



2022 Organics Management Law

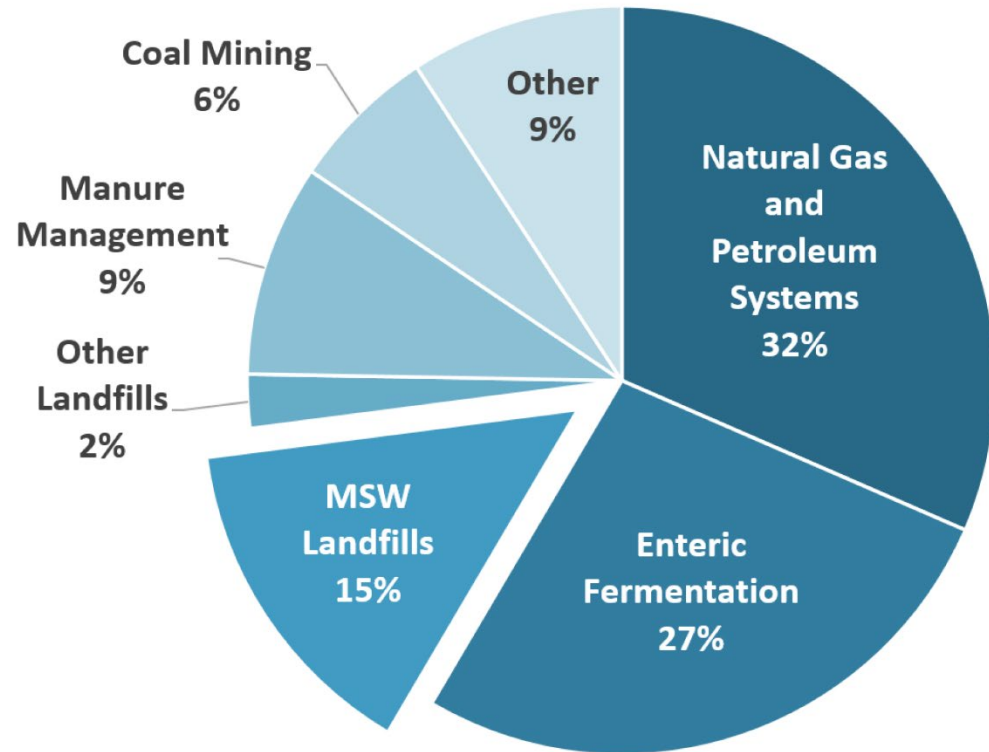
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Department of Ecology



DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

Why Organics?

