

ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO 401 KAR 5:037 THAT COMMONLY OCCUR AT COMPOSTING FACILITIES

- Aboveground Storage Tanks (AST's)
- Water well
- Septic system
- Storage and Disposal of Vehicle Fluids
- Loading and Unloading of Compostable Materials
- Land treatment of waste

This listing is by no means complete, and some of the above activities may not apply to your site. Be sure to read Section 2 of the regulation thoroughly to assure that all regulated activities that occur at your facility are included in your Groundwater Protection Plan (GPP).

The GPP must include information about the capacity and contents of your AST's. Secondary containment for AST's includes use of double walled tanks, and structures to contain a spill. If the AST contains fuel for refueling heavy equipment or other vehicles, describe the surface over which the refueling occurs. Any spills associated with fueling equipment or vehicles must be cleaned up immediately if they occur over ground surface or may run off to the ground. A spill clean up kit should be available near the fuel tank and employees trained to avoid over-filling their vehicles.

If a water well or septic system is in use, the protective practices provided in the cabinet-written generic GPP for Domestic Water Wells or for Residential Septic Systems may be adapted to your facility GPP. Instructions may be downloaded from the GPP web site.

If maintenance on heavy equipment or light vehicles is conducted on site, the GPP must contain information on storage locations for:

1. 55-gallon or larger containers of new oil, coolants, hydraulic fluid or transmission fluid.
2. Any size containers of waste oil, used coolant, used hydraulic fluid and transmission fluid. Provide a specific explanation regarding how these pollutants are disposed (i.e., recycler picks up, burn for heat).

If maintenance is conducted in a building, check for floor drains. If present, determine where they go. If you can't determine where the floor drain goes, or if the floor drain in this area discharges to a septic tank, plug the drain **immediately!** Only sanitary wastewater may drain into the septic tank.

If any spills occur over the ground surface while loading or unloading compostable materials, they should be cleaned up as soon as possible.

The Groundwater Section of the Watershed Management Branch strongly recommends that all composting be conducted on an impermeable surface such as a concrete pad that directs any run off to a containment structure. Under no circumstances should any run off or compost material be allowed to flow into a sinkhole or nearby water body.

The GPP must include the certification numbers of all certified operators, and a signed statement that the site is operated in compliance with the environmental performance standards in 401 KAR 47:030 and 401 KAR 30:031.

The Groundwater Protection Plan regulation, guidance document, generic GPPs, and other information may be downloaded at the GPP Web site

<https://eec.ky.gov/Environmental-Protection/Water/Protection/GW/GWProtect>
The Program Coordinator may be contacted at (502) 564-3410 for paper copies or for assistance with developing your GPP.