Garden Composting Operations

Last Updated: January 10, 2018
BY THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN THE COMMISSIONER OF STREETS AND
SANITATION AND THE COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH PURSUANT TO SECTION 7-28-
715 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF CHICAGO, THE FOLLOWING RULES REGARDING
GARDEN COMPOSTING OPERATIONS ARE ADOPTED HEREIN.

By Order of the Commissioners:

Signed: 

JOHN TULLY
Acting Commissioner, DSS

Date: 12/23/17

Signed: 

JULIE MORITA, M.D.
Commissioner, CDPH

Date: 12/22/12

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PART A: INTRODUCTION

1.0 Scope and Purpose. These Rules set forth an approved third party garden composting registration portal, as provided by Section 7-28-715(3)(iii) of the Municipal Code of Chicago (hereafter, "the Code"), and prescribe requirements related to garden composting operations.

2.0 Definitions. For purposes of these rules, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) "Food scrap" shall have the meaning ascribed in Section 7-28-710 of the Code.

(2) "Composting operation" shall have the meaning ascribed in Section 7-28-710 of the Code and shall include all composting activities whether residential or commercial.

(3) "Garden composting operation" means a composting operation that meets all of the criteria of a Tier I or a Tier II garden composting operation as set forth in Section 7-28-715(3) of the Code.

(4) "Landscape waste" shall have the meaning ascribed in Section 7-28-710 of the Code.

(5) Limited organic waste" shall have the meaning ascribed in Section 7-28-710 of the Code.

(6) "Operator" shall have the meaning ascribed in Section 7-28-710 of the Code.

(7) "Owner" shall have the meaning ascribed in Section 7-28-710 of the Code.

PART B: REGISTRATION

3.0 Registration Portal. In order to comply with the registration requirement set forth in Section 7-28-715(3)(iii) of the Code, any operator of a garden composting operation shall register online through the website for the Chicago Urban Agriculture Mapping Project (CUAMP), at www.cuamp.org.

4.0 Registration Information. Any person registering a garden composting operation must certify that the operator has the property owner’s permission to conduct the composting operation, and that proof of the permission can be provided upon request. Additionally, the registrant must provide the following information:

(1) Owner Information. A person registering a garden composting operation shall provide the name, telephone number, mailing address, and email address of the property owner.
(2) **Operator Information.** A person registering a garden composting operation shall provide the name, telephone number, mailing address, and email address of the operator.

(3) **Individual in Charge.** If the individual in charge of the garden composting operation is different from the operator, or if the operator is listed as an entity that is not an individual person, a person registering a garden composting operation shall provide the name, telephone number, mailing address, and email address of the individual principally in charge of the garden composting operation operations.

(4) **Other Information.** A person registering a garden composting operation shall answer the questions set forth in the registration portal, which may include, but are not limited to, the following:

   a) What is the garden composting operation’s current status?

   b) What is the composting method?

   c) What material will be composted?

   d) What will be the source of the compost material?

   e) What types of best practices will be used to control rodents and any other possible nuisances at the garden composting operation?

**5.0 Timing of Registration.** The operator must register a garden composting operation according to the following schedule:

   (1) The operator must complete the initial registration within ninety (90) days of the effective date of these rules, or within thirty (30) days of the creation of the garden composting operation, whichever occurs later.

   (2) The operator must renew and update the registration every year on or before April 1.

   (3) The operator must keep the information in the registry current by updating the registration within thirty (30) days of any change in garden composting operation status or any other information provided in the registration.

**PART C: COMPLIANCE**

**6.0 Other Laws.** These rules in no way affect the responsibilities of the operator to comply with all other applicable federal, state or local laws, ordinances, rules, or regulations.

**7.0 Severability.** If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subsection, section, or part of these Rules is adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, that judgment shall not affect,
impair or invalidate the remainder of these Rules, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subsection, section or part to which the judgment is rendered.