

**REPORT OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF  
WASTE MANAGEMENT**

**The Feasibility of a  
Statewide Yardwaste  
Composting Program  
for Virginia**

**TO THE GOVERNOR AND  
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA**



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**Report of the  
Department of Waste Management  
on the Study of Composted Yard Wastes  
Requested by House Joint Resolution Number 395 (1989)  
To  
The Governor and the General Assembly of Virginia  
Richmond, Virginia  
January, 1990**

**TO: The Honorable Gerald L. Baliles, Governor of Virginia  
and  
The General Assembly of Virginia**

**FOREWORD**

The 1989 General Assembly adopted HJR 395, which requested the Department of Waste Management to conduct a study of the feasibility of a statewide composting program for leaves and other yard wastes.

HJR 395 requested the Department to:

1. work in cooperation with and secure the participation of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the Cooperative Extension Services of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and Virginia State University.
2. study the amount of yard waste material available, the potential reduction of such material from the waste stream, the current and future uses for the end product, the techniques for the production of yard waste compost, the economic impacts and benefits to the Commonwealth, and the level of participation of the private sector.
3. develop recommendations for implementation of a statewide program.

An advisory committee of representatives from the agencies referenced in HJR 395 was formed in May, 1989. The committee recommended that the Department of Waste Management accept a proposal from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, and the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service, to conduct the feasibility study. The Department of Waste Management approved the committee's recommendation and in June, 1989, a contract was entered into between the Department and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

The Department of Waste Management requested that the scope of the study proposal be expanded to include a major emphasis on the markets for composted yard waste and that potential users be identified.

The research study began on July 1, 1989 and was concluded on December 1, 1989. A final report describing the study's findings and recommendations was presented to the Department and the other referenced agencies on December 7, 1989.

The final report, "The Feasibility Of A Statewide Yardwaste Composting Program For Virginia", has been reproduced in its entirety for this document, and begins on the following page. The recommendations for the Department of Waste Management and the General Assembly are listed in the Executive Summary section of the report and are explained in detail, beginning on page 39.

The Department has begun coordination of the administrative and regulatory changes recommended by the study, so that composting as a waste management technique may be more widely employed.

**The Feasibility of A Statewide  
Yardwaste Composting Program for Virginia**

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Submitted to  
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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **The Feasibility of a Statewide Yardwaste Composting Program for Virginia**

This study was conducted to determine the feasibility of developing and implementing a statewide program for composting yardwaste (leaves and grass clippings). The study was conducted by the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service for the Virginia Department of Waste Management as directed by the 1989 Session of the General Assembly pursuant to House Joint Resolution No. 395.

Currently, most yardwastes are disposed in landfills, although that practice is being reduced rapidly throughout the nation. There is a serious national crisis concerning solid waste management and the availability and cost of landfill space. As a result, local, state and federal governments are focusing attention on means of reducing municipal solid waste (MSW) volumes requiring landfilling. It is apparent in Virginia and throughout the country that yardwaste may be a key MSW component in achieving substantial source reduction/recycling in a short time period. Typically, yardwaste is thought to comprise 15 to 20% of the MSW volume but ranges from 5 to 40%.

However, diverting yardwaste from landfills requires alternative processing (composting) and the development of uses and markets for the finished products. As a result, a major focus of this study was to evaluate the potential market for composted yardwaste, identify potential user groups and estimate the volume that could be marketed. Additional emphasis was placed on the amount of material, the suitability of yardwaste components for composting, potential reductions in MSW volumes, appropriate technologies for yardwaste composting and their costs, cost savings and the role of the private sector. A secondary focus was on the potential for removing woody waste from the waste stream. While conducting the study, it also became evident that methods to change public perception/behavior concerning the need to collect yardwaste, particularly grass clippings, should be evaluated.

## **METHODS**

A computerized literature search conducted at Virginia Tech, identified several hundred articles, journals, manuals and books in print on the subject of composting. A complete listing of all articles, journals, books and manuals used in compiling information can be found at the end of the report.

