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**ORDINANCE NO. 494 AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO COMPOST
PROCUREMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR WALLA WALLA COUNTY.**

Auditor File Number(s) of document being assigned or released:

Grantor

1. **Walla Walla County Commissioners**
- 2.
- 3.

Additional names on page ____ of document.

Grantee

1. **The Public**
- 2.
- 3.

Additional names on page ____ of document.

Legal description (i.e.: lot and block or section township and range)

n/a

Additional legal is on page ____ of document.

Assessors Parcel Numbers

n/a

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**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WALLA WALLA COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

ORDINANCE NO. 494

**AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO COMPOST PROCUREMENT REQUIREMENTS
FOR WALLA WALLA COUNTY.**

Whereas, in March 2022, the Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill (ESSHB) 1799 was signed into Washington law; and,

Whereas, The primary goal of the law is to increase the diversion of organic materials going to landfills in order to reduce methane emissions from landfills; and,

Whereas, ESSHB 1799 (RCW 43.19A.150) requires that most cities and counties in Washington adopt a compost procurement ordinance by January 1, 2023; and,

Whereas, Walla Walla County has reviewed an Ordinance prepared by the City of Walla Walla, and finds that Ordinance substantially meets the requirements of the state law; and,

Whereas, Walla Walla County has modified the City's ordinance to reflect differences between the City and the County.

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Walla Walla County Board of Commissioners that:

Section I. The Board of County Commissioners Makes the Following Findings of Fact:

1. Notice of a Public Hearing was published in the Walla Walla Union Bulletin on January 5, 2023.
2. The Board of County Commissioners held a public hearing on January 17, 2023, for the purpose of receiving testimony on the proposed Ordinance.

Section II. The amendments to Walla Walla County Code, enacting a new Chapter 13.06, are **adopted** as presented to the Board of County Commissioners on this date as attached in Exhibit A.

Section III. Index. The index to any chapter of the Walla Walla County Code in which sections are added or removed or in which section titles are changed herein shall also be amended to reflect the section amendments.

Section IV. Effective Date. This Ordinance is effective as of the date of signing.

Section V. Severability. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining parts of this Ordinance.

Section VI. Publication. This Ordinance will be published by an approved summary consisting of the title.

PASSED by the Walla Walla County Board of Commissioners in regular session at Walla Walla, Washington, then signed by its membership and attested by its Clerk in authorization of such passage this 17th day of January, 2023.

Attest:


Diane L. Harris, Clerk of the Board


Jennifer R. Mayberry Chairman, District 1


Todd L. Kimball, Commissioner, District 2


Gunner Fulmer, Commissioner, District 3

Constituting the Board of County Commissioners
of Walla Walla County, Washington

Approved as to form:


Jesse D. Nolte, Chief Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney



Exhibit A

13.06.010 Definitions.

For purposes of this chapter, the following definition shall apply:

A “Finished Compost Product” means a product created with “composted material” as defined in RCW 70A.205.015(3). Finished Compost Products include, but are not limited to, 100% finished compost or blends that include compost as a primary ingredient. Mulch is considered a Finished Compost Product if it contains a minimum of sixty percent composted material. Bark is not a Finished Compost Product.

13.06.020 General Policy.

Walla Walla County will purchase finished compost products for use in public projects in which compost is an appropriate material in county projects when availability, health, quality, safety, and price-competitive criteria are met.

13.06.030 Local Purchasing.

Walla Walla County will purchase finished compost products from companies producing compost locally, are certified by a nationally recognized organization, and produce finished compost products that are derived from municipal solid waste compost programs and meet quality standards comparable to those established by the Department of Transportation or adopted by rule by the Department of Ecology.

13.06.040 Planning.

To the extent required by RCW 43.19A.150(3), Walla Walla County shall plan for the use of compost in the following categories:

- a) Landscaping projects;
- b) Construction and postconstruction soil amendments;
- c) Applications to prevent erosion, filter stormwater runoff, promote vegetative growth, or improve the stability of roadways; and
- d) Low-impact development of green infrastructure to filter pollutants to keep water onsite or both.

13.06.050 Information.

To the extent required by RCW 43.19A.150(4), Walla Walla County will endeavor to inform residents about the value of compost and how the County uses compost in its operations.

13.06.060 Reporting.

Reporting on Walla Walla County’s use of compost shall be in accordance with RCW 43.19A.150(5).