



Charleston County News Release

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Charleston County Residents Can Recycle Christmas Trees

With the assistance of County residents, Charleston County's Solid Waste Department will be recycling real – not artificial – Christmas trees and turning them into compost for residents to use for gardening this spring.

Charleston County residents who live within a municipality can simply put their Christmas tree on the curb for their municipality's yard waste pick-up. The municipality's haulers then take the trees and other yard waste to Charleston County's Bee's Ferry Landfill, where it is composted by Charleston County's Solid Waste Department.

Residents should check with their municipality to find out their yard waste pick-up day.

For residents in unincorporated areas, Christmas trees can be dropped off at the Bee's Ferry Landfill (1344 Bee's Ferry Road in West Ashley) to be recycled. Hours of operation are Monday – Saturday 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

It is important to remove all tinsel and ornaments before placing a Christmas tree on the curb for pick-up or before bringing it to the Bee's Ferry Landfill.

The process of recycling trees and yard waste into compost is as follows:

- At the Bee's Ferry Landfill, the trees and yard waste are ground up in what is called a tub grinder.
- The yard waste is then placed in windrows (long piles of ground-up yard waste), where it is watered and turned with a windrow turner.
- After six months, the yard waste breaks down to a rich, dark soil, called compost.
- The compost is screened and ready to be used again as a soil amendment in yards, lawns, gardens, flower beds or potted plants.

Once the yard waste and trees are composted, Charleston County residents can purchase the compost for just \$10 per ton at the Bee's Ferry Landfill. Residents can bring a pick-up truck to the landfill to have it loaded.

For questions about recycling Christmas trees and other yard waste, contact the Bee's Ferry Landfill at (843) 571-0929.

Visit the Charleston County Web site at www.charlestoncounty.org for news, services and up-to-date information relating to Charleston County Government.