

PRESS RELEASE



Phil Dyer
Mayor

Harry LaRosiliere
Mayor Pro Tem

Lee Dunlap
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem

Pat Miner
Place 1

Ben Harris
Place 2

Mabrie Jackson
Place 3

Lissa Smith
Place 4

Jean Callison
Place 7

Thomas H. Muehlenbeck
City Manager

For Immediate Release
October 30, 2009

Contact:
Melinda Haggerty
Sustainability Communications Coordinator
(972)769-4391 or (214)649-1895

Pumpkin Pie? Try Pumpkin Compost!

Jack-o-lanterns usher in the fall holidays with their festive glowing faces and bright orange color. With gourds of every shape and size decorating porches and yards to celebrate the coming chill of autumn, the City of Plano announces an innovative option for environmentally-friendly pumpkin disposal – composting.

Simply put pumpkins and decorative gourds in yard trimmings collection bags and let the City compost them to produce a variety of organic yard and garden products.

The City of Plano diverts 100 percent of its collected yard trimmings and corrugated cardboard from the landfill. Yard trimming is made up of grass clippings, brush, tree trimmings and other yard debris. Plano residents place these materials in biodegradable bags, which are collected on their designated collection day by Sustainability & Environmental Services crews. This material is processed at the 121 Regional Composting Facility located at the North Texas Municipal Water District's landfill. Once processed, the material is reused by area residents as *Texas Pure* compost, top-dressing, soil blend and wood mulch.

Biodegradable paper collection bags are available at local retail stores. Bags may also be purchased at the following city locations: City Warehouse and Custer Road Transfer Station.

Jack-o-lanterns aren't scary, they're good for fall and good for the soil. For more information about the yard trimmings collection schedule, bag availability and locations, along with additional items accepted in compost collections, visit www.livegreeninplano.com.

#