Ten composting sites around the country were visited during the study and telephone interviews were conducted with regulators, consultants and facility operators at other locations. Three surveys were developed to determine the amount of compostable yardwaste potentially available, the perceived markets for compost and interest in composting and compost utilization. Virginia Nursery Operators, Solid Waste Management Permit Holders and Extension Agents-Agriculture were surveyed. Each survey was designed to match the area of expertise of the individual group.

## **Results and Recommendations-Yardwaste**

The first concern for any composting program is the appropriateness of available technology. The most appropriate technology is a function of the material, available land area, nuisance potential, equipment availability, available resources, potential environmental harm and regulatory requirements. Strom and Finstein (1986) classified yardwaste composting procedures into four levels of technology based on equipment and resource requirements, composting time, land area requirement and quality of the finished product. These four levels are minimal, low, intermediate and high technologies. Based on this study, the low level of technology is best suited for small to medium localities and intermediate technology is most appropriate for medium to high population areas.

Survey results indicated that at least 83% and 81% of the solid waste managers surveyed landfilled their leaves and grass clippings, respectively. If a conservative average of 15% yardwaste is used with an approximate total MSW volume of 6.5 million tons per year, then about one million tons or four million cubic yards of yardwaste are collected in Virginia each year with the vast majority going to landfills. The average landfill tippage fee for survey respondents was \$19.63/ton. These fees should rise rapidly in the near future. Based on projected yardwaste volumes and the average tippage fee, landfill space valued at almost twenty million dollars is being used for yardwaste.

It is estimated that, if all yardwaste in Virginia were composted, 800,000 cubic yards of finished compost would be generated each year. However, efforts will be made to reduce grass clipping removal and increase backyard composting. This should result in an annual compost volume of less than 600,000 cubic yards per year. Current demand for similar materials (peat moss, organic materials in potting mixes, etc) could account for about two thirds of that volume. Through public education, increased public sector use and other recommended programs, it is estimated that markets can be developed for all yardwaste compost. Municipalities should also encourage backyard composting as a part of their overall yardwaste management program. Participation in backyard composting will depend in part on the public's understanding of the cost and problems associated with landfilling or otherwise disposing of yardwastes.

It is apparent that yardwaste can be composted at a cost less than the current state average tippage fee (\$19.63/ton). Thus, statewide composting of yardwaste is feasible and should result in substantial savings for localities. It is therefore recommended that the state prohibit the placement of leaves and grass clippings in landfills after January 1, 1995. To accomplish this goal, changes must be made in the Solid Waste Management Regulations to facilitate siting and operation of yardwaste compost facilities. Some localities may need assistance from the Virginia Resource Authority to assist with capital costs. However, there is a great deal of private sector interest in composting at rates below landfill tippage fees which could reduce capital outlay burdens on localities. To provide incentive for private composting facilities, it is recommended that low interest loans and/or tax incentives be provided for establishment of such facilities.

For the program to succeed, the technologies must be understood by state and local government and private personnel, the demand for yardwaste compost must increase and the volume of yardwaste collected (particularly grass clippings) must decrease. To increase understanding of technologies and use volume, six pilot projects

with an associated public education program should be conducted. Public education on backyard composting is needed as is an educational program to reduce the removal of grass clippings.

Local governments should also be encouraged to restrict the collection of grass clippings. Finally, the Governor should issue an executive order requiring state agencies to use or have their contractors use composted yardwaste in place of comparable organic materials when available at a competitive price and an acceptable quality. This order should become effective January 1, 1991. In addition, local governments should be encouraged to require local agencies to use compost generated within that locality when appropriate.

If the recommendations of this report are implemented, the goal of removing yardwaste from landfills by 1995 can be accomplished. This will result in recycling of 15-20% of the total municipal solid waste volume in Virginia.

### **Results and Recommendations-Woody Waste**

It is estimated that woody waste comprises 15 to 20% of the municipal solid waste volume. Disposal of woody wastes currently consists of landfilling or burning. Since woody materials decompose very slowly, composting is impractical in most cases. However, this material can be reduced in size and used in soil mixes, as mulch or as Resource Derived Fuel (RDF). Other potential uses would be for processed wood products, such as particle board or as pulp.

