



# Regulations & Legislation for On-site Composting



**York**  
**12<sup>th</sup> March 2008**



## What do you need to know?

### **1. Environmental Permits**

(Waste Management License Exemptions)

*Environmental issues*

### **2. Animal By-Products Regulations**

*Animal Health issues*



1. Waste Management License Exemptions:

## **Paragraph 12 WMLX**

**“For an activity to be considered exempt, the waste must be recovered without endangering human health and without using processes or methods which could harm the environment, in particular without:**

**risk to water, air, soil, plants or animals  
causing nuisance through noise or odours  
adversely affecting the countryside  
or places of special interest.”**

*Environment Agency guidance notes*



1. Waste Management License Exemptions:

## Limitations

- **Maximum : 1000m<sup>3</sup>**
- ✘ **Up to 400 tonnes**
- **Different areas/quantities/materials = different requirements**  
**e.g. paved or sealed area on which to compost**
- ✘ **Meat-excluded only food waste**
- **Currently no specific limit to quantities stored on site**  
**(but within scale of composting under an exemption)**
- **Applying/notifying should be done at least 35 days before you intend to start – you cannot start without being registered without risking prosecution**
- **Within 250m of 'sensitive receptor'? Risk Assessment.**
- **Surface and groundwater protection**



1. Waste Management License Exemptions:

## Links & Contacts

### **Environment Agency website:**

Subjects > Waste > Waste licences and exemptions >  
Are you regulated? > Complex waste exemptions > Paragraph 12  
TEL: 08708 506506

### **Google Earth**

[earth.google.com](http://earth.google.com)

### **Magic Maps**

<http://www.magic.gov.uk/website/magic/>

### **EA groundwater protection zone maps**

<http://maps.environment-agency.gov.uk/wiyby/mapcontroller>



## 2. Animal By-Products Regulations:

### Disposal of waste food by retail premises under the Animal By-Products Regulation (ABPR)



Raw meat and other uncooked products of animal origin can spread serious animal diseases such as Foot and Mouth Disease. It is important that unsold material is disposed of properly.



It is not safe to feed most waste food to livestock. Please check with your Local Authority if anyone asks you to supply any food for feeding to animals.



Think of the environment. Can you reduce your waste or recycle it? This will reduce your costs.



Uncooked meat, fish and eggs must be sent to an outlet that is approved to receive them:-

- Rendering plant
- Incinerator
- Alkaline hydrolysis plant
- Technical plant
- Composting or Biogas plant
- Pet Food plant

These requirements come from The Animal By-Products Regulations (2005) and Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002. For more information contact your Local Authority, local Defra Animal Health Office or Defra's helpline on 08459 335577. Alternatively visit Defra's website at

[www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/by-prods/default.htm](http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/by-prods/default.htm) or LACORS website at [www.lacors.gov.uk](http://www.lacors.gov.uk)

PB 11268

Nobel House  
17 Smith Square  
London SW1P 3JR  
[www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk)



### Think before you bin!

Disposal of waste food by retail premises under the Animal By-Products Regulation (ABPR)



LACORS  
local authority quality regulation





2. Animal By-Products Legislation:

## **Food and Catering Wastes**

**Categories of meat wastes – category 3**

**Collection & transport in sealed containers**

**Composting site management to avoid cross-contamination**

**Time and Temperature Requirements**

**Particle size requirements**

**HACCP plan**

**Testing phase**

**Microbiological pathogen tests for salmonella & enterobacteria**

**State Veterinary Service**

**Eventual Positive release accreditation**



## Exemption from the Animal By-Products Regulations

From Defra Website:

### ***“Use of compost from mixed waste***

*Where catering or household waste contains meat, it must be composted in a premises approved by Defra under the Animal By-Products Regulations 2005. **The only exception** is for catering waste composted on the premises on which it originates, provided that the material produced is used only on that premises, and that livestock are not kept on the premises. This means that householders may compost their own kitchen waste on their own domestic compost heap. This exemption may also apply to schools, hospitals or prisons. They may compost their own kitchen waste for use on that premises, provided livestock are not present.”*



**Can regulation 16 (Home Composting) apply?**

**NO:**

**Anywhere the premises are not integral  
Or where the ownership is not well defined**

**Allotments  
University Campus  
Shopping Centre  
Caravan Park  
Village Green**



## **Can regulation 16 (Home Composting) apply?**

**YES:**

**Basically anywhere with it's own defined grounds**

**Detached or Terraced house, family**

**House or block of flats split into separate**

**bedsits/flats**

**Guest House**

**Garden Flat with own garden**

**Schools**

**Prisons**

**Hospitals**

**Individual Shops**

**Office Block**

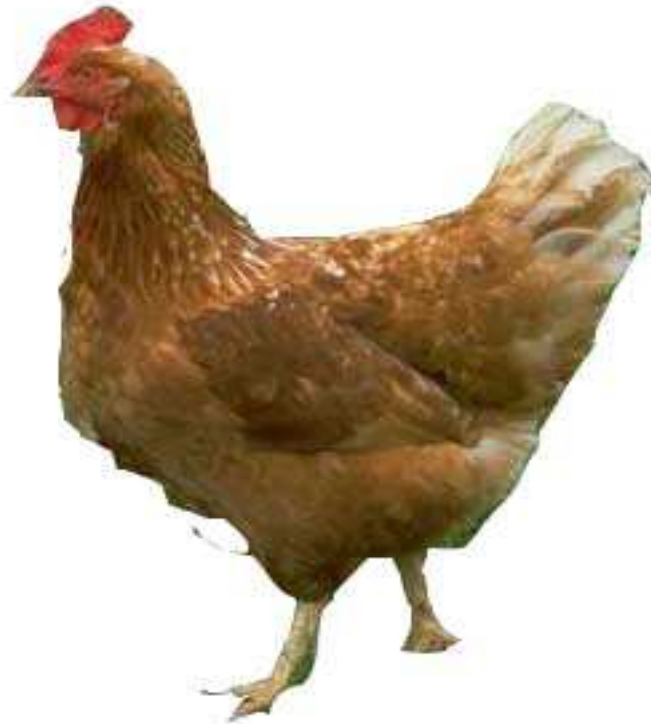


# Can regulation 16 (Home Composting) apply?

**YES BUT:**



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# **Thank you for your patience**

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[cath@communitycompost.org](mailto:cath@communitycompost.org)