

## 4.4 Composting Toilet

Revision: January 30, 2017

Installer registration permit: Property owner or standard and basic

Licensed professional engineer required: No

### 4.4.1 Description

Composting toilets are those within a dwelling that store and treat nonwater-carried human urine and feces and small amounts of household garbage by bacterial decomposition. The resultant product is compost.

### 4.4.2 Approval Conditions

1. Water under pressure shall not serve the dwelling unless a public sewer or another acceptable method of on-site disposal is available.
2. Composting toilet models must be approved by DEQ before installation (section 5.5).
3. Units are restricted to the disposal of human feces, urine, and small quantities of household garbage.

Household garbage should be limited to the manufacturer's recommendations.

Chemicals, pharmaceuticals, and nonbiodegradable products (e.g., plastics) should not be disposed of in a composting toilet.

### 4.4.3 Design Requirements

1. All materials used in toilet construction must be durable and easily cleanable. Styrene rubber, polyvinyl chloride (PVC), and fiberglass are examples of acceptable materials.
2. Design must demonstrate adequate resistance to internal and external stresses.
3. All mechanical and electrical components should be designed to operate safely and be capable of providing continuous service under reasonably foreseen conditions such as extreme temperatures and humidity.
4. Toilet unit must be capable of accommodating full- or part-time use.
5. Continuous positive ventilation of the storage or treatment chamber must be provided to the outside.
  - a. Ventilation components should be independent of other household ventilation systems.
  - b. Venting connections must not be made to room vents or to chimneys.
  - c. All vents must be designed to prevent flies and other insects from entering the treatment chamber.

### 4.4.4 Compost Disposal

1. Compost material produced by a composting toilet may be utilized as a soil amendment additive.
2. Compost material used as a soil additive should be incorporated into the native soil immediately after application.