Virginia does not currently have a good market for RDF so the major potential use of woody waste would be mulch. However, the demand for mulch is currently filled through the use of various waste wood by-products such as shredded bark. It also appears that the total demand for mulch materials is than half the volume potentially available.

Based on this study, it is not currently feasible to recycle all woody waste. However, given the large volume of materials, the state should support programs that will lead to recycling of the material. Alternative uses of woody waste must be developed if these materials are to be recycled. Woody waste are generally not considered suitable for use in pulping or manufactured wood products (pressboard, fiberboard, etc.) because of foreign materials (soil, rocks, etc). Additional research is needed to determine the feasibility of making woody waste suitable for these uses or developing other innovative beneficial uses.

It is recommended that a state of the art project be conducted to determine technologic constraints on uses of woody waste and to determine research needs. Based on the results of this project, research should be conducted to develop technologies that allow the use of woody waste in manufactured wood products or pulp. The potential future RDF market for woody waste should also be determined. An ongoing private sector pilot program on the controlled long term decomposition of woody waste for use as a soil amendment should also be evaluated for potential applicability.



## **INTRODUCTION**

This study was conducted to determine the feasibility of developing and implementing a statewide program for composting yardwaste (leaves and grass clippings). The study was conducted by the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service (VCES) for the Virginia Department of Waste Management (DWM) as directed by the 1989 Session of the General Assembly pursuant to House Joint Resolution No. 395.

The interest in yardwaste composting in Virginia was found to be representative of intense and rapidly growing interest in the subject throughout the nation. Currently, most yardwastes are disposed in landfills although that practice is being reduced rapidly throughout the nation. There is a serious national crisis concerning solid waste management and the availability and cost of landfill space. As a result, local, state and federal governments are focusing attention on means of reducing municipal solid waste (MSW) volumes requiring landfilling. Mandatory recycling levels for MSW are in place at the federal level and many states have set recycling goals more ambitious than federal requirements. In Virginia, landfills must be recycling 10% of their waste volume by 1991, 15% by 1993 and 25% by 1995.

It is apparent in Virginia and throughout the country that yardwaste may be a key MSW component in achieving substantial source reduction/recycling in a short time period. Typically, yardwaste is thought to comprise 10 to 30% of the MSW volume. Thus, at a minimum, composting/recycling of yardwastes would allow localities to meet the 1991 recycling goal and some localities could meet the 1995 goal solely by removing yardwaste from their landfills. Obviously, yardwaste should not be the sole focus of a local recycling program but it may offer a rapidly achievable and substantial reduction in MSW volume.

However, removing yardwaste from landfills requires alternative processing (composting) and the development of uses/markets for the finished products. Thus, this study focused on the amount of material available, the suitability of yardwaste components for composting, potential reductions in MSW volumes, appropriate technologies for yardwaste composting and their costs, cost savings, the role of the private sector, and potential uses/users of yardwaste compost. A secondary focus was on the potential for removing woody waste from the waste stream.

While conducting the study, it became evident that methods to change public perception/behavior concerning the need to collect yardwaste, particularly grass clippings, should be evaluated. Based on information gathered, programs needed to encourage yardwaste composting, to increase compost use, to involve the private sector, and to change public perception/behavior were identified. In addition, further information needs and possible alternative management for woody waste were identified.

### **Composting As A Waste Management Alternative**

Composting has been used as a means of converting organic wastes into a useful material for thousands of years. Composting was originally done to generate a beneficial soil amendment without an emphasis on waste management. However, during the last

thirty years it has been recognized that composting can serve as a means of recycling many types of wastes.

The initial emphasis on the use of composting technologies as a waste management alternative was focused primarily on sewage sludge. During the 1960's and 1970's, a great deal of research was conducted on technologies for composting sewage sludge. This research provides the basis for the technologies applied to yardwaste composting.

