

LEGAL ALERT



LAW ON COMPOSTABLE NON-HAZARDOUS WASTE

Law no. 181/2020 on the management of compostable non-hazardous waste was published in the Official Gazette of Romania on 20 August 2020.

The law imposes (i) the separate collection of biodegradable waste for composting purposes in the designated spaces or (ii) handing the waste over to authorized operators for their collection from the natural persons and legal entities that generate this type of waste.

Law no. 181/2020 establishes the conditions for use of non-hazardous waste in order to reach the targets and objectives relating to recycling/recovery and reduction of the disposal through bio-waste storage, establishes the categories of waste intended for composting, the compost quality, as well as the manners for compost use. Furthermore, the law imposes measures relating to the monitoring of the compost market in Romania, the obligations of the economic operators and the duties of the central and county public administration authorities.

As of 1 January 2021, the local public administration authorities or, as the case may be, the administrative-territorial subdivisions of the municipalities, respectively their

inter-community development associations, must implement the separate collection system for biodegradable waste, extend the door-to-door separate collection for bio-waste in the urban environment, along with the implementation of the “pay for how much you throw away” scheme, and encourage individual composting in the rural households.

As such, if the natural persons and legal entities fail to comply with the provisions under Law no. 18/2020, they can be sanctioned with fines between RON 400 and RON 800.

As regards the reporting procedure, the type of data and other information required which is delivered by the economic operators involved in composting activities will be established within maximum 6 months from the entry into force of this law, by order of the head of the central public environmental authority.

It is worth mentioning that this law will come into force 6 months after the date of publication in the Official Gazette of Romania, i.e. on 20 February 2021.



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