



Independent coverage of composting, wood recycling and organics management

Composting News

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Market Intelligence

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Rapid City renews persistent herbicide advisory

By Ken McEntee

The city of Rapid City, S.D. has renewed an advisory against using its yard waste compost on broadleaf plants due to the presence of clopyralid and two other persistent herbicides. Rapid City issued its original advisory in October.

Persistent herbicides like clopyralid target broadleaf weeds in lawn, turf and other applications. They don't break down in a short time during the composting process, and can contaminate compost and plants grown in contaminated compost.

As part of a continuing quality assurance effort, the Rapid City Solid Waste Division said it periodically tests its yard waste compost products to determine the quality of the compost offered for sale.

Recently, as part of that testing, the presence of three herbicides was detected:

- Clopyralid;
- Quinclorac; and
- MCPP.

Since the discovery of these herbicides in the yard waste compost products, more extensive testing is being

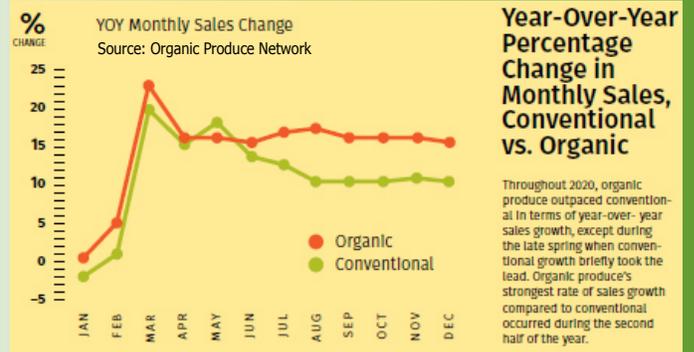
(See Rapid City, page 11)

Organic produce sales outpaced conventional last year

Organic produce outpaced conventional items in year-over-year sales growth almost throughout the entire year of 2020, the Organic Produce Network (OPN) reported.

With conditions "unlike any ever experienced in the history of the modern era of grocery retailing," total organic fresh produce sales for the past year topped \$8.5 billion," OPN said, in releasing its 2020 annual report.

OPN said growth of conventional produce sales outpaced organic on during late spring last year. Organic produce's strongest rate of sales growth compared to conventional occurred during the second half of the year.



(See Produce, page 12)

Maryland county passes farm composting law

Montgomery County, Md. has unanimously passed legislation that increases the amount of off-site materials farmers can use on their property to produce compost and mulch.

Previously, composting and mulching were allowed as accessory uses to farming if material trucked in from outside locations was limited to 20 percent. The new law raises the limit to 50 percent.

The law is expected to provide capacity to process food waste. Montgomery County currently produces 147,000 tons

of food waste per year - the largest contributing factor to the county's waste stream.

Composting these wastes creates a product that can be used to help improve soils, grow the next generation of crops

(See Maryland, page 5)

Highlights

- n Virginia county prohibits plastic yard waste bags
- n National compost prices

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Biosolids

Groton, Mass. extends biosolids ban for another year

The Groton (Mass.) Board of Health has extended its moratorium on the use of biosolids or compost from sludge derived fertilizers in the town of Groton until January 1, 2022. The board said it may extend the moratorium or draft a permanent prohibition on the use of these substances.

The board said the action was based on a growing body of evidence suggesting use of these products may be detrimental to the town's water supply and the public health. Recent testing shows the presence



of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in waste waters.

Biosolids and compost derived from a sludge are a known source of PFAS, the board said.

"The impacts of PFAS on humans is not yet well understood, and there are red flags," the board said. "Until the evidence suggests otherwise, the Board of Health will follow its mandate to protect residents of Groton from harmful contaminants."

The public and businesses in Groton should not use nor sell any product that contains these substances, the board advised.

Compostables

Virginia county prohibits plastic yard waste bags

Fairfax County, Va. has amended its solid waste management ordinance to prohibit the use of plastic bags to hold yard waste at the curb. Instead of plastic bags, residents should use compostable paper bags or a rigid container clearly marked yard waste, the county said. Other options include composting and mulching at home and leaving mowed grass clippings on the lawn.

County law requires that yard waste be recycled. Because the county doesn't own or operate a compost facility, licensed waste collectors operating in



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the county must send collected yard waste to commercial composting facilities operating in the region.

“The resulting compost is a desirable and highly valued product,” the amendment to prohibit plastics says. “When plastic bags are introduced into the compost process, it is very difficult to remove plastic shreds from the final product entirely. Plastic in the compost, even in small amounts, reduces overall product quality and provides a pathway for the plastic to get into our environment. Collection using a reusable container or paper bags are the optimal methods for managing yard waste while

protecting the quality of compost. Because the paper bag becomes a part of the finished compost - they are designed to be compostable - the practice also reduces the quantity of process waste requiring disposal.”

The legislation passed by the county’s board of supervisors this month modifies the definition of brush to add that it is a component of yard waste and adds a definition of reusable container that can be used to store yard waste along with adding “yard waste in plastic bags” to the list of items that cannot be collected.

With this change, the county said it joins seven neighboring jurisdictions in the Washington, D.C. metro area that already discourage or prohibit the use of plastic bags for yard waste.

Fairfax County’s yard waste collection season runs from March through December. A survey conducted last summer found that 30 percent of residents have already stopped using

(See Plastic, page 4)



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Compostables

Plastic

From page 3

plastic bags for yard waste.

The county said it anticipates that the 2020 yard waste season will be a transition period for residents and businesses to adjust to the change and said it will work with the community and private hauling companies on the transition.

Food waste

Depackaging plant recognized for design

The Muscatine, Iowa Organic Recycling Center (MORC) this month received a pair of awards from the American Council of

Engineering Companies (ACEC) of Iowa. MORC, which opened in May 2020, received the grand prize in the water and wastewater category and the overall 2020 competition's Grand Conceptor award for the design by Stanley Consultants, a global provider of engineering, environmental and construction services.

The facility operates a depackaging machine that separates food waste from packaging.

Jon Koch, director of Muscatine's Water and Resource Recovery Facility, said businesses up to 200 miles away have expressed interest in hauling organic waste to Muscatine for recycling and noted that MORC is one of just three municipally owned facilities of its kind in the U.S. and the only one in the Midwest.