Since the early sludge composting research, almost all types of organic waste have been evaluated for their suitability for composting. Animal, food processing, pharmaceutical, petroleum, pulping, textile and other wastes have all been composted with some degree of success. In addition, efforts have been made to compost organic portions of municipal solid waste. Although some MSW composting facilities are operational, the inability to remove glass, plastic and some metal has limited the applicability of this technology. Compost produced from MSW often contains small pieces of glass and metal that prevent it from being distributed and used. It appears that improved segregation of MSW before collection or at a centralized post collection site will be necessary before MSW composting can become a standard practice. The city of Portland, Oregon has just let a contract that requires post collection segregation followed by composting of the organic MSW fraction. This appears to be the first large scale MSW composting operation established under a long term contract. The performance of the Portland program should be closely followed.

Some yardwaste composting has occurred for many years. However, the current focus began in the mid 1980's with work conducted by Strom and Finstein (1986) at Rutgers University. During the last five years, efforts have been made to adapt composting technologies to best handle yardwaste. This work will be discussed in more detail later in this report.

### **The Composting Process**

Composting is the manipulation of the natural aerobic (oxygen demanding) process of decomposition of organic materials to increase the rate of decomposition. The processes are very similar to the decomposition of leaves that fall in the forest but occur at an accelerated rate. When leaves first fall, they remain on the surface for extended periods but slowly begin to decompose due to fungal and bacterial activity. If you look at a leaf mat in a forest you can observe leaves in varying states of decay going from fresh leaves on the surface with progressing decomposition as you near the mineral soil surface. Directly above the mineral soil surface is a rich, dark layer of stable organic matter or humus. This material consists primarily of decomposed leaves and fungal and bacterial cell mass. Leaf or yardwaste compost is very similar to that stable organic matter. Composting accelerates the decomposition process by controlling temperature and moisture and assuring that an adequate supply of oxygen is present. The technologies used to control these environmental factors will be discussed in more detail later.

## **METHODS**

### **Literature Review**

A computerized literature search was done at Virginia Tech, utilizing information available from the National Agricultural Library in Beltsville, Maryland. The search identified several hundred articles, journals, manuals and books in print on the subject of composting. Some sources were eliminated because they did not pertain strictly to composting of yardwastes, but included other wastes such as MSW, sludge, manures, etc.

A complete listing of all articles, journals, books and manuals used in compiling information for this report is included. For easier reference, the bibliography is divided into the following sections:

- 1) Marketing/Utilization
- 2) Studies, Systems, Surveys
- 3) MSW Separation, Europe
- 4) Leaf and Yard Wastes
- 5) Co-composting
- 6) Techniques/Principles
- 7) Soils/Toxins/Agricultural Uses
- 8) Horticultural Uses
- 9) Waste Wood
- 10) Landfills/Renovation
- 11) Books
- 12) Manuals

A major source of information on yardwaste composting is the monthly magazine "Biocycle, The Journal of Waste Recycling", published by JG Press, Emmaus, PA. Although it is not strictly a compost journal, it contains articles each month on technologies, marketing, equipment and uses of yardwaste compost. There is limited information in refereed technical journals about yardwaste compost per se, although there is much information on other types of composting (MSW, co-composting sludge, manures, etc). These technical journals are, however, good sources of articles pertaining to principles involved in composting, and even to horticultural and agronomic uses of different types of compost. For example, there are a number of articles available on horticultural uses of shredded bark and wood wastes in potting soil mixes.

Several books on composting are available. These provide good references on principles, theories and engineering aspects of composting. Probably the best all-around sources of information are the yardwaste composting manuals from the states with statewide programs in place. New Jersey, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota and others have manuals in print.

