Facts on COMPOSTING in Quincy

What's Happening
Thanks in part to Quincy Climate Action Network's advocacy, the City of Quincy has created a task force on recycling food waste. The task force is studying what it would take to pick up food waste in a separate bin on trash day and turn it into rich, planet-friendly compost—and potentially green energy.

Why It Matters
- Food is the largest single component of trash, making up 22% of solid waste in the US by weight.
- Food rotting in landfills represents the third-largest source of the greenhouse gas methane in the US.
- Quincy incinerates 30,000 tons of trash per year to generate electricity; 6,600 tons of that is water-rich food that likely uses energy to burn.
- That waste could instead be turned into compost that improves soils and helps remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.
- Food waste can also generate renewable energy if it is sent to facilities called anaerobic digesters.
- Curbside food-waste bins lock to keep rodents out.

What You Can Do
- Buy or make a backyard compost bin. The Department of Public Works offers subsidized bins to residents for $25 (bring a check or credit card to 55 Sea Street between 9 am and 2:30 pm on weekdays).
- Sign up to have your food scraps collected from companies such as Black Earth Compost, Bootstrap Compost, or City Compost.
- Build a worm bin or stealth composter to compost indoors.
- Sign up to help bring citywide composting to Quincy by emailing us at info@quincycan.org.

Sign up for our mailing list: bit.ly/QCANlist

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