The ACEC competition is based on such elements as innovation, new applications of technology, enhanced public awareness and future value to the engineering profession.

The facility enables cost effective processing of packaged foods previously sent to the landfill due to prohibitively high labor costs to depackage the food. A depackaging machine uses spinning paddles to break open the packages and separate the packaging from the organic waste. The packaging is then either recycled or disposed of and the organic waste is pumped into a large treatment tank where it is blended and fed into the same anaerobic digesters that operate to clean the city's municipal wastewater.

Bacteria in the digesters break down the organic matter and generate biogas that is mostly methane, the primary component of natural gas. The process also produces biosolids, a nutrient rich fertilizer that is applied to farm ground to naturally replenish nitrogen and phosphorus to the soil.

According to Koch, based on projected revenue from tipping fees, the \$3 million project will pay for itself in four to six years.

Stanley Consultants has been the prime consultant and engineer for the project for over six years. During this time the firm has provided a variety of

design concepts as the project evolved, as well as preliminary and final design and permitting.

Manitoba launches Green Impact Bond for organics

A Green Impact Bond being launched by the Manitoba government aims to reduce organic waste going to landfills.

Sarah Guillemard, conservation and climate minister and Rochelle Squires, family minister, said the unique \$1-million Green Impact Bond will support projects that help divert organic waste, create green jobs and reduce greenhouse-gas (GHG) emissions. Innovative NRG, a Manitoba waste-to-energy company, has been chosen as the Green Impact Bond service provider.

"We need to take steps to prolong the lifespan of our landfills and this Green Impact Bond provides a great opportunity to reduce organic waste while growing Manitoba's green economy," Guillemard said. "By reducing organics in our landfills, we lower the production of methane and create new, clean-growth job opportunities."

The Green Impact Bond is a finance tool to fund impact-driven projects, enabling the government to rapidly innovate and implement new solutions for organic waste and GHG emissions while sharing risks with the private sector. The tool brings the public, private, non-profit and charitable sectors together to develop innovative solutions to complex problems that have not been solved by one sector alone, the government said.

Through the Green Impact Bond, a service provider is to meet agreed-upon outcomes for organic waste diversion, job creation and GHG reduction. Investors will provide up-front funding to the service provider. A third-party evaluator will determine whether the outcomes have been met and the return



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on investment to be paid by the province.

“Manitoba is open for business and looking for investors to collaboratively develop innovative solutions alongside non-profit groups, community organizations and our government,” Squires said. “Through the Green Impact Bond, investors have opportunities to earn returns of up to 8 percent on their investments over the lives of the projects while driving system change and supporting scalable solutions.”

The government said Manitoba’s landfills are approaching capacity and by some estimates, about 40 percent of their waste is organic material.

Innovative NRG will use its patented and proprietary innovative technology, branded as Rapid Organic Conversion (ROC), to process organic waste such as animal byproducts and waste-water sludge through a gasification process. The ROC technology is a made-in-Manitoba innovative, clean-tech solution that vaporizes carbon-based waste material.

Thermal energy released in the process is captured and can heat buildings or water for industrial uses, thereby reducing the use of fossil fuels. Waste-to-energy can be appropriate for materials that do not have landfill diversion options such as recycling. Innovative NRG’s waste diversion units will be installed in the rural municipalities of Cartier and Rossburn, as well as in the town of Carman.

“Our ROC innovation represents a leap forward in reducing GHG emissions and costs, disrupting the existing centralized waste landfill disposal system by locating ROC plants at commercial operations sites to recover their waste energy profitably,” said Del Dunford, CEO of Innovative NRG. “By eliminating the need to transport waste to landfills, we eliminate the cost and GHG emissions from transportation and landfilling, and take advantage of a renewable energy resource for economic development in remote and northern Manitoba communities.”

The government said the concept of impact investment is growing globally. The Green Impact Bond creates a unique investment opportunity for those committed to driving environmental change. Organizations can now support transformational work while investing at competitive rates in Manitoba, Squires said.

You can find more information by emailing dir-sio@gov.mb.ca and by visiting www.manitoba.ca/sio.

Maryland

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and improve water quality, the county said.

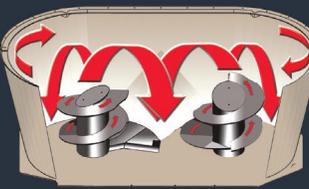
“While the county currently lacks the infrastructure to compost food waste at a commercial scale, partnering with local farmers and local green entrepreneurs is a step toward fully harnessing the power of our land so that the county can

(See Maryland, page 11)

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National Compost Prices

The prices listed below are intended to indicate the value of mature compost products sold by compost producers and retailers in noted regions. Prices listed are based on surveys and publicly posted prices.

Your input on published prices is encouraged. Contact Ken McEntee, editor, at (440) 238-6603. Fax: (440) 238-6712. EMail: ken@recycle.cc. Address: 9815 Hazelwood Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44149. Notes on listings.

- Each listing includes a high price obtained, a low price obtained and an average of all prices obtained within a particular market.

- Market areas: Thirteen market areas have been targeted to provide a cross section of compost product markets in

the U.S. Where regions are not identified by a specific city, "Chesapeake" refers to the region stretching between Norfolk, Va. to Baltimore, Md. "Texas" incorporates several major cities in the state. "Northwest" represents the Seattle and Portland, Ore areas. "SF-Bay" refers to the San Francisco Bay area. SoCal is Southern California, including the Los Angeles and San Diego areas. Denver includes Colorado, Wyoming and Montana.

- "Food waste" compost: This category refers to compost products that include food waste, regional specialties and other feedstocks not specifically covered in other categories.

- Manures: Chicken manures may include other poultry

manures, such as turkey and duck manure. Cow manures may include manures marketed as steer and dairy manure. Horse manure is included in this category as well.

- Absence of a regional listing within a given category indicates not enough information for a valid listing.

Additional data will be added as more information is obtained.

- Bulk retail prices do not include municipal operations that give compost away for free.

