

# HOUSE BILL 338

M3, P2  
HB 173/24 – ENT

5lr1988

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By: **Delegates Lehman, Allen, Boyce, Foley, Guyton, R. Lewis, J. Long, Martinez, Ruth, Solomon, Stein, Stewart, Taveras, Taylor, Terrasa, Woods, and Ziegler**

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2025

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Buildings and State Highways – Collection and Disposal of Yard Waste**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from disposing of yard waste collected on the  
4 grounds of a State building or State highway in a certain container; requiring a  
5 person to collect yard waste on the grounds of a State building or State highway in  
6 a certain container; requiring all yard waste collected on the grounds of a State  
7 building or State highway to be disposed of in a certain manner; and generally  
8 relating to the collection and disposal of yard waste from the grounds of State  
9 buildings and State highways.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – State Finance and Procurement

12 Section 2–1001 and 2–1002 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 10. Collection and  
13 Disposal of Yard Waste”

14 Annotated Code of Maryland

15 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – State Finance and Procurement**

19 **SUBTITLE 10. COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF YARD WASTE.**

20 **2–1001.**

21 **(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**  
22 **INDICATED.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (B) "NATURAL WOOD WASTE RECYCLING FACILITY" HAS THE MEANING  
2 STATED IN § 9-1701 OF THE ENVIRONMENT ARTICLE.

3 (C) "ORGANICS RECYCLING FACILITY" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN §  
4 9-1701 OF THE ENVIRONMENT ARTICLE.

5 (D) (1) "STATE BUILDING" MEANS A BUILDING, A STRUCTURE, OR AN  
6 IMPROVED AREA THAT IS:

7 (I) OWNED BY THE STATE; OR

8 (II) CONSTRUCTED FOR LEASE BY THE STATE.

9 (2) "STATE BUILDING" INCLUDES:

10 (I) AN EDUCATIONAL FACILITY OWNED OR OPERATED BY THE  
11 STATE, INCLUDING PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION;

12 (II) A PUBLIC MASS TRANSPORTATION ACCOMMODATION, SUCH  
13 AS A TERMINAL OR STATION, THAT IS SUPPORTED BY STATE FUNDS; AND

14 (III) AN IMPROVEMENT OF A PUBLIC AREA USED FOR  
15 GATHERING OR AMUSEMENT, INCLUDING A STATE PARK, RECREATION CENTER, OR  
16 SIMILAR AREA.

17 (E) (1) "STATE HIGHWAY" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 8-101 OF THE  
18 TRANSPORTATION ARTICLE.

19 (2) "STATE HIGHWAY" INCLUDES ANY LAND OWNED BY THE STATE  
20 THAT IS ADJACENT TO A STATE HIGHWAY.

21 (F) (1) "YARD WASTE" MEANS ORGANIC PLANT WASTE DERIVED FROM  
22 GARDENING, LANDSCAPING, AND TREE TRIMMING ACTIVITIES.

23 (2) "YARD WASTE" INCLUDES LEAVES, GARDEN WASTE, LAWN  
24 CUTTINGS, WEEDS, AND PRUNINGS.

25 2-1002.

26 (A) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION,  
27 THIS SECTION APPLIES TO A PERSON WHO:

1                   **(I) IS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE STATE WHO COLLECTS YARD**  
2 **WASTE ON THE GROUNDS OF A STATE BUILDING OR STATE HIGHWAY AS PART OF**  
3 **THAT PERSON’S EMPLOYMENT; OR**

4                   **(II) CONTRACTS WITH THE STATE TO PROVIDE SERVICES ON**  
5 **THE GROUNDS OF A STATE BUILDING OR STATE HIGHWAY, INCLUDING THE**  
6 **COLLECTION OF YARD WASTE.**

7                   **(2) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A PERSON WHO IS DISPOSING**  
8 **OF:**

9                   **(I) NOXIOUS WEEDS, AS DESIGNATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF**  
10 **AGRICULTURE; OR**

11                   **(II) INVASIVE SPECIES.**

12                   **(B) A PERSON MAY NOT DISPOSE OF YARD WASTE COLLECTED ON THE**  
13 **GROUNDS OF A STATE BUILDING OR STATE HIGHWAY IN A SINGLE-USE PLASTIC**  
14 **CONTAINER.**

15                   **(C) A PERSON SHALL COLLECT YARD WASTE ON THE GROUNDS OF A STATE**  
16 **BUILDING OR STATE HIGHWAY IN A CONTAINER THAT:**

17                   **(1) WILL NOT BE DISCARDED WITH THE YARD WASTE; OR**

18                   **(2) IS A COMPOSTABLE PAPER BAG.**

19                   **(D) ALL YARD WASTE COLLECTED ON THE GROUNDS OF A STATE BUILDING**  
20 **OR STATE HIGHWAY SHALL BE DISPOSED OF AT:**

21                   **(1) AN ORGANICS RECYCLING FACILITY LOCATED IN THE STATE;**

22                   **(2) A NATURAL WOOD WASTE RECYCLING FACILITY LOCATED IN THE**  
23 **STATE; OR**

24                   **(3) A STATE FACILITY WITH THE ON-SITE CAPACITY TO CREATE**  
25 **MULCH OR SOIL AMENDMENTS.**

26                   **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect**  
27 **October 1, 2025.**