**Earth Care Farm Agricultural Composting**

**Materials Acceptance Policy**

The production of a quality compost product can result only when the highest quality *source-separated* raw materials are used in the composting process.  For this reason and because Earth Care Farm compost is an agricultural product used for food production, the following guidelines must be followed:

**Condition of materials:** Only those materials appropriate for clean agricultural composting will be accepted on this site.  A representative sample of all incoming raw materials must be obtained prior to arrival on site.  A laboratory analysis may be required before a final decision is made regarding the acceptance or rejection of materials.

In addition, the materials must be *absolutely clean and free of contamination* of any kind including but not limited to human pathogens, hazardous wastes including toxic chemicals, radioactive materials, asbestos and heavy metals.  Sewage sludge or other forms of human excrement, human body fluids including blood and blood products will not be accepted.  Trash including glass, metals, plastics, Styrofoam, demolition debris, street sweepings, and other garbage will not be accepted.

Each truck load of material must be thoroughly screened at the point of origin to exclude any contaminating material prior to shipping.  We highly recommend that all suppliers have one trained person at their site to oversee and assure proper source-separation.  Truck drivers will be required to sign a form for each delivery stating that, to the best of their knowledge, the material is free of contaminants.  Earth Care Farm will discontinue accepting any materials that fail to consistently meet the above guidelines.

Any hay, straw, manure and bedding must not have been sprayed with the persistent herbicides Clopyralid (Dow AgroSciences, 1987, Aminopyralid (Dow AgroSciences, 2005), Aminocyclopyrachlor (DuPont, 2010), and Picloram (Dow AgroSciences, 1957). We must receive written confirmation that these herbicides were not used.

**Condition of Transportation:** *All materials must be transported in a responsible manner to prevent spills and leaking.* No material will be accepted on site by Earth Care Farm personnel prior to receiving authorization or without proper documentation.

*Earth Care Farm reserves the right to refuse any materials that upon inspection does not adhere to the qualifications outlined above.  Failure to meet the policy guidelines and Earth Care Farm standards will result in the materials being returned to the point of origin.  Earth Care Farm will assume no financial burden for additional costs resulting from the return of contaminated materials.*

Michael P. Merner

Owner of Earth Care Farm