



2009 Waste Management (Food Waste) Regulations

What you need to know

New Food Waste Regulations introduced by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in 2010 will see changes in how we dispose of our biodegradable waste.



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council

Purpose of the Regulations?

In order to implement the EU Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC) the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government introduced the Food Waste Regulations {Waste Management (Food Waste) Regulations 2009, S.I. No. 508 of 2009}.

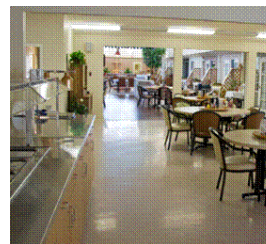
The Food Waste Regulations are designed to promote the segregation and beneficial use of food waste arising in the **Commercial Sector**. This action reduces the EU's total methane emissions which derive partly from the breakdown of biodegradable waste in landfills.

Who will the new Food Waste Regulations affect?

A wide range of businesses will be affected by the new regulations, such as:

- Restaurants
- Hotels
- Cafes
- Public Houses
- Supermarkets
- Hot food outlet
- Nursing Homes
- Guest Houses
- Industrial Buildings*
- Office Buildings
- Shops
- Educational Facilities*
- State Buildings*
- Hospitals

*where canteen facilities are available



When are the new Food Waste Regulations introduced?

The Food Waste Regulations came into force on 1st July 2010.

Premises that produce less than 50kg of waste could have applied in writing to Tipperary County Council to be exempt from the Regulations until 01st July 2011. **From 01st July 2011 all premises will be required to segregate food waste, regardless of how much is produced.

** Please note: The above exemption does not apply where source segregated food waste collection services are available.

Food Waste Regulations do not apply to:

- Domestic Households.
- Food waste that has arisen from international transport.
- Off-shore islands.
- Premises located at any fair, funfair, bazaar, circus or religious, cultural, educational, political, social, recreational or sporting events where the use for such purposes does not exceed a period of 10 days continuously or 20 days in any one year.



What are my obligations?

Food waste which arises from your premises must be source segregated and kept separate from other waste streams.

The segregated food waste must **NOT** be sent to landfill for disposal. It is to be made available for collection by your waste contractor or transferred directly to an authorised treatment facility.

The food waste must be handled through one of the following options:

- A.** Collected by an authorised Waste collector and transferred for an authorised treatment process e.g. compost facility or anaerobic digestion plant.
- B.** Subjected to an authorised treatment process on the premises where the food waste has been produced e.g. on site compost unit.
- C.** Transferred directly by the producer for an authorised treatment process e.g. compost facility.

Who will enforce the Regulations?

Tipperary County Council are responsible for enforcing the regulations in the county and may require you to submit the following:

- A food waste management implementation report once a year.
- Information and evidence regarding the use, type, quantity, origin, management

arrangements and destination of food waste.

- An Annual Environmental Report by 28th February in respect of management of food waste for the previous calendar year.

Can I use a macerator?

Food waste disposers, e.g. macerators, cannot be used to discharge food waste as waste water to a drain or sewer unless it is authorised under your discharge license.



How can I treat food waste on my premises?

One option is to compost food waste on the premises. Kitchen and canteen waste, including meat can be composted on site with the use of an appropriate in-vessel composting unit.

In accordance with the Waste Management (Facility Permit Registration) Regulations 2007, as amended, food waste can only be treated at a facility that has one of the following waste authorisations:

- Certificate of Registration from the Local Authority.
- Waste Facility Permit from the Local Authority.

- Waste Licence from the Environmental Protection Agency.

Further Information

'Less Food More Waste: A Guide to Minimising Food Waste in the Catering Sector' is an information booklet prepared by the Environmental Protection Agency is available to download at www.foodwaste.ie

For more information, please contact the Environment Section of:

Tipperary County Council

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