Bulk Retail (yard)

Yard waste compost	Average	High	Low
NE	\$ 32.55	\$ 77.00	\$ 17.50
Chesapeake	\$ 24.50	\$ 30.00	\$ 17.00
SE	\$ 21.88	\$ 29.95	\$ 16.00
Florida	\$ 16.42	\$ 26.00	\$ 10.50
Cleveland	\$ 19.90	\$ 28.00	\$ 12.50
Iowa	\$ 21.57	\$ 53.00	\$ 7.50
Minneapolis	\$ 17.09	\$ 28.00	\$ 8.00
Texas	\$ 29.71	\$ 40.00	\$ 15.00
Denver	\$ 20.31	\$ 31.00	\$ 12.00
Northwest	\$ 24.05	\$ 55.00	\$ 10.00
SF-Bay	\$ 21.92	\$ 30.00	\$ 10.00
SoCal	\$ 14.75	\$ 24.00	\$ 8.00

Food waste compost	Average	High	Low
NE	\$ 39.12	\$ 64.00	\$ 17.50
Chesapeake	\$ 23.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 15.00
SE	\$ 28.11	\$ 35.00	\$ 24.00
Florida	\$ 17.50	\$ 22.00	\$ 13.00
Iowa	\$ 25.00	\$ 65.00	\$ 15.00
Minneapolis	\$ 12.33	\$ 16.00	\$ 9.00
Texas	\$ 30.21	\$ 48.95	\$ 15.00
Denver	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00
Northwest	\$ 20.55	\$ 30.00	\$ 15.00
SF-Bay	\$ 23.61	\$ 38.00	\$ 14.00
SoCal	\$ 30.50	\$ 45.00	\$ 16.00

Leaf humus	Average	High	Low
NE	\$ 24.98	\$ 30.00	\$ 19.95
Chesapeake	\$ 27.49	\$ 30.00	\$ 23.95
Cleveland	\$ 19.27	\$ 26.00	\$ 8.00

Composted biosolids	Average	High	Low
NE	\$ 30.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 20.00
Chesapeake	\$ 24.98	\$ 35.00	\$ 12.00
SE	\$ 12.14	\$ 28.00	\$ 4.00
Florida	\$ 13.14	\$ 22.00	\$ 8.00
Cleveland	\$ 24.77	\$ 30.00	\$ 19.50
Iowa	\$ 12.67	\$ 21.00	\$ 8.00
Texas	\$ 21.28	\$ 30.00	\$ 10.00
Denver	\$ 9.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 7.00
Northwest	\$ 17.91	\$ 26.00	\$ 7.00
SoCal	\$ 13.36	\$ 22.00	\$ 3.50

Composted chicken manure	Average	High	Low
NE	\$ 45.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 40.00
Chesapeake	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
SE	\$ 42.00	\$ 42.00	\$ 42.00
Minneapolis	\$ 17.00	\$ 17.00	\$ 17.00
Texas	\$ 37.23	\$ 47.50	\$ 26.95
Denver	\$ 25.65	\$ 28.00	\$ 24.00
SF-Bay	\$ 16.00	\$ 16.00	\$ 16.00
SoCal	\$ 44.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 27.00

Composted cow manure	Average	High	Low
NE	\$ 45.50	\$ 46.00	\$ 45.00
SE	\$ 31.33	\$ 45.00	\$ 12.00
Cleveland	\$ 24.00	\$ 24.00	\$ 24.00
Iowa	\$ 42.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 16.00
Minneapolis	\$ 29.33	\$ 32.00	\$ 26.00
Texas	\$ 29.33	\$ 47.50	\$ 15.00
Denver	\$ 21.71	\$ 30.00	\$ 12.00
Phoenix	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00
Northwest	\$ 23.85	\$ 33.75	\$ 17.45

SF-Bay	\$ 26.00	\$ 26.00	\$ 26.00
SoCal	\$ 17.25	\$ 24.00	\$ 12.00

Wood waste mulch	Average	High	Low
NE	\$ 21.35	\$ 38.00	\$ 12.50
Chesapeake	\$ 21.13	\$ 28.00	\$ 12.00
SE	\$ 18.78	\$ 34.95	\$ 12.00
Florida	\$ 17.50	\$ 18.00	\$ 17.00
Cleveland	\$ 25.56	\$ 36.25	\$ 14.00
Iowa	\$ 32.50	\$ 40.00	\$ 25.00
Minneapolis	\$ 26.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 20.00
Texas	\$ 16.19	\$ 27.00	\$ 9.00
Denver	\$ 18.74	\$ 25.00	\$ 12.48
Phoenix	\$ 17.61	\$ 22.95	\$ 10.00
Northwest	\$ 19.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 7.50
SF-Bay	\$ 18.14	\$ 30.00	\$ 8.00
SoCal	\$ 20.50	\$ 50.00	\$ 6.00

Colored wood mulch	Average	High	Low
NE	\$ 28.00	\$ 28.00	\$ 28.00
Chesapeake	\$ 28.67	\$ 33.00	\$ 25.00
SE	\$ 27.13	\$ 42.00	\$ 15.00
Florida	\$ 20.33	\$ 22.00	\$ 19.00
Cleveland	\$ 24.87	\$ 28.99	\$ 21.95
Iowa	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00
Minneapolis	\$ 36.80	\$ 49.00	\$ 30.00
Texas	\$ 26.08	\$ 32.50	\$ 18.00
Denver	\$ 33.28	\$ 33.28	\$ 33.28
Northwest	\$ 35.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 35.00
SF-Bay	\$ 34.00	\$ 36.00	\$ 28.00
SoCal	\$ 32.50	\$ 35.00	\$ 30.00

Bulk wholesale (yard)

Yard waste compost	Average	High	Low
NE	\$ 21.50	\$ 48.00	\$ 11.00
Chesapeake	\$ 13.39	\$ 16.00	\$ 8.00
SE	\$ 16.66	\$ 25.00	\$ 8.65
Florida	\$ 9.75	\$ 13.00	\$ 8.00
Cleveland	\$ 12.50	\$ 15.00	\$ 10.00
Iowa	\$ 14.00	\$ 19.00	\$ 8.00
Minneapolis	\$ 12.00	\$ 17.00	\$ 7.00
Texas	\$ 17.25	\$ 24.00	\$ 9.00
Denver	\$ 13.05	\$ 14.10	\$ 12.00
Northwest	\$ 14.79	\$ 35.00	\$ 7.50
SF-Bay	\$ 13.71	\$ 22.00	\$ 7.00
SoCal	\$ 7.33	\$ 10.00	\$ 6.00

