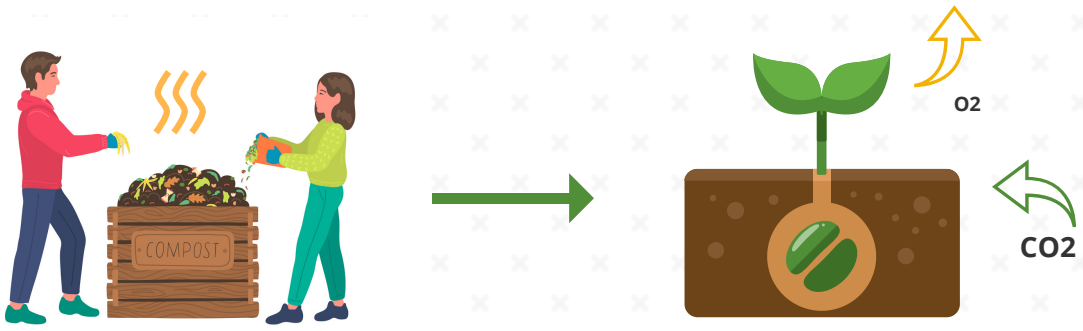
Understanding

Compostable Packaging

A look at compostable packaging and film standards in the US and EU

What is Composting?

The composting process requires the combination of organic material with microorganisms. The microorganisms require oxygen, moisture, and food to grow and multiply. This produces heat, water vapor, carbon dioxide (CO2), and nutrient rich compost. All equating to helping plants grow.



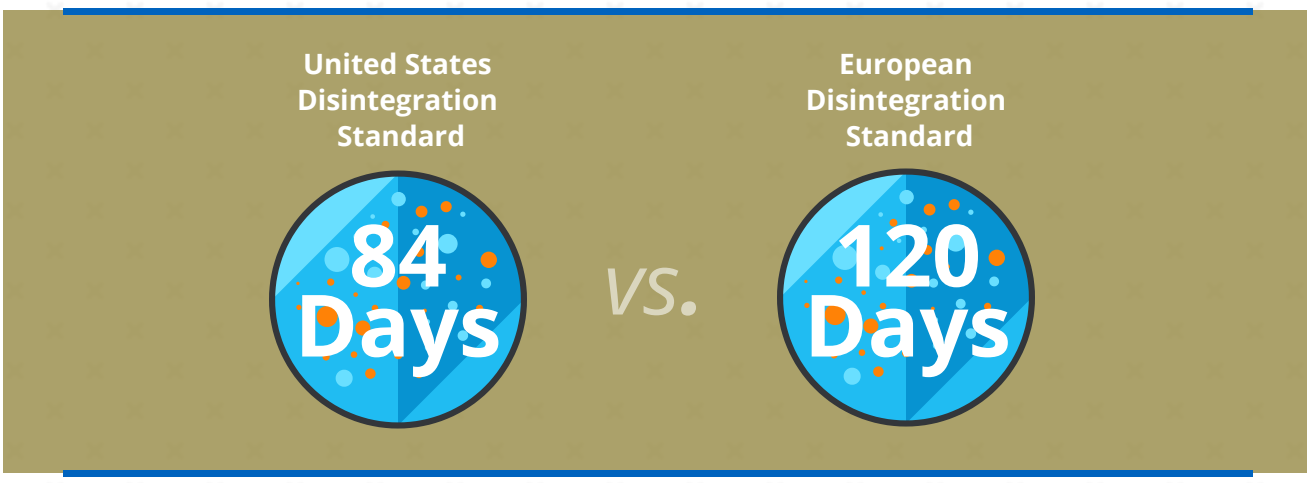
What is Compostable Film and Packaging?

At **Eagle Flexible Packaging**, the compostable films we use are in compliance with *ASTM D6400/6868* and/or *EN13432*. These films on their own, are compostable and can be used alone, or in combination, to provide flexible structures for a variety of packaging formats.

Based on US and European standards, the requirements for the testing help to determine if a flexible package, in finished form*, will compost properly in an industrial or municipal composting facility.

European Standard EN13432, also specifies requirements for home composting.**

Both *US ASTM D6400/6868* and *European EN 13432* require all films and materials be compostable, with the exception of a very small amount*** of other components which must be in compliance with heavy metal and eco-toxicity requirements. This means the package will disintegrate to a certain extent, and particle size.



The certifying bodies *BPI (US) and TUV (EU)* can (at a cost) certify a package once it has met their requirements and allow their logo to be added to the packaging.****

** The form in which it will be received at the composting facility*
*** There is no home composting standard in the US*
**** Limited to a % by weight of total package*
***** In this case you can state that the package is made using certified compostable films.*

EAGLE Flexible Packaging

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