## Site Visits

A number of sites around the country were considered for visits, based on the study done for the EPA by Kashmanian and Taylor (1988). Phone contacts were made and sites were chosen to provide a wide variety of designs and technologies used in different parts of the country. Sites were not chosen because of a high level of technology but rather to observe a wide range of methods employed in composting yard wastes. Several of the sites specialized in recycling woody wastes, others leaves only, and some a combination of all types of yardwastes. Based on this criteria, and a limited travel budget, the following operations were visited:

### 1) Cooperative Waste Industries, St. Paul, MN.

This is a private leaf composting operation that is experimenting with mixing grass clippings with leaves. They also have a pilot project evaluating the mixing of restaurant wastes, including paper, with leaves.

### 2) Pacific Topsoils and Snohomish County Government, Everett, WA (Seattle).

A private company that accepts woody wastes and demolition debris from homeowners, landscapers and contractors. Yardwastes, woody wastes and construction scraps (no painted or treated wood) are ground, with the smallest chips stockpiled to be mixed with soil for sale as topsoil. The largest fraction (overs) is either reground or sold as mulch or as resource derived fuel (RDF). Snohomish County, Washington has a recycling budget of 1.7 million dollars per year. They have major activities in many areas of recycling including yard and woody waste.

### 3) Metro, Portland, OR.

Metro is the Portland metropolitan area agency for recycling. They have a very progressive recycling program in place. The city contracts with two local companies to accept Portland's leaves and other yardwastes. These two private companies compost the wastes and blend the compost with soil and other components to make several different products for sale. Metro also maintains quality control on the products, testing them for nutrient content, pH, toxins, etc. Metro has just completed a very impressive public relations campaign on yard waste. They contracted with a public relations firm for a three year, \$185,000 per year advertising campaign. The campaign used television, radio, newsprint and billboard advertisements to increase the awareness of all citizens of problems associated with yardwaste management. Preliminary evaluation shows a major increase in awareness of the general citizenry as a result of the campaign.

### 4) Davis Waste Removal, Davis, CA.

Davis is a uniquely environmentally oriented city in the Sacramento Valley in northern California. They have a voluntary MSW recycling program in which 63% of the

households participate. Davis Waste Removal uses a minimal level of technology for their leaf compost windrows. The material is piled, turned infrequently and is allowed to compost on it's own. This does not generate a high quality end product. The material is offered to the public to pick up for free. The "Claw", a pincer-like bucket on a front-end loader used for curbside yardwaste collection, was developed at Davis.

5) Zanker Resources, San Jose, CA.

This is a woody waste recovery operation near San Jose. They accept all types of woody wastes, as long as it has no painted or treated wood in it. They have a log splitter in operation that will split stumps up to twelve feet in diameter (to accept giant redwood). After the stumps are reduced to a manageable size, a crew with chain saws cuts it into firewood. It is sold to the public at about one half the market price for other firewood. In another area of the operation, tub grinders reduce wood to mulch, RDF, or to be mixed and sold as a soil amendment. They are also conducting a pilot study with the city of San Jose to compost yardwaste using low level technology.

6) Ticonderoga Farms, Loudoun Co.,VA.

This is a privately owned Christmas tree farm that is accepting land clearing debris including stumps and logs. The material is stockpiled in a mix with brush and some soil and allowed to set for five or more years to decompose. The material will then be spread on the land to improve poor soil conditions. The owner of the farm, Mr. Peter Knop, is an environmental farmer and plans to use the decomposed woody material to improve the soil on his land. The material is piled into large windrows approximately 18' high x 50' wide x 500' long. The piles are irrigated and the runoff caught in ponds located below the piles. He is experimenting with growing a viney cover over the piles to maintain a high moisture level, and inoculating the wood with white rot fungus to speed decomposition. The piles are placed in areas of the farm most in need of soil improvement, to be spread in that area when decomposed. The number and location of windrows are limited in order to assure adequate area for spreading the material and minimizing offsite visibility. This technology is currently unproven, but if successful, may offer an alternative management tool for land clearing debris. Because of this strong environmental interest, Mr. Knop is taking an environmentally conservative approach. If the practice were widely used, regulatory attention should focus on limitations on types of materials allowed, of windrows versus available land, and windrow location/visibility.

7) Alternate Disposal Systems, Inc., Parlin, NJ.

