to the organic material being generated
2. Divert runoff away from the composting pad
3. Runoff from compost pad must be directed through a grass buffer strip or other means to prevent water quality impairment
4. Select a method (i.e., aerobic composting, anaerobic composting, or vermicomposting) that is compatible with the waste product.

Conduct composting operations in accordance with NRCS Conservation Practice Standards Composting Facility, 317 and Animal Mortality Facility, 316, as appropriate. Assistance with conservation practice standards is available at your local NRCS Field Office. Use all compost produced on the farm as a soil amendment on the farm. Apply the compost according to a nutrient management plan that considers the crop needs, timing and rate of application.

Layout Sketch & Drawing (Provide sketch, drawings, maps, and/or aerial photographs.)

- Geo-referenced field map with all delineated treatment areas where CSP Enhancement WQL22 is to be applied.

Adoption Requirements

This enhancement is considered adopted when the participant has established composting facilities for all of the organic waste on the farm and has actually begun composting.

Documentation Requirements

1. An inventory of waste products produced on the farm,
2. An estimate of the annual quantities of compost to be produced,
3. A location map showing the location of the composting facility(s),
4. A nutrient management plan for the land application of the compost,
5. A composting plan, and
6. Photographs of the composting facility.

References*:


Field Office Technical Guide:


* Some online documents may take several minutes to download.

State Supplemental Information

The contract holder is responsible for developing a composting plan, monitoring and balancing C:N ratios as stated in criteria #3. As well as all other requirement criteria. If questions arise, contact area or state agronomists.
## Documentation Form

<table>
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<th>Waste Products Produced On Farm</th>
<th>Estimate of Annual Quantities of Compost to be Produced</th>
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</table>
- Attach map showing the location of the composting facility(s)
- Attach the nutrient management plan for land application of compost (with soil test no more than 3 years)
- Attach composting plan

**Client’s Acknowledgement (To be signed before the Enhancement is applied.)**

By signing below, I acknowledge that I:

- have reviewed and understand the site specific design, installation specifications and operation/maintenance requirements in this State Supplemental Sheet and have an understanding of the purpose(s) of this Enhancement;
- will install, operate, and maintain this Enhancement in accordance with the National Sheet, the Washington State Supplemental Sheet and the site specific specifications.
- will make no changes to the planned design and installation without prior written approval of the Natural Resources Conservation Service.
- will obtain all necessary permits and/or rights, and comply with all ordinances and laws pertaining to the installation, operation, and maintenance of this Enhancement, prior to the start of installation; and
- will assume responsibility for notifying all Utilities affected by the installation, operation and maintenance of this Enhancement.

Signature  
Date

USDA is an equal opportunity employer and service provider.