2020 U.S. Methane Emissions, By Source

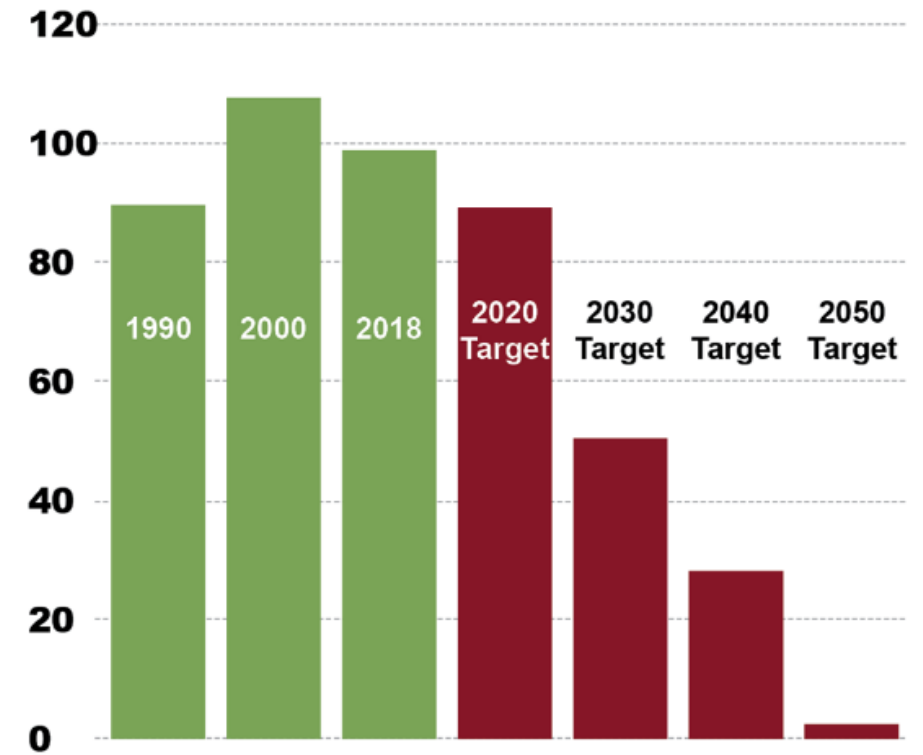


Note: All emission estimates from the *Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2020*. U.S. EPA. 2022.

