

"Where People and Trees Have Deep Roots and Grow Strong"



Somerset TOWN JOURNAL



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Composting For All Coming in August, 2024! Let's Get Dirty!

By **Barton Rubenstein, Chair, Environment Committee,**
Dorset Avenue

As discussed in the previous months in our Town Journal, composting is a very important issue for a more sustainable planet. Because of our Town's focus on these critical environmental issues, the Town Council has now passed an opt-out composting program for the entire Town, to be implemented in August, 2024. At present, about 50% of our Town currently composts. And now is the time to engage everyone else. Prince Georges County, led by County Executive Angela Alsobrooks, has already implemented curbside composting for the entire county. It is up to us to be completely engaged and convince Montgomery County to do the same.

The FREE program works like this: for those of you who do not currently separate your food scraps, our compost contractor will deliver a bucket to your home in mid-August. Then, you simply place all of your food scraps (vegetables, meat, bones, coffee grinds, filter, dirty paper, to name a few) in the bucket and place it on the curb every Monday night. Our compost contractor comes early Tuesday morning to collect, and then you are ready for another week of composting. You can also choose to get

a stainless steel compost bucket to keep next to your sink. To see a short video of how to compost, click this link <https://bit.ly/3zrlwqw> or scan the QR code on page 3.

Also, if you are interested in learning more detailed information about the virtues of composting, please watch our April 11, 2024 Town Forum on Composting here: <https://bit.ly/3zbl9QS>

This is an important way to reduce the amount of landfill we create individually and collectively as a town. Presently, about 30% of all food is discarded in the United States. It is extremely important to repurpose our food scraps for the creation of high-quality topsoil for farmers, among other uses.

If for some reason, you are certain that you do not want to be a part of this program, please call the Town Hall and let them know, and they will take you off the list.

If you have any questions about this program, please contact the Environment Committee at tos.environmentcommittee@gmail.com

Continued on page 3

IN THIS ISSUE



Composting For All Coming in August, 2024! Let's Get Dirty!

Let's Toast, Somerset COMPOSTS!

Our New Opt-Out Program Starts September 3, 2024
Somerset is investing in composting to

Reduce Landfill and Fight Climate Change!

Presently 50% of residents composts and soon a bucket will be delivered to everyone else.

There is no additional cost to participate.

Place food scraps in your bucket and put it on the curb Monday nights.

To see how easy it is to compost, scan the QR code.

To Opt-out of this program, please call the Town Hall.



GENERAL PERMITS

TREE REMOVALS

- 4716 Falstone Avenue
 - Silver Maple (30") – tree is missing its top
 - Leyland Cypress (10") – tree is dead
 - Leyland Cypress (11", 15", 16") – trees have overgrown the site and are not providing screening
 - Pin Oak (16") – shared with 5529 Surrey Street and resident approves removal
 - All trees were approved by the Council for removal
- 4907 Cumberland Avenue
 - Birch (14") – tree is 80% dead and will not revive
 - Dogwood (6") – tree is 50% dead and will not revive

— Redbud (6") – tree is leaning horizontally

- 5506 Uppingham Street: Redbud (16") – tree is dying -tree is hazardous
- 5804 Surrey Street: Arborvitae (12") – tree is dead

BUILDING PERMIT

- 4816 Essex Avenue — Permit extension approved
- 5407 Uppingham — Retaining wall and patio approved

FENCE PERMIT

- 5530 Warwick Place

HVAC PERMIT

- 4801 Cumberland Avenue