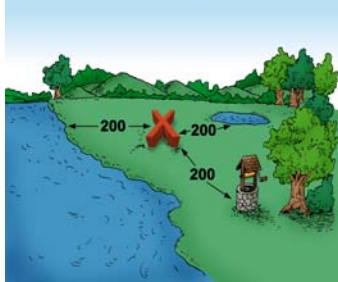


Natural Rendering: Composting Butcher Waste

Key Points of Static Pile Butcher Residual Composting



Select Site

1. Select site that is well drained, at least 200 feet from water courses, sinkholes, seasonal seeps or other landscape features that indicate the area is hydrologically sensitive.

Prepare Base

2. Lay a 24-inch deep bed of coarse wood chips 10-12-feet wide and as long as space permits to allow for 1-2 months of butcher residual.



Cover Well

5. Make sure all residuals are well covered to keep odors down, generate heat or keep vermin or other unwanted animals out of the windrow.



Wilson Beef Butcher Waste composting



Build Pile

3. Spread a 12-15-inch layer of residuals then cover with a 12-18 inch layer of wood chips and add another layer of butcher residuals and cover with 2 feet of wood chips. The finished section should be 5-6 feet high.

Why Butchers Should Compost Mortality and Residuals

- ◆ Pathogen kill occurs in thermophilic composts
- ◆ Can be done any time of the year, even when the ground is frozen
- ◆ Relatively odor free
- ◆ Paunch manure and other parts not accepted in rendering will compost
- ◆ Relatively low labor and management needed
- ◆ Low cost



Incorporating Liquid

4. When incorporating large amounts of blood, make sure there is plenty of material to absorb the liquid. Make a depression so blood can be absorbed and then cover, if a blood spill occurs, scrape it up and put back in pile.



Let Sit 4 to 5 Months

6. Let sit for 4-6 months, then check to see if the offal is degraded.

Remove Large Bones

7. Remove large bones before land applying compost or use as part of the base for the next compost pile.

Site Cleanliness

8. Site cleanliness is the most important aspect of composting, it deters scavengers, helps control odors, and keeps good neighbor relations.

Turning Note

Carcass and butcher residual piles should not be turned early in the process unless there are no neighbors that would be affected. Odor is a big issue most of the time. After 3 months, turning is an option and will speed the curing process.



Source - "Natural Rendering: Composting Livestock Mortality and Butcher Waste" fact sheet