This private company accepts land clearing, woody waste and clean woody demolition waste. Like others, they do not accept treated or painted wood. They designed and use a specialized grinder that works using a different principle than either a hammermill or tub grinder. (See the equipment section for a more detailed description). The wood is ground to different size chips and sent by conveyer to a shaking screen where chips of a certain size will fall into a pile. Larger chips, or "overs", are sold to be used as temporary road bases on construction sites. This company also markets a line

of chippers from a small portable unit capable of handling materials up to 6" in diameter, to large machines capable of chipping stumps several feet in diameter.

8) Dr. Peter Strom, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ.

Dr. Strom is a professor in the Environmental Sciences Department at Rutgers University. He has been doing research in the area of yardwaste composting for several years, and, with Dr. Melvin Finstein, wrote the "Leaf Composting Manual for New Jersey Municipalities". He recommends of minimal to low technology composting, and is conducting research evaluating different mixes of leaves and grass clippings. While the minimal technology does work, he has observed problems with this method. Odors are the most common problem as the piles become anaerobic in a short time if the piles are not turned. Also, the process can take up to three years and the finished compost is not a high quality material.

9) Middlebush Compost, Inc. Middlebush, NJ.

This is a very well managed, moderate technology leaf composting operation. It is on a 25 acre site and has a 200,000 cu yd capacity. The windrows are 18' high x 18' wide x 120' long. The temperature inside the piles is monitored and when it reaches 140 degrees F, the windrows are turned using a Scarab 18 mechanical windrower. The piles are turned approximately once a week, but more often when first formed. They are producing a very high quality compost in nine months. The finished material is sold screened, or unscreened. This high quality compost is becoming well accepted for use by nursery operators, landscapers, etc.

10) Dickerson Composting Facility, Dickerson, MD.

The Dickerson facility, run by Maryland Environmental Services, is on a site that in the past was used for sludge composting. It is a 47 acre paved site, that currently is taking about 97,000 cu yds of leaves a year, however, they have begun experimenting with a pilot grass collection program. This past summer (1989), they collected grass from 2400 households and received 500 tons of clippings since April. They are experimenting with mixes and feel they can go to a 2:1 leaves to grass clipping mix. Next year the grass collection program will be expanded to all 300,000 households in the county which will double the yardwaste volume they receive. They use a Cobey windrow turner, that was formerly used with the sludge composting operation. They are supposed to turn the piles on a monthly basis, however, some piles had not been turned for a longer period. There were plastic bags in many of the windrows, especially the ones with grass clippings. They have tried using biodegradable bags, but have not had good results with them. After composting and screening, they were turning out a high quality product in about one year but more attention to turning the piles on a regular basis would turn out a high quality compost in a shorter time period.

## **Surveys**

Three surveys were developed to determine the amount of compostable yardwaste produced, the perceived uses of compost, and interest in composting and compost utilization. These were population surveys, directed to people in Virginia who would either have uses for compost, knowledge of amounts of yardwastes going into landfills, or perceptions of how compost could be used by citizens of the state.

The surveys were mailed in July and August, 1989. One week after the initial mailing a reminder postcard was sent to thank people who had already responded, and to remind those who had not. The data from the surveys was then entered on a computer and analyzed. A discussion of each of the surveys follows. (A copy of each of the surveys can be found in Appendix B). Discussion and interpretation of survey results are included in various sections of the report.

### **1) Virginia Nursery Operators Survey**

In order to help assess potential uses, use volumes and private sector interest in composting, all registered nursery operators in the state were surveyed to determine current uses of organic materials for mulches, potting mixes, etc., and ways composted yardwaste could be used. Thirty-one percent (147 of 476) of all nursery operators responded to the survey. Over two-thirds of the respondents were sufficiently interested in making or using yardwaste compost that they asked to be put on a mailing list for further information. Locations, by city or county, of interested nurseries are shown in Figure 1.

### **2) Virginia Cooperative Extension Agents Survey**

Extension Agents are in the unique position of having first-hand knowledge of local government and of how Virginia farmers and gardeners would use a material such as yardwaste compost. Many of them are involved in or aware of local programs in recycling and composting.

