

**Major Changes to Standard
Composting Facility (Code 317)
October 2012**

1. This Standard is significantly different from the previous version due to multiple changes in the National version. Some of these changes are listed here.
2. **Conditions Where Practice Applies.** The finished compost can be applied to the land or it can be marketed to the public. The producer is responsible for knowing the State laws and regulations that apply to marketed material.
3. **Design Note 5 – Summary of Virginia DEQ Regulations on Composting and Mortality** contains a summary of State regulations that apply to different compost materials.
4. **Design Note 2 – Separation Distances for Animal Waste Facilities** contains multiple tables that give separation distances for different composting materials. Pay attention to both the materials and source of materials when selecting the table to be used.
5. **Facility Siting.** The floor of the facility must be two feet above the seasonal high water table regardless of the liner material. Site drainage may be used to achieve this, if needed.
6. **Facility Type.** The *Roofs and Covers (Code 367)* Standard must be used for roof design.
7. **Facility Size.** The design can include storage for finished compost.
8. **Compost Time.** Different time and temperature requirements apply to different materials and compost uses.
9. **Surface Runoff Control.** Surface runoff control for uncovered sites shall be based on the 25-year, 24-hour storm.
10. **Use of the Finished Compost.** Compost that is land applied on-site shall be applied in accordance with the *Nutrient Management Standard (Code 590)*. The *Waste Recycling Standard (Code 633)* would be used for off-site applications.
11. **CONSIDERATIONS.** Composting facilities used by organic producers may have to be made of materials that comply with organic certification requirements. The producer is responsible for identifying that this need exists.
12. **OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.** The Operation and Maintenance requirements have been revised to more information about the composting process.