

Proclamation

INTERNATIONAL COMPOST AWARENESS WEEK

WHEREAS, International Compost Awareness Week is a public education initiative to showcase compost production and demonstrate compost use; and

WHEREAS, municipal landfills are the third-largest source of human-related methane emissions in the United States and composting and organic material diversion is a key strategy in reducing greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is only using 30% of the available capacity to process organic material at composting facilities permitted by the Department of Environmental Quality and has enough remaining capacity to process an additional 1.82 million tons of organic material per year; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Carrboro's 2016 waste audit showed that 53% of waste from single-family homes was compostable; and

WHEREAS, composting materials such as food scraps, yard trimmings, biosolids, manures and hay shavings 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, composting creates local green jobs, business opportunities, and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, composting reduces greenhouse gas emissions and supports Carrboro's *Community Climate Action Plan* goal for the Town and community to reduce 2010 levels of greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by 2030; and is integral to meeting the goals of the Carrboro Connects comprehensive plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Carrboro joins International Compost Awareness Week theme "**Sustainable Communities Begin with Compost!**" highlighting composting in all kinds of communities at any scale – from the backyard home composter to community composters, to large-scale facilities to all those who recognize the many benefits of using compost on our soils; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Barbara M. Foushee, Mayor of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 4 – 10, 2025, to be International Compost Awareness Week and urge all citizens to commit to compost.

This the 6th day of May 2025.


Barbara M. Foushee