Seventy percent (86 of 123) of the Extension Agents-Agriculture, representing nearly 3.4 million people, responded. Their perceptions on current yardwaste management, uses for and interest in yardwaste compost, and areas of public education needed, were important in formulating recommendations for this feasibility study. Thirty one respondents (36%) said they would like for their locality to be considered as a participant in a pilot program. The location of interested cities or counties is shown in Figure 2.

### **3) Virginia Solid Waste Management Permit Holder Survey**

Solid Waste Management Permit Holders were surveyed to determine: a) the expected life of their landfill, b) the amount of yard waste currently received at the landfill, c) awareness of programs in other states to recycle organic wastes, and d) perceptions

of the feasibility of a composting program in their locality. Forty-seven percent of all permit holders responded indicating a high level of interest in yardwaste composting.

### **Telephone Interviews**

Telephone interviews were conducted with people in areas of the country not visited, either due to time or budgetary constraints. The people interviewed included researchers, regulators, recycling coordinators, and compost facility operators. A list of contacts is included in Appendix A.







## **CURRENT YARDWASTE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES IN VIRGINIA**

Currently, 76% and 81% of the Solid Waste Management Permit Holders surveyed landfilled all of their leaves and grass clippings respectively. Seven percent stockpile both leaves and grass clippings and use a giveaway program in combination with landfilling to manage leaves. The remaining permit holders use some other method or combination of methods to manage yardwaste.

The average annual percentage of MSW that is yardwaste was estimated by respondents to be nine percent. This is substantially below most estimates from other states and more quantitative numbers generated by waste stream inventories. It appears that most permit holders may have only accounted for bulk quantities of leaves. Based on available information from Virginia and elsewhere, it is estimated that yardwaste accounts for 15 to 20% of Virginia's MSW. This does not include woody waste which likely accounts for about the same volume as yardwaste. It should be noted that yardwaste volumes can range from 5 to 40% of the total waste stream at different landfills.

Nearly one third (32%) of the respondents have a separate curbside collection program for leaves. This facilitates segregation of the materials for composting. For localities without curbside collection, efforts to segregate yardwaste either during or after collection will be critical in developing a successful yardwaste composting program.

No locality currently composts more than 10% of their yardwaste. However, more than one third (34%) of the respondents have established a group to study recycling of yardwaste as compost. The intense interest in yardwaste compost is indicated by the high level of response to the survey (47% of all permit holders) and the large number of respondents requesting to be put on a mailing list for additional information on yardwaste composting (Figures 3 and 4).

The interest in yardwaste management is further intensified by the large number of landfills nearing capacity. Over half (52%) of the respondents indicated their landfill had an expected life of less than ten years. Of that number, 36% have selected a new site and are in some phase of design or construction. The short life expectancy of so many landfills and the cost of new landfill space dictates that all recyclable waste, such as yardwaste, must be removed from landfills.

If a conservative average of 15% yardwaste is used with an approximate total MSW volume of 6.5 million tons per year, then almost one million tons or approximately four million cubic yards of yardwaste are collected in Virginia each year with the vast majority going to landfills. The average landfill tippage fee for survey respondents was \$19.63 per ton. Based on projected yardwaste volumes and the average tippage fee, landfill space valued at almost 20 million dollars are being used for yardwaste. As stated earlier, an approximately equal volume (and cost) is associated with woody waste. This suggests

that the total cost of disposing of yardwaste and woody waste in Virginia is nearly 40 million dollars annually. Further, tippage fees are rising rapidly as new landfill space becomes increasingly difficult to locate. It should also be noted that 46% of responding landfills charged less than \$10/ton which is unrealistically low. These are likely older landfills that have not yet included the costs of upgrading to meet new requirements. It can thus be concluded that the real cost of yard and woody waste management, when viewed in terms of future availability of landfill space, should be far in excess of 40 million dollars per year.

**Figure 3.** Number of Landfill Managers Responding Per Planning District

