

HOUSE BILL 961

M3

0lr2811
CF 0lr1093

By: **Delegates Manno, Hucker, and Montgomery**
Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2010
Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment – Yard Waste Composting – Plastic Bag Prohibition**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from using a plastic bag for the final disposal
4 of yard waste or natural wood waste under certain circumstances; allowing a
5 person to transport yard waste or natural wood waste in a plastic bag under
6 certain circumstances; and generally relating to plastic bags and composting
7 yard waste.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
9 Article – Environment
10 Section 9–1701(a), (b), (c), (i), and (s)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

13 BY adding to
14 Article – Environment
15 Section 9–1725
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
19 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

20 **Article – Environment**

21 9–1701.

22 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (b) "Compost" means the product of composting in accordance with the
2 standards established by the Secretary of Agriculture under § 6-221 of the Agriculture
3 Article.

4 (c) "Composting" means the controlled biological decomposition of organic
5 waste material in accordance with the standards established by the Secretary under
6 this title.

7 (i) (1) "Natural wood waste" means tree and other natural vegetative
8 refuse.

9 (2) "Natural wood waste" includes tree stumps, brush and limbs, root
10 mats, logs, and other natural vegetative material.

11 (s) (1) "Yard waste" means organic plant waste derived from gardening,
12 landscaping, and tree trimming activities.

13 (2) "Yard waste" includes leaves, garden waste, lawn cuttings, weeds,
14 and prunings.

15 **9-1725.**

16 **(A) A PERSON MAY NOT USE A PLASTIC BAG FOR THE FINAL DISPOSAL**
17 **OF YARD WASTE OR NATURAL WOOD WASTE IF THE YARD WASTE OR NATURAL**
18 **WOOD WASTE WILL BE PICKED UP BY A GARBAGE COLLECTOR.**

19 **(B) A PERSON MAY USE A PLASTIC BAG TO TRANSPORT YARD WASTE OR**
20 **NATURAL WOOD WASTE FOR FINAL DISPOSAL TO A FACILITY WHERE THE WASTE**
21 **WILL BE COMPOSTED IF THE PERSON SEPARATES THE WASTE FROM THE**
22 **PLASTIC BAG AT THE FACILITY.**

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
24 October 1, 2010.