Food waste compost	Average	High	Low
NE	\$ 25.79	\$ 48.00	\$ 11.00
Chesapeake	\$ 10.50	\$ 15.00	\$ 8.00
SE	\$ 20.65	\$ 30.00	\$ 15.00
Florida	\$ 10.50	\$ 13.00	\$ 8.00
Iowa	\$ 13.40	\$ 20.00	\$ 10.00
Minneapolis	\$ 12.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 12.00
Texas	\$ 17.50	\$ 24.00	\$ 8.50
Denver	\$ 11.33	\$ 15.00	\$ 7.00
Northwest	\$ 17.25	\$ 20.00	\$ 15.00
SF-Bay	\$ 12.67	\$ 26.00	\$ 5.00

Composted biosolids	Average	High	Low
NE	\$ 15.33	\$ 20.00	\$ 10.00
Chesapeake	\$ 9.31	\$ 15.00	\$ 5.00
SE	\$ 10.93	\$ 15.00	\$ 5.00
Florida	\$ 10.50	\$ 13.00	\$ 8.00
Texas	\$ 15.99	\$ 20.00	\$ 9.00

Denver	\$ 13.00	\$ 13.00	\$ 13.00
Northwest	\$ 16.75	\$ 21.00	\$ 12.00
SoCal	\$ 10.50	\$ 17.00	\$ 3.00

Composted cow manure	Average	High	Low
NE	\$ 36.00	\$ 36.00	\$ 36.00
SE	\$ 21.38	\$ 31.50	\$ 7.00
Iowa	\$ 35.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 35.00
Texas	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
Denver	\$ 12.05	\$ 14.10	\$ 10.00
Northwest	\$ 22.00	\$ 22.00	\$ 22.00
SF-Bay	\$ 34.25	\$ 34.50	\$ 34.00
SoCal	\$ 5.00	\$ 6.00	\$ 4.00

Wood waste mulch	Average	High	Low
NE	\$ 15.75	\$ 33.00	\$ 8.00
Chesapeake	\$ 15.80	\$ 17.00	\$ 13.00
SE	\$ 14.60	\$ 24.95	\$ 5.00
Florida	\$ 14.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 13.00
Iowa	\$ 30.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 20.00
Minneapolis	\$ 18.50	\$ 20.00	\$ 17.00
Texas	\$ 10.83	\$ 14.00	\$ 8.00
Denver	\$ 7.66	\$ 8.32	\$ 7.00
Northwest	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00
SF-Bay	\$ 12.33	\$ 14.00	\$ 9.00
SoCal	\$ 9.25	\$ 15.00	\$ 5.00

Colored wood mulch	Average	High	Low
NE	\$ 22.00	\$ 22.00	\$ 22.00
Chesapeake	\$ 20.50	\$ 22.00	\$ 19.00
SE	\$ 19.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 15.00
Florida	\$ 16.00	\$ 16.00	\$ 16.00
Iowa	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
Minneapolis	\$ 27.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 19.00
Texas	\$ 20.67	\$ 24.00	\$ 18.00
Denver	\$ 17.66	\$ 21.32	\$ 14.00
Northwest	\$ 22.00	\$ 22.00	\$ 22.00
SF-Bay	\$ 21.00	\$ 22.00	\$ 19.00
SoCal	\$ 22.50	\$ 25.00	\$ 20.00

Bag Retail

Compost (40# bag)	Average	High	Low
NE	\$ 6.87	\$ 8.00	\$ 4.50
Chesapeake	\$ 3.73	\$ 5.49	\$ 2.15
SE	\$ 4.00	\$ 4.00	\$ 4.00
Iowa	\$ 1.99	\$ 1.99	\$ 1.99
Cleveland	\$ 2.45	\$ 2.99	\$ 2.10
Iowa	\$ 3.12	\$ 7.99	\$ 1.50
Texas	\$ 4.25	\$ 6.99	\$ 1.99
Denver	\$ 3.59	\$ 4.75	\$ 1.73
Phoenix	\$ 4.71	\$ 5.99	\$ 2.77
Northwest	\$ 4.29	\$ 5.99	\$ 2.99
SoCal	\$ 5.39	\$ 6.25	\$ 3.90

Composted cow manure(40#bag)	Average	High	Low
NE	\$ 6.53	\$ 9.87	\$ 3.85
Chesapeake	\$ 5.97	\$ 7.95	\$ 3.99
SE	\$ 5.16	\$ 6.97	\$ 3.34
Florida	\$ 1.98	\$ 1.99	\$ 1.97
Cleveland	\$ 3.27	\$ 3.99	\$ 2.49
Iowa	\$ 2.18	\$ 2.49	\$ 1.75
Minneapolis	\$ 3.70	\$ 7.00	\$ 1.99
Texas	\$ 4.59	\$ 6.99	\$ 1.99
Phoenix	\$ 2.99	\$ 3.99	\$ 2.49
Northwest	\$ 3.99	\$ 3.99	\$ 3.99
SF-Bay	\$ 7.00	\$ 7.00	\$ 7.00

Product/Equipment and Services Guide



Featuring the industry's leading vendors. This listing of the industry's leading vendors of products, equipment and services essential to the compost manufacturing, wood recycling and organics management business also is available online at compostingnews.com. Scan the QR code with your mobile device to go there. If your business is not listed, please contact ken@compostingnews.com.

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YouTube: [Action Conveyors](https://www.youtube.com/ActionConveyors)
LinkedIn: [Action-Equipment-Company-Inc.](https://www.linkedin.com/company/Action-Equipment-Company-Inc)
Contact: Andrew LaVeine
sales@actionconveyors.com

If your business is not listed in this directory, please contact ken@compostingnews.com

Product/Equipment and Services Guide

Screening Systems & Trommels (cont.)



