



Invasive Plant Disposal

MDEQ Regulations: pertinent section (R299.4430) from the Solid Waste Regulations for Michigan's Part 115 of N.R.E.P.A. of 1994, as amended, and the definition of Yard Clippings (324.11506), found in the Act itself:

R 299.4430 Type II landfill operation; prohibited wastes; procedures for excluding the receipt of prohibited waste.

Rule 430. (1) The operator of a type II landfill shall ensure that the unloading of solid waste is continuously supervised by facility personnel upon receipt.

(2) The following wastes shall not be disposed of in a type II landfill:

(j) Yard clippings, as specified in the act.

324.11506 Definitions; S to Y.

(14) "Yard clippings" means leaves, grass clippings, vegetable or other garden debris, shrubbery, or brush or tree trimmings, less than 4 feet in length and 2 inches in diameter, that can be converted to compost humus.

Yard clippings do not include stumps, agricultural wastes, animal waste, roots, sewage sludge, or garbage.

324.11521(1)(i)

Regarding composting regulations, invasive plants collected from an eradication or control program, however, may be landfilled.

"Invasive plants" such as garlic mustard and phragmites (pronounced "frag-might-eez") are problem plants, and the State does not want them going to a compost facility. For these reasons they are allowed to be landfilled.

Private homeowners: it is suggested that you notify their waste hauler in advance and place the invasive plants in black plastic garbage bags, and label the bags as "Invasive Plants".

Commercial/Businesses/CISMA volumes: If large volumes of invasives/green waste are to be disposed of in a roll-off or other vehicle (i.e., county, community DPW truck) and hauled directly to a landfill, a Special Waste Approval will need to be obtained by the entity arranging for the disposal. This needs to be obtained in advance for the landfill of acceptance to receive the waste. An approval can take several days to complete and the load cannot be delivered or received by the landfill until the approval is in place. This approval process ensures the landfill operator and MDEQ (the governing regulatory body over landfills in Michigan) that adequate review and determination was made for acceptance of the waste, as well as provides record of proper disposal of the invasive plant waste. <http://www.WMSolutions.com>