

SCHOOL COMPOST GUIDE AT A GLANCE:

Students

What is the School Compost Guide?

The School Compost Guide is a resource to help Brookline Public Schools launch or expand composting programs in partnership with the Department of Public Works (DPW).

What is Composting & Why is it Important?

- Composting is the process of recycling organic matter, such as leaves and food scraps, into fertilizer to enrich the soil.
- In MA, over 1 million tons of organic material are sent to landfill or burned at the incinerator each year.
- Composting reduces greenhouse gas emissions and combats climate change.



ACTION ITEMS

Want to Launch a Compost Program at Your School?

- **Read the School Compost Guide** and check out the pre-composting checklist on pages 4-6 (available at www.brooklinema.gov/schoolcomposting).
- **Speak to your friends and teachers about a compost program** and seek out others in your school's community who are supportive of the idea.
- **Email the DPW Zero Waste Program** at zerowaste@brooklinema.gov to inform staff of your interest in a composting program.

Want to Support an Existing Compost Program at Your School?

- **Join your school's "Core Composting Team"**, or the group of students working to educate and engage the school community around composting.
- **Lead by example** - your friends are more likely to compost if they see you doing it!
- **Consider serving as a waste station monitor** during lunch and help other students sort their waste. Ask a teacher how you can get involved.
- **Consider joining your school's "Compost Steering Committee"**, or the group of staff and students that are overseeing and coordinating the compost program! Contact zerowaste@brooklinema.gov to learn more.