

CHAPTER 35 - YARD WASTE DISPOSAL ORDINANCE
OF DUBUQUE COUNTY, IOWA

Adopted January 14, 1991

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**PART 1
INTRODUCTION**

35-1 PURPOSE. This Ordinance is enacted in order to define yard waste and provide a safe, effective method of composting.

35-2 DEFINITIONS.

35-2.1 "**Compost**" means organic material resulting from biological decomposition of waste which can be used as a soil conditioner or soil amendment.

35-2.2 "**Yard Waste**" means debris such as grass clippings, leaves, garden waste, brush and trees. Yard waste does not include tree stumps.

35-3 through 35-10 Reserved.

**PART 2
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

35-11 SEPARATION REQUIREMENT.

35-11.1 All yard waste shall be separated by the owner or occupant from all other garbage and refuse accumulated on the premises and shall be composted on the premises or placed in degradable bags prior to be set out for collection by a collection hauler or prior to delivery by the owner or occupant to the composting site at the sanitary landfill. Such degradable bags are defined as "any untreated paper bags or biodegradable plastic bags acceptable to the composting site at the sanitary landfill."

35-11.2 All collection haulers shall be subject to the separation requirements set forth in this section and shall only deliver to the composting site at the sanitary landfill yard waste which is contained in the above-described degradable bags.

35-12 PRIVATE COMPOSTING.

35-12.1 Yard waste generated, composted and disposed of on the same premises where it originated shall be permitted, provided that this composting does not create a nuisance.

35-12.2 The use of yard waste as land cover or soil conditioner is not prohibited and persons may go to the composting site at the sanitary landfill and retrieve yard waste disposed of there to use for their own composting/mulching purposes.

35-13 PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY PROHIBITION. No person shall deposit any yard waste in any public right-of-way.

35-14 ENFORCEMENT. Any violation of this ordinance is a county infraction, as specified in Iowa Code Section 331.307. Enforcement Officer shall be the County Health Administrator.

35-15 REPEALER. All ordinance or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provision of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

35-16 SEVERABILITY. If any section, provision or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any section, provision or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

35-17 through 35-20 Reserved.

**PART 3
ENACTMENT**

35-21 EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall be in effect from and after its final passage, approval and publication as provided by law.