Washington Greenhouse Gases

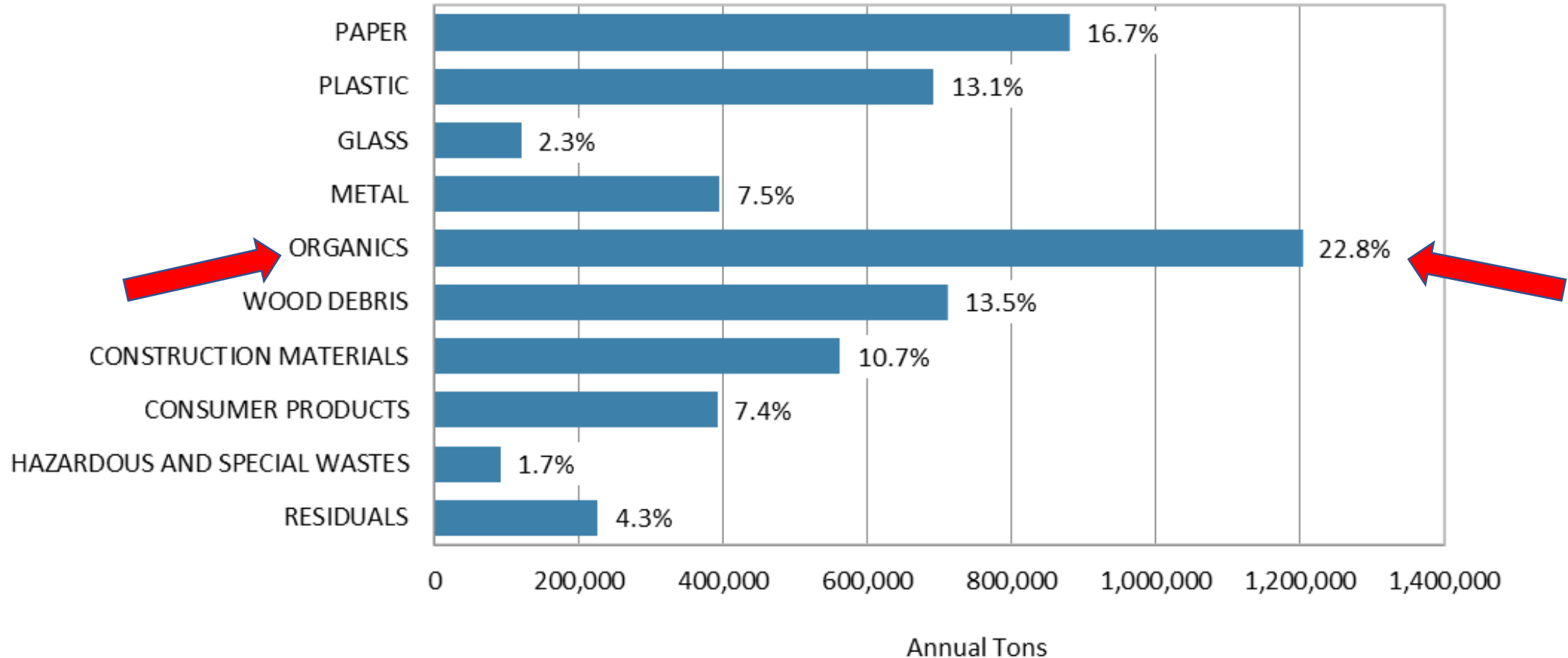


*Million Metric Tons of CO₂ equivalent



May 2021

Overall Statewide Disposed Waste Stream Composition by Material Class, 2020-21



Organic Materials Management

Organic Materials Management

Research

Prevention

Collection &
Management

Processing

Markets

Organic Management Law

Research

1. Adequacy of funding for local solid waste management

Collection & management

2. Business organics management
3. Residential and non-residential collection

Processing

4. Recycled organics facility siting
5. Compostable product labeling

Markets

6. Compost procurement and reporting
7. Agricultural organic material purchases

Prevention

8. Good Samaritan laws
9. Washington Center for Sustainable Food Management



Organics Management Law Highlights

- General Goals
 - By 2025, rescue 20% of previously disposed edible food for human consumption, compared to 2015 levels.
 - By 2030, reduce 75% of previously disposed organic material going to landfills, compared to 2015 levels.
- Focuses on implementing required collection and management of organic waste from some businesses and eventually all residents.
- Updates requirements for siting Organic Management facilities
- Strengthens compost procurement by state and local governments
- Expands compostable product labeling requirements

Funding Provisions

Commerce - RCW [43.155.020](#)

Adds “composting and other organic management facilities” to the list of public works projects that can be funded through the Public Works Trust Fund.

Conservation Commission - Sustainable Farms and Fields Program - RCW [89.08.615](#)

Develop grant program for farmers to purchase equipment and other support to increase the use of compost and anaerobic digestate and to study GHG reductions by using crop residues to produce biofuels.

WA State Department of Agriculture - RCW [15.04.420](#)

Requires WSDA to set up program to reimburse farmers for the cost of purchasing and using compost by July 2, 2023. **Applies ONLY to compost purchased from facilities with a SW permit.**

For more information about the Organics Management Law visit Ecology’s website:

[2022 Organics Management Law - Washington State Department of Ecology](#)

Business Collection Requirements

RCW 70A.205.545

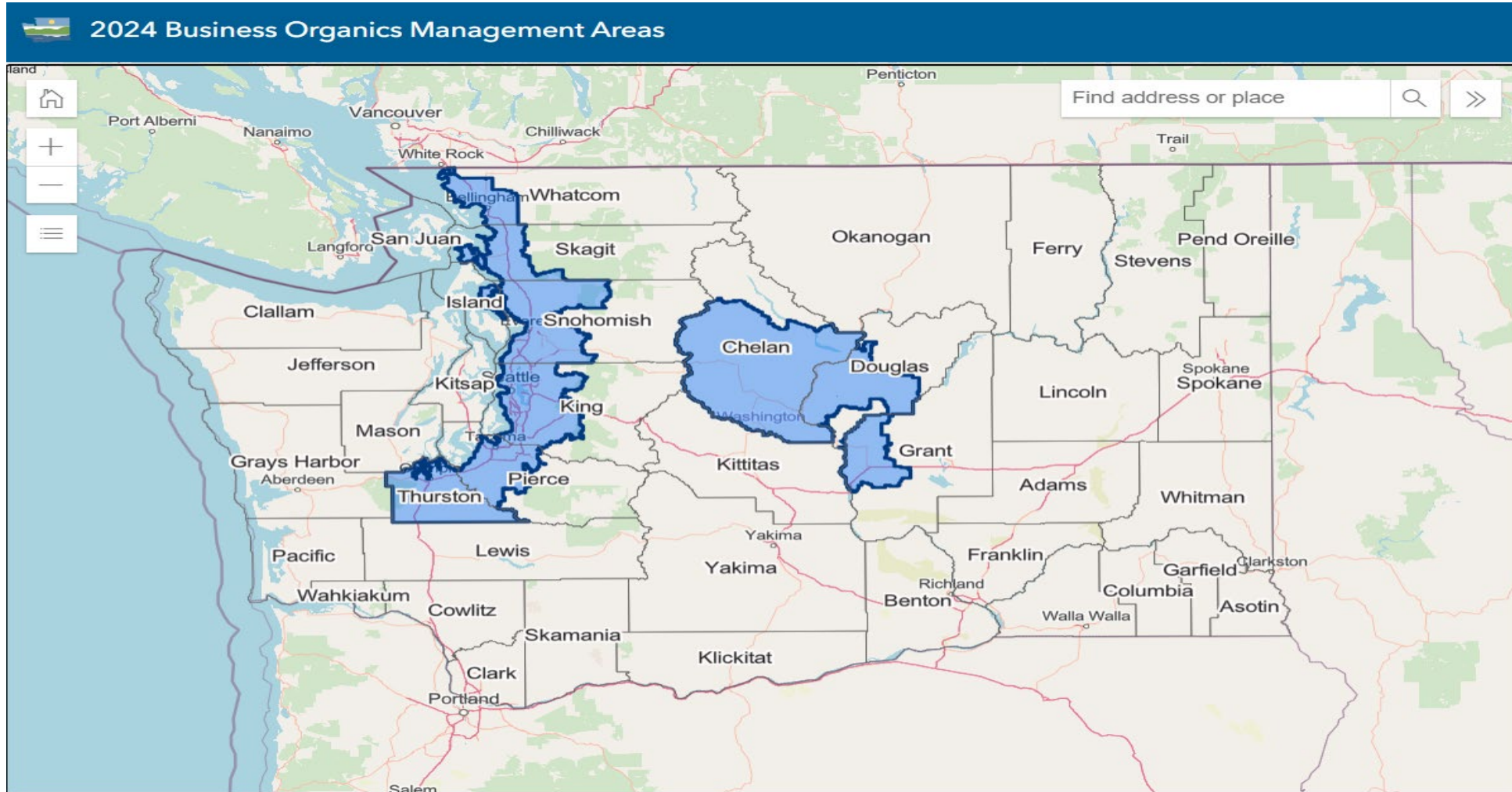
Based on:

