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JUNE 2009

BIOCYCLE

ADVANCING COMPOSTING, ORGANICS RECYCLING & RENEWABLE ENERGY

COMPOST AND CARBON CREDITS



SPECIAL REGIONAL CONFERENCE:
ORGANIC WASTE DIVERSION IN THE ROCKIES
JULY 19, 20, 21, 22, 2009 • JACKSON, WYOMING

service about 50 restaurants and other businesses. The company is now set to expand its composting program into residential neighborhoods, collecting kitchen scraps and yard trimmings from interested homeowners in a few parts of Winnipeg.

Brattleboro, Vermont THREE-YEAR GRANT FOR MARKETING ON-FARM COMPOST

Northeast Recycling Council (NERC), based in Brattleboro, was awarded a three-year grant from Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE), a USDA competitive grants program. The project, "Marketing On-Farm Compost for Sustainability & Economic Viability," will work with on-farm compost operations in Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey and New Hampshire. Twenty farms and state agencies have signed on as project team members to work with NERC to develop and implement the project. Through the project, NERC will provide free field day/workshops for farmers and agricultural specialists, a Compost Marketing Toolkit, and technical assistance with developing and implementing compost marketing plans.

NERC, along with its project team members, will provide tools to help farmers: explore compost as a value-added product to support their current business operation; understand the importance of quality control and compost recipe development; learn how to acquire the necessary permits to operate and market compost in their state; explore potential feedstocks and pricing structures; develop marketing and sales strategies to effectively meet local and regional demand; and develop and implement a compost marketing plan. For more information, contact Athena Lee Bradley, NERC Projects Manager: athena@nerc.org.

Unity Plantation, Maine PRIVATE BIOSOLIDS COMPOSTING OPERATION RECEIVES EMS CERTIFICATION

The Hawk Ridge Composting Facility in Unity, owned and operated by New England Organics, has been certified and admitted to the National Biosolids Partnership's (NBP) Envi-

ronmental Management System (EMS) program. It is the first privately operated biosolids management company in the country to be certified by NBP. An EMS is a systematic set of processes and practices that enables an organization to reduce its environmental impacts and increase its operating efficiency. There is a rigorous certification process by an independent third party auditor. The Hawk Ridge composting site processes biosolids from a number of communities. The facility opened in 1990. "The National Biosolids Partnership is pleased with the New England Organics-Hawk Ridge Compost Facility's successful completion and verification of the EMS program," says Richard Lanyon, NBP's Chair. "The Partnership believes that instituting an EMS for utility management is vital to enhancing environmental excellence in local communities." More details on the EMS program, and a list of other certified biosolids management programs, can be found at www.biosolids.org.

Queens, New York UNIVERSITY LAUNCHES COMPOSTING

St. John's University recently launched an on-site in-vessel food composter at its 105-acre Queens campus. The composter will process up to 80 gallons of food waste/week, along with wood chips for a bulking agent. Student volunteers retrieve kitchen-generated waste from the dining hall, which is operated by Chartwells, a division of the Compass Group that provides dining services for over 875 colleges, universities and public and private schools. "Here at St. John's, and at Chartwells' campuses across the country, we are already monitoring food waste in our kitchens through a program we call Trim Trax," says Gina Capetanakis, Marketing Manager for Chartwells at St. John's. "As part of the guidelines of Trim Trax, food waste is separated from other kitchen waste such as plastic wrap and disposable gloves, thus making it even easier for the student volunteers to retrieve the appropriate organic materials for the [composter]." The school chose a Rocket® A500 composter, which is manufactured by UK-based Accelerated Compost, and distributed in the U.S. by NATH Sustainable Solutions.

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