

State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, the Empire State supports environmentally-friendly initiatives that contribute to a cleaner and healthier planet, waste reduction, and wise reuse of our natural resources – such as composting – which also creates jobs and business opportunities through more than 190 regulated facilities in New York State that process more than 700,000 tons of organic material; and

Whereas, organic materials make up approximately 30% of the municipal waste stream; and

Whereas, composting and organic material diversion help New York State achieve progressive waste reduction goals as outlined in Beyond Waste, New York State's solid waste management plan, by reducing the amount of discarded materials sent for combustion or landfill disposal; and

Whereas, composting and organic material diversion is a key strategy in reducing future methane emissions as outlined in New York State's Methane Reduction Plan, a strategic plan to reduce methane emissions from the landfill, oil and gas, and agricultural sectors; and

Whereas, composting is an effective and beneficial management option for a variety of organic materials including yard trimmings, food scraps, biosolids, manure, and agricultural by-products; and

Whereas, composting converts these materials into a nutrient-rich soil amendment that communities can use to promote soil fertility and productivity, improve water quality, reduce stormwater runoff and soil erosion, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

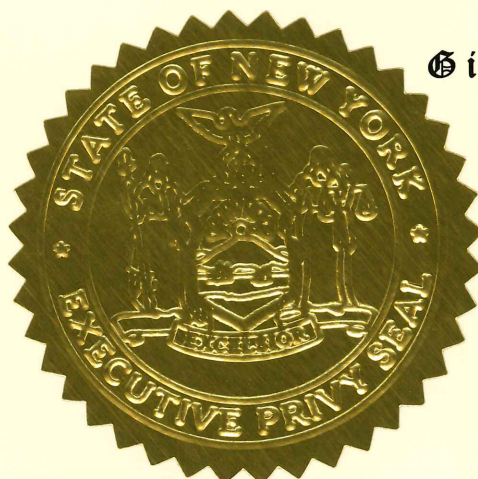
Whereas, Compost Awareness Week is an opportunity to showcase New York State's wide range of composting initiatives and compost products, and the beneficial use of these products in landscapes across the state and beyond; and

Whereas, the Composting Council Research and Education Foundation of the United States, Canada, Australia, and the United Kingdom have declared the first full week of May to be the annual International Compost Awareness Week, with the theme "Compost! Building a Better Future," to highlight the importance of compost for clean, plentiful water and healthy soil for now and the future; New York State joins in this observance and in support of its goals that can have significant environmental, economical, and health-related benefits for our communities and our residents;

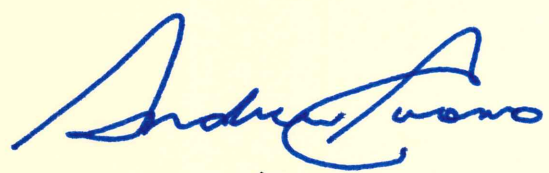
Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim May 6 - 12, 2018 as


COMPOST AWARENESS WEEK

in the Empire State.



G i v e n under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this second day
of May in the year two thousand eighteen.


Governor


Secretary to the Governor
Melissa DeRosa