Bandit Industries, Inc.
www.banditchippers.com
6750 Millbrook Road
Remus, MI 49340
Ph: 989.561.2270,
800.952.0178
Fax: 989.561.2273
YouTube: banditchippers
Twitter: banditchippers
Facebook:
banditiindustries
Contact:
Regional Sales Mgr.
sales@banditchippers.com



GrinderCrusherScreen Inc.
www.grindercrusherscreen.com
1772 Corn Road
Smyrna, GA 30080
Phone: 770.433.2440
Fax: 770.433.2669
YouTube:
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Twitter: GCS_Equipment
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rick@grindercrusherscreen.com



Screen USA Inc.
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1772 Corn Road
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Fax: 770.433.2669
Contact: Rick Cohen
rick@screenusa.net



West Salem Machinery

www.westsalem.com
P.O. Box 5288
665 Murlark Ave. NW
Salem, OR 97304
Phone: 800.722.3530
Phone: 503.364.2213
Fax: 503.364.1398
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Shredders



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Contact: Rick Cohen
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Thermometers & Monitoring Equipment



REOTEMP Instruments

https://
reotempcompost.com
10656 Roselle Street
San Diego, CA 92121
Phone: 858.225.1889
Fax: 858.784.0720
YouTube: reotemp
compost
Twitter:
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Facebook: reotemp
Contact: Nathan
O'Connor
compost@reotemp.com

Replacement Parts



Agrisolutions Corp.

Trinity Hardware
Extended Life Solutions
www.agrisolutionscorp.com
2984 AAA Court
Bettendorf, IA 52722
Phone: 563-459-6341
Contact: Dan Zehnder
zehnder@agrisolutionscorp.com



ARMORHOG CW Mill Equipment -

www.armorhog.com
14 Commerce Drive
Sabetha, KS 66534
Phone: 800.743.3491
Phone: 785.284.3454
Fax: 785.284.2010
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CWMillHogZilla
Facebook: HogZilla
Monster Grinders
Contact: Brian Bergman
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DynaHog CW Mill Equipment -

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Product/Equipment and Services Guide



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Hogzilla Grinders CW Mill Equipment -

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Windrow Turners



Aeromaster Midwest Bio-Systems

www.aeromasterequipment.com
www.midwestbiosystems.com
28933 35 E Street
Tampico, IL 61283
Phone: 800.689.0714
Fax: 815.438.7028
YouTube:
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Dos Palos, CA 93620
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Fax: 209.392.3000
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Contact: Sherrill Campbell
Contact: Casey Campbell
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SCARAB International LLP

www.scarabmfg.com
1475 County Road W
White Deer, TX 79097
Phone: 806.883.7621
Fax: 806.883.6804
YouTube: Scarab Manufacturing
Twitter: Scarabmfg
Facebook: Scarab International, LLLP
Contact: Richard Miller
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Wood Grinders - Horizontal



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Twitter: banditchippers
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Diamond Z
www.diamondz.com
11299 Bass Lane
Caldwell, ID 83605
Phone: 208.585.2929
Fax: 208.585.2112
YouTube: Diamond Z
Contact: Marcus Buntjer
MBuntjer@DiamondZ.com



DuraTech Industries

www.duratechindustries.net
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Phone: 701.252.4601
Fax: 701.252.0502
YouTube:
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Contact: Bob Strahm
indsales@duratechindustries.net



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Product/Equipment and Services Guide



Featuring the industry's leading vendors. This listing of the industry's leading vendors of products, equipment and services essential to the compost manufacturing, wood recycling and organics management business also is available online at compostingnews.com. Scan the QR code with your mobile device to go there. If your business is not listed, please contact ken@compostingnews.com.

Wood Grinders - Horizontal (cont.)



Hogzilla Grinders CW Mill Equipment -

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CWMillHogZilla
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Contact: Tim Wenger,
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Rotochopper

www.rotochopper.com
217 West Street
St. Martin, MN 56376
Phone: 320.548.3586
Fax: 320.548.3372
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Wood Grinders - Tub



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YouTube:
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Wear Parts



Agrisolutions Corp.

Trinity Hardware
Extended Life Solutions
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Food waste

Maryland

From page 5

reduce its waste and increase its climate goals,” said council member Evan Glass. “By partnering with local environmental entrepreneurs, it will lead to a greener environment and economy. This is good for our farmers, our small businesses, our residents and the planet.”

Council member Craig Rice said increasing composting opportunities for local farms is a benefit for agricultural and restaurant industries as well as a positive step in advancing climate goals.

“Now that farmers can produce more mulch and compost on their farms, they can bolster their production and produce healthier food for our residents,” said council member Nancy Navarro. The legislation was supported by a coalition of farmers, small business entrepreneurs and environmental organizations, including the Montgomery County Farmers Bureau, Compost Crew, Chesapeake Climate Action Network and Bethesda Green.

Herbicides

Rapid City

From page 5

conducted.

In its advisory, Rapid City noted that these herbicides generally are not harmful to turf grass. However, persistent herbicides can be detected anywhere from several months to several years in soils or in compost that was made from vegetation previously treated with the herbicide.

The Solid Waste Division said it adds only water to the feedstock material from which its compost material is made. Its feedstock includes:

- Tree branches;
- Leaves;
- Grass clippings;
- Animal manures;
- Untreated lumber products; and
- Other organic material.

“These herbicides are used in our

communities,” the city said. “Most likely one or more of our compost feedstock materials was treated with the herbicide, and at some point delivered to the solid waste facility for processing. Herbicides are not used as part of the yard waste composting process.”

The division’s recommendation is to not use its compost for any application where broad leaf plants (including ornamental plants) will be grown. This includes, but is not limited to, most common garden plants such as tomatoes, potatoes, legumes, lettuce and peppers.

Meanwhile, the city is doing more extensive testing, including testing its different feedstocks separately in an effort to narrow down where the herbicides may be coming from. If a particular material is found to be the source of the herbicide, that waste stream will be managed separately to ensure that herbicide residues are kept out of the compost to the greatest extent possible, the city said.

The city also said that residents can help by making sure that they are not using persistent herbicides on any yard waste material they bring to the solid waste facility.

“If you do bring in material that may have herbicide residue, please let the Solid Waste Division staff know, so appropriate measures can be taken to segregate the material,” the division advised. “When using any herbicide, please follow all instructions and warnings provided by the manufacturer.”

Home bioassay

The city provided the following instructions on doing an at-home bioassay to detect potential plant damage from compost:

First, take a number of random, representative samples from throughout the pile of compost, being sure to get deep inside the pile. Mix thoroughly.

If there are separate sources of compost, conduct individual assays for each.