1. If collection service is available
2. Local compost facilities ability to accept new materials
3. The amount of organic material and solid waste produced



- July 1, 2023
 - Ecology posts which jurisdictions have organics collection available to businesses, *and*
 - Ecology identifies organics management facilities that have the ability to accept more organics.

2024 Business Organics Management Area (BOMA) map



Residential/non-residential collection

RCW 70A.205.540

January 1, 2027

Jurisdictions that implement a local solid waste plan must provide every-other-week organic materials collection to:

- All residential customers
- All nonresidential customers that generate >.25 cy organic material per week

The service needs to be offered, but there is no requirement that customers subscribe to the service.



Organics Management Facility Siting

- To expand infrastructure capacity and/or volumetric capacity:
 - After July 2024, new or updated **Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plans** ([RCW 70A.205.040](#)) must include identification of possible locations for organic materials management facilities.
- After January 2025 **Comprehensive Plans** ([RCW 36.70A.070](#)) must include identification of possible locations for organic materials management facilities.
 - Identified locations may not be in overburdened communities
 - Need to know how much organic material is generated in the county and if capacity exists to manage that material.

Compost Procurement Ordinance (CPO)

Who was required to adopt an Ordinance by January 1, 2023?

- Counties and cities with a population of more than 25,000.
- Counties with a population of 25,000 or fewer that contract to provide or require the UTC-franchised hauler(s) in their county to provide residential curbside organic material collection services.
- Cities and towns with a population of 25,000 or fewer that directly provide, contract to provide or require the UTC-franchised hauler(s) in their jurisdiction to provide residential curbside organic material collection services.

Compost Procurement Ordinance (CPO) RCW 43.19A.150

- Reporting

- December 31, 2024 and subsequent even years

- Report to Ecology:
 1. Total tons of organic diverted,
 2. Volume of compost purchased,
 3. Source of compost

- The first report covers 2023 diversion and procurement activity.
- Reports due in subsequent even-years will cover the previous two years.



Product Degradability Labeling

RCW 70A.455.010

- **Product Degradability Labeling for compostable packaging**
 - Revises colors/striping/symbols/text to include “beige”
 - Producers of compostable plastic food service products must meet ASTM degradability standards and must abide by color requirements
 - Plastic film bag producers are
 - prohibited from using colors or terms used on compostable bags,
 - “encouraged” to use words and symbols **to ID non-compostable bags** and
 - “discouraged” from using terms or symbols that may confuse consumers
 - Enforcement is complaint based and is managed by Ecology, cities, and counties

Contact Information

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To find out more...

- Visit our resources for local governments on compost procurement, facility siting and more.
<https://app.box.com/s/r6jdrsxnwbchuo9kme3qa4gdf2uawhfk>.
- Subscribe to our Organics Management email news at
<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WAECY>.
Set up your account, choose Solid Waste Management, and then Organics Management.