



N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Release: Immediate
Date: August 27, 1999

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Distribution: Statewide

STATE TO FUND PROJECTS THAT DIVERT WASTE FROM LANDFILLS

RALEIGH – The N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has allocated \$211,000 to fund projects that recover clean, biodegradable wastes (organic residuals) that now go to landfills. Funding will be in the form of grants

Grants will be awarded to support public and/or private sector projects that meet one or both of two goals: projects that are a sustainable, well-documented diversion of organic wastes from the waste stream and projects that stimulate market demand for composts and other recycled organic wastes. This is the second year of project funding, which is being administered by DENR's Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance (DPPEA).

“Organic solid wastes are a significant portion of North Carolina's waste stream,” said Gary Hunt, DPPEA director. “Diverting those wastes from landfills will help the state meet its goal of 40 percent solid waste reduction by June 30, 2001.”

The amount of grant funding available is a maximum of \$30,000 per project, with a 25% matching requirement of the applicant. Special consideration will be given to projects that address:

- commercial and residential food wastes – source separation, collection and composting
- diversion of industrial organic wastes from landfills
- diversion of recycled organics in agricultural applications
- market demand assessments for recycled organics
- new uses for composts (i.e. stormwater filtration, bioremediation)
- compost quality standards for different markets
- compost use assessments (crop yield, disease suppression and usage economics)

Last year's grants recipients and their funded projects are:

- Food Waste Composting Feasibility Evaluation, Huntersville – a project to evaluate the technical and economic feasibility of source-separating and composting (with windrows and aerated static piles) grocery store good wastes.

more

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- Increase Waste Wood System Capacity, Conover – a project to expand the throughout capacity of a facility that processes waste wood from the furniture industry into hydraulic mulches and erosion control blankets.
- Food Waste Diversion at the 1999 Special Olympics Games – a project to demonstrate source-separation and windrow composting of pre- and post-consumer dining hall food wastes during the Special Olympics Games in the Triangle.
- Waste Reduction Using Vermicomposting in Public Institutions, Clinton – a demonstration project using a vermicomposting system for handling food wastes at the N.C. Sampson Correctional Institution.
- In Vessel Food Residuals Composting, Polkton – a demonstration project of food waste source-separation and invessel (rotary drum) composting at the Brown Creek Correctional Institution.
- Effects of Compost on the Growth of Christmas Trees in North Carolina, Ashe County – an evaluation of the growth response and disease suppression characteristics with Fraser fir Christmas trees.
- Composting Production and Marketing, Buncombe County – an evaluation of alternative floor aeration systems for aerated static pile composting of sawmill residuals and dairy manures.
- Sustainable Campus – A Community Project, Asheville – a project to implement source-separation and invessel (modular bins) composting at the University of North Carolina.
- Macon County Solid Waste Management Program – expansion of the existing composting facility to incorporate source-separated food wastes from school cafeterias and restaurants.
- WIN/WIN Mobile Pantry, Charlotte and surrounding areas – a project to develop a mobile distribution system for edible food rescue and distribution.
- Custom Application of Biofertilizers, Chatham County – a technology development project to evaluate wet and dry methods of distributing large amounts of finished composts.

Requests for Proposal (RFP) for applying for the grant are now available. Proposals should not exceed 12 written pages and must be postmarked no later than Oct. 22, 1999. Announcements of award winners will be made by December.

RFPs are available at DPPEA's Web site: www.p2pays.org/grants/organic.htm. Or, send your name and address to Craig Coker, organics recycling coordinator, NCDENR/DPPEA, 1639 MAIL SERVICE CENTER, RALEIGH, NC 27699-1639; phone: (919) 715-6524; e-mail: craig_coker@p2pays.org.

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