Prepare three to six small (4 to 5 inch) pots with a 1:1 mix of the compost with a commercial potting mix containing fertilizer.

Fill several control pots with only the commercial potting mix. Put saucers underneath each pot, or position the pots far enough apart so that water running out of the bottom will not reach another pot.

Plant three pea or bean seeds in each pot, water, and let them grow two or three weeks. There should be at least three sets of true leaves on the peas or beans.

If the plants in the control pots grow normally and the ones in the pots with compost do not, you can assume the compost is contaminated with an herbicide that will adversely affect sensitive plants.

If they all grow normally, it would be reasonable to assume that the compost is fine.

A similar test can be done with young tomato transplants, but herbicide damage may not appear until the plants first set fruit. Keep in mind these test will be only as good as the samples you take. It would be better to err on the side of too many samples than too few (at least 20 per pile).

Organic farming

OFRF and NRCS partner on organic conservation practices

The Organic Farming Research Foundation (OFRF) and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) have made a three-year agreement that focuses on strengthening conservation partnerships between NRCS field staff and organic producers.

OFRF said the agreement will leverage its unique expertise to expand knowledge and outreach focusing on the best science-based organic practices.

(See Conservation, page 12)

Organic farming

Conservation

From page 11

“OFRF, organic producers and NRCS conservationists share a commitment to restore and protect natural resources through agricultural conservation,” OFRF said. “The USDA National Organic Program Standards require certified organic growers to maintain and improve soil and water quality, species diversity, woodlands, wetlands, wildlife and other resources to help in these efforts.”

However, OFRF said, organic farmer participation in NRCS programs has been limited.

Though NRCS historically has worked primarily with conventional producers, the agency’s conservation practices fit all kinds of production – from organic to conventional, large to small and all regions nationwide. Increased technical and financial assistance for organic and transitioning producers is necessary to support widespread adoption of NRCS conservation practices standards related to soil health, tillage and nutrient, pest and weed management, the foundation said.

“We applaud recent positive steps to ensure programs work effectively for the organic sector,” said Brise Tencer, executive director at OFRF. “However, there is a continued need to build the capacity of NRCS field offices to effectively serve organic farmers. We are very excited to launch this new partnership. By creating science-based materials for NRCS staff and helping increase understanding of organic soil health practices such as practical conservation tillage and nutrient management, we are taking an active role in fighting climate change and supporting the success of organic producers and others who want to adopt more sustainable practices.”

Terry Cosby, acting chief of NRCS, said the partnership will ensure NRCS field staff better understand organic farming practices and are equipped to support more organic farmers’ conservation efforts.

The partnership includes provisions for research analyses, guidebooks, webinars and case studies - with a particular focus on sustainable growing practices that promote soil health, conserve natural resources and prevent environmental degradation while producing a healthful, and secure food supply.

OFRF is a non-profit foundation that works to foster the improvement and widespread adoption of organic farming systems.

NRCS helps America’s farmers, ranchers and forest landowners conserve the nation’s soil, water, air and other natural resources.

All programs are voluntary and offer science-based solutions that benefit both the landowner and the environment. For more information on NRCS assistance for organic producers, visit nrcs.usda.gov/organic.

Produce

From page 1

The report says unprecedented consumer purchasing behavior due to the Covid pandemic resulted in double digit growth compared to 2019.

“Organic produce took center stage in 2020 retail sales,” said Tonya Antle, OPN’s co-founder. “The connection consumers made between their personal health and fresh produce is crystal clear in the data shared in this first-ever report. Organic produce is, and will remain, a

key driver of retail sales.”

Overall, organic produce had a 6.6 percent produce market share in terms of volume in 2020, and a 12 percent share in terms of sales.

The newly published 68-page report includes information related to:

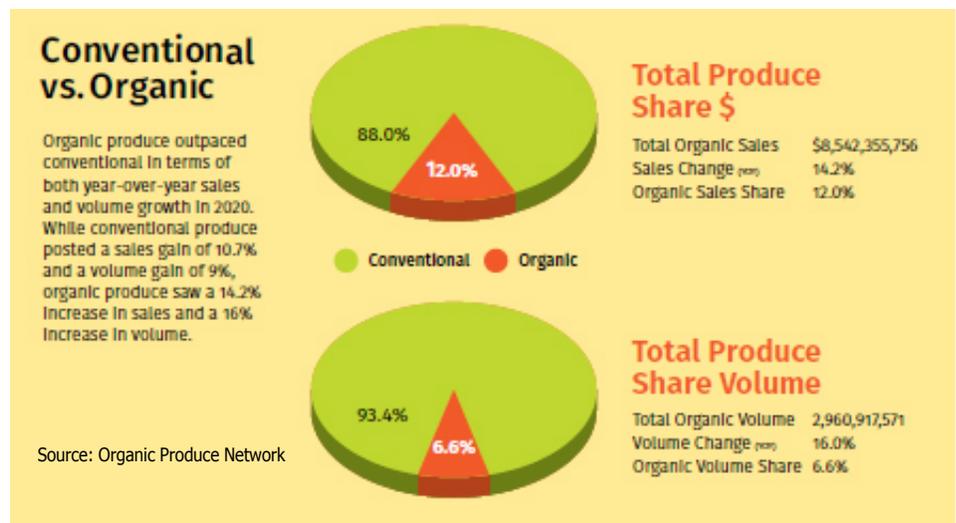
- The year-over-year growth of organic fresh produce compared to conventional;
- Region-specific organic produce performance;
- Sales and volume trends for the top 10 organic produce items;
- The percentage change in year-over-year monthly produce sales for both conventional and organic.

Additionally, the report contains retailer and wholesaler feedback on last year’s record-breaking sales of organic fresh produce.

Grants

Wilmington, N.C. grant supplies compost bins

A \$20,000 state grant will help Wilmington, N.C. to establish a backyard composting program. City Council this month accepted the grant, which aims to enhance waste stream reduction with the promotion of backyard composting for city residents.



The campaign will include the purchase of backyard compost bins, how-to composting workshops, social media outreach efforts and educational outreach materials. The composting bins will be provided to residents at no cost for their use to help divert food scraps and yard waste from the waste stream.

The North Carolina Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service (DEACS) administered the grant through the Solid Waste Management Outreach Program. The grant required a match of 20 percent - or \$4,000 from the city.

The city will purchase about 600 FreeGarden Earth compost bins. The 80-gallon bins are manufactured with 100 percent recycled content material, have a screw on lid to deter animals and pests and are UV resistant. With one composting bin provided to per household, an estimated 600 households will benefit from the campaign. The waste reduction impact is projected to be about 190 tons per year.

With each backyard compost bin deployed, residents will receive informative and helpful outreach materials covering the importance of composting, how-to tips, and best practices.

Biogas

Nebraska town turns biogas into fleet fuel

The city of Lincoln, Neb. has completed its project to use the biogas from its wastewater facility to produce vehicle fuel. The Lincoln Transportation and Utilities Department (LTU) began the biogas sustainability initiative in 2017 and has recouped its costs in a little more than three years.

“With this project completed, we are now actively creating vehicle fuel that is currently being sold on the national market,” said Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird, who added that the project is expected to generate \$2.6 million every

year.

The digestion of solids in the wastewater that goes to the facility produces methane. Instead of flaring the gas, the city has used the biogas to generate electricity for the treatment plant since 1991. When the generators reached the end of their useful lives a few years ago, the Lincoln Wastewater System decided to upgrade the technology to make even better use of that biogas.

The new process treats, cleans and transforms the renewable natural gas into quality vehicle fuel.

The city’s partners in the project include HDR Engineering, Building Crafts Incorporated and Black Hills Energy, which built the infrastructure needed to connect the renewable natural gas to the national natural gas pipeline system.

“Last year, Black Hills Energy announced its commitment to creating a cleaner energy future, building on our commitment to safe, reliable, and affordable energy, and our history of advancing sustainability in Lincoln,” said Kevin Jarosz, Black Hills’ vice president of Nebraska operations. “This is our third renewable natural gas project in Nebraska.

LTU anticipates that the project will produce 100 billion British thermal units (BTU) of renewable natural gas annually, the equivalent of about 875,000 gallons of gasoline.

To get the renewable natural gas on the marketplace, the city is partnering with Bluesource, a national energy management company.

More information is available at lincoln.ne.gov/wastewater.

Economic trends

Housing permits surge in January

U.S. housing permits, considered a leading indicator for future construction activity and the broader economy, surged to a 15-year high in January, reported the American

Institute for Economic Research (AIER).

AIER said the January jump was supported by increases in the dominant single-family category and the multifamily category. Total housing starts did fall for the month, but the drop comes on the heels of a sharp gain in the previous month. Overall, housing continues to be one of the strongest areas of the economy. Month-to-month volatility in housing construction can be influenced by weather conditions.

For housing permits, total permits rose 10.4 percent, to 1.881 million in January. Total permits are 22.5 percent above the January 2020 level and at the highest level since May 2006. Single-family permits were up 3.8 percent at 1.269 million, the highest since August 2006.

Among the regions in the report, total housing starts fell in three of the four regions. The South, the largest region by volume, lost 2.5 percent while the West fell 11.4 percent and the Midwest dropped 12.3 percent. However, the Northeast gained 2.3 percent in January.

For housing permits among the regions, total permits rose in three of the four regions. The Northeast rose 39.3 percent while the South increased 8.3 percent, the West rose 11.7 percent, but the Midwest decreased 0.8 percent.

The National Association of Home Builders’ Housing Market Index, a measure of homebuilder sentiment, rose slightly in February. The gain reflects strong demand for housing but is offset by surging materials costs, especially lumber, and concern over regulatory issues. Overall sentiment remains relatively high.

Housing is one of the areas that may be experiencing structural change. There appears to be sustained marginal demand for less dense suburban and rural housing as urban dwellers, primarily renters, seek alternative housing.

This trend could be boosted if businesses implement permanent work from home policies, to make employees happy but also to cut down on high-cost commercial real estate, especially in high-density, high-cost cities.

Economic trends

Equipment finance confidence higher in February

The monthly Confidence Index for the Equipment Finance Industry (MCI-EFI), reported by the Equipment Leasing & Finance Foundation, indicated a confidence level of 64.4, an increase from the January index of 59.6.

The index reports a qualitative assessment of both the prevailing business conditions and expectations for the future as reported by key executives from the \$900 billion equipment finance sector.

“Although we believe the 2021 PPP program will suppress capital needs for a short period of time among SMB (small to medium businesses), we’re expecting a positive rebound from a year’s worth of pent-up pandemic demand,” said Brad Peterson, CEO, Channel Partners Capital. “Our post-pandemic portfolio looks fantastic and we expect the strong performance to continue through 2022. We believe this is the time to invest in SMB marketplace opportunities.”

February 2021 survey highlights included:

- When asked to assess their business conditions over the next four months, 46.2 percent of executives responding said they believe business conditions will improve over the next four months, up from 33.3 percent in January. 46.2 percent believe business conditions will remain the same over the next four months, a decrease from 59.3 percent the previous month. 7.7 percent believe business conditions will worsen, a slight increase from 7.4 percent in January.
- 42.3 percent of the survey respondents believe demand for leases and loans to

fund capital expenditures (CapEx) will increase over the next four months, up from 33.3 percent in January. 53.9 percent believe demand will “remain the same” during the same four-month time period, a decrease from 59.3 percent the previous month. 3.9 percent believe demand will decline, down from 7.4 percent in January.

- 23.1 percent of the respondents expect more access to capital to fund equipment acquisitions over the next four months, up from 18.5 percent in January. 76.9 percent of executives indicate they expect the “same” access to capital to fund business, a decrease from 81.5 percent last month. None expect “less” access to capital, unchanged from the previous month.
- When asked, 38.5 percent of the executives report they expect to hire more employees over the next four months, up from 25.9 percent in January. 61.5 percent expect no change in headcount over the next four months, a decrease from 66.7 percent last month. None expect to hire fewer employees, down from 7.4 percent in January.
- None of the leadership evaluate the current U.S. economy as “excellent,” unchanged from the previous month. 76.9 percent of the leadership evaluate the current U.S. economy as “fair,” down from 77.8 percent in January. 23.1 percent evaluate it as “poor,” up from 22.2 percent last month.
- 50 percent of the survey respondents believe that U.S. economic conditions will get “better” over the next six months, a decrease from 51.9 percent in January. 38.5 percent indicate they believe the U.S. economy will “stay the same” over the next six months, an increase from 37 percent last month. 11.5 percent believe economic conditions in the U.S. will worsen over the next six months, up slightly from 11.1 percent the previous month.
- In February 30.8 percent of respondents indicate they believe their company will increase spending on business development activities during the next six months, an increase from 22.2 percent last month. 69.2 percent

believe there will be “no change” in business development spending, a decrease from 74.1 percent in January. None believe there will be a decrease in spending, down from 3.7 percent last month.

