

Glossary

Aerobic composting

A method of com-posting organic wastes using bacteria that need oxygen. This requires that the waste be exposed to air, either via turning or by forcing air through pipes that pass through the material.

Anaerobic digestion

A method of composting that does not require oxygen. This composting method produces methane. Also known as anaerobic composting.

Biodegradable material

Any organic material that can be broken down by microorganisms into simpler, more stable com-pounds. Most organic wastes (e.g., food, paper) are biodegradable.

Co-disposal

The disposal of different types of waste in one area of a landfill or dump. For instance, sewage sludges may be disposed of with regular solid wastes.

Cogeneration

Production of both electricity and steam from one facility, from the same fuel source.