Following are comments from the February survey:

- “Wintrust Specialty Finance had a solid year of growth in spite of the global pandemic. 2021 has started out well with strong application flow, approval rates and funding volume. Additionally, the portfolio has performed with low delinquency and credit quality. I expect that mid-year will bring challenges as PPP funds fade. However, we are focused in industries that are performing with essential use collateral that we believe will continue to perform.” - David Normandin, president and CEO, Wintrust Specialty Finance
- “We are seeing pent-up demand for equipment and structure investment. Due to the continued uncertainty caused by COVID and the low interest rate environment, customers are preferring to finance rather than pay cash.” - Michael Romanowski, president, Farm Credit Leasing
- “The equipment finance and leasing marketplace has always been resilient and performs well in market dislocation. I have concerns around the unknown impact of numerous executive orders, as well as COVID-19.” - Dave Fate, president and CEO, Stonebriar Commercial Finance

Confidence in the U.S. economy and the capital markets is a critical driver to the equipment finance industry, the Equipment Leasing & Finance Foundation said.

“Throughout history, when confidence increases, consumers and businesses are more apt to acquire more consumer goods, equipment, and durables, and invest at prevailing prices,” the foundation said. “When confidence decreases, spending and risk-taking tend to fall. Investors are said to be confident when the news about the future is good and stock prices are rising.”

Wood waste

Greenway opens Baltimore pallet plant

Greenway Products & Services has opened a new pallet manufacturing plant in Baltimore, with plans to hire as many as 50 employees.

The facility will produce more than 20,000 pallets per week, supporting retailers and manufacturing logistics throughout Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, New York and Eastern Pennsylvania.

Greenway said the new facility supports the rapid growth in online shopping and the emerging network of warehouses supporting business and home deliveries in the Mid-Atlantic region.

In addition, Baltimore is strategically located within an overnight drive of one-third of the U.S. population, making it an excellent location for companies with customers in the region, Greenway said.

The new plant is equipped with efficient, streamlined, state-of-the-art automation for pallet manufacturing and re-manufacturing.

“The new Baltimore facility includes two lines – a direct line for pallet repair and assembly and a recovery line to preserve sturdy and reliable components from recycled pallets,” said co-owner Anthony Fabrizio. “The site is equipped with trailers and tractors for pallet pickups and deliveries to our customers.”

Greenway is a pallet manufacturer and re-manufacturer as well as a full-service pallet management company with a produce line that includes reconditioned/recycled, remanufactured, wood and plastic pallets in standard and custom sizes for domestic and international shipping.

The company also provides recycling of wood products and manufactures Grade A landscape mulch from used pallets and other wood scrap.



Compost Digest

Read these complete stories at compostingnews.com

- A world leader in beef, **Nebraska** also produces a lot of manure. At first, neighbors objected when a local farmer proposed taking some of the smelliest stuff and composting it. But he told them he could do it the right way and produce a useable product.

County commissioners made a deal a year ago, giving him 90 days to prove it would work.

The farmer's company, Smart Soil, near Grand Rapids, now seeks state permits to make the operation permanent. He's added hundreds of trees to his site and moved a lot of dirt. He told commissioners he can hold far more water than he's required to.

He's turning skeptics into supporters - taking an unfortunate situation and making it positive by supplying a beneficial product to farmers.

One of his feedstocks now is paunch manure - the partially digested stuff in cattle stomachs that comes from a nearby packing plant. Previously, it was applied to farm fields, which generated complaints. - *NebraskaTV, nebraska.tv*

- Elmsdale Lumber, of **Elmsdale, N.S.**, plans to build a biochar plant on its property. The plant would cook wood fiber from sawmill byproducts, including softwood chips, in an oxygen-free reactor to produce biochar, a fine crusted carbon-rich charcoal that can be tilled in or mixed with compost to enrich soil.

The biochar plant would help alleviate the glut of wood chips left in the wake of the closure of the Northern Pulp plant, in Pictou County.

Elmsdale Lumber used to send 44,000 tons of chips to Northern pulp each year. - *The Chronicle Herald, thechronicleherald.ca*

- **Hamilton, Mass.** said it is the first city in the state to mandate residential composting. Its program puts Hamilton on par with cities like San Francisco and

Seattle, as well as the state of Vermont, which rolled out a statewide composting mandate last year.

Pulling organic material like table scraps out of the waste stream makes trash weigh less, which means towns and cities could pay less to have it hauled away.

About 28 percent of waste disposed of in Massachusetts food and organics, according to advocacy group MassPIRG.

Black Earth Compost, which isn't a part of the town's program, said its revenues have doubled during the pandemic because more municipalities have begun looking to offset the sharp spike in trash fees by having their citizens pay his composting service to collect their kitchen scraps.

In the past year, towns like Belmont, Brookline and Newton have contracted with Black Earth.

Hamilton pays Brick Ends Farm, a local composting company, \$40 per ton to accept the organics - compared to the trash tipping fee of \$83 per ton. - *Boston Globe, bostonglobe.com*

- Moonshot Compost, which specializes in food waste diversion, has relocated from **Downtown Houston** to a new, larger headquarters in suburban **Houston Heights**, allowing the company to grow and expand its business to additional commercial and residential clients.

The company was started in 2020 by Chris Wood, a former corporate lawyer and his brother-in-law Joe Villa after their curiosity in composting blossomed into the creation of a food waste recycling business.

The company takes food waste from residential and commercial clients, brings it to an industrial composting facility, then returns the compost to its customers.

The new 1,500 square foot office will help Moonshot receive compost from residential clients in single and multi-family housing along with commercial customers like ConocoPhillips, Henderson & Kane, Rice University and Jeni's Splendid Ice Creams. - *Houston Chronicle, houstonchronicle.com*



Independent coverage of composting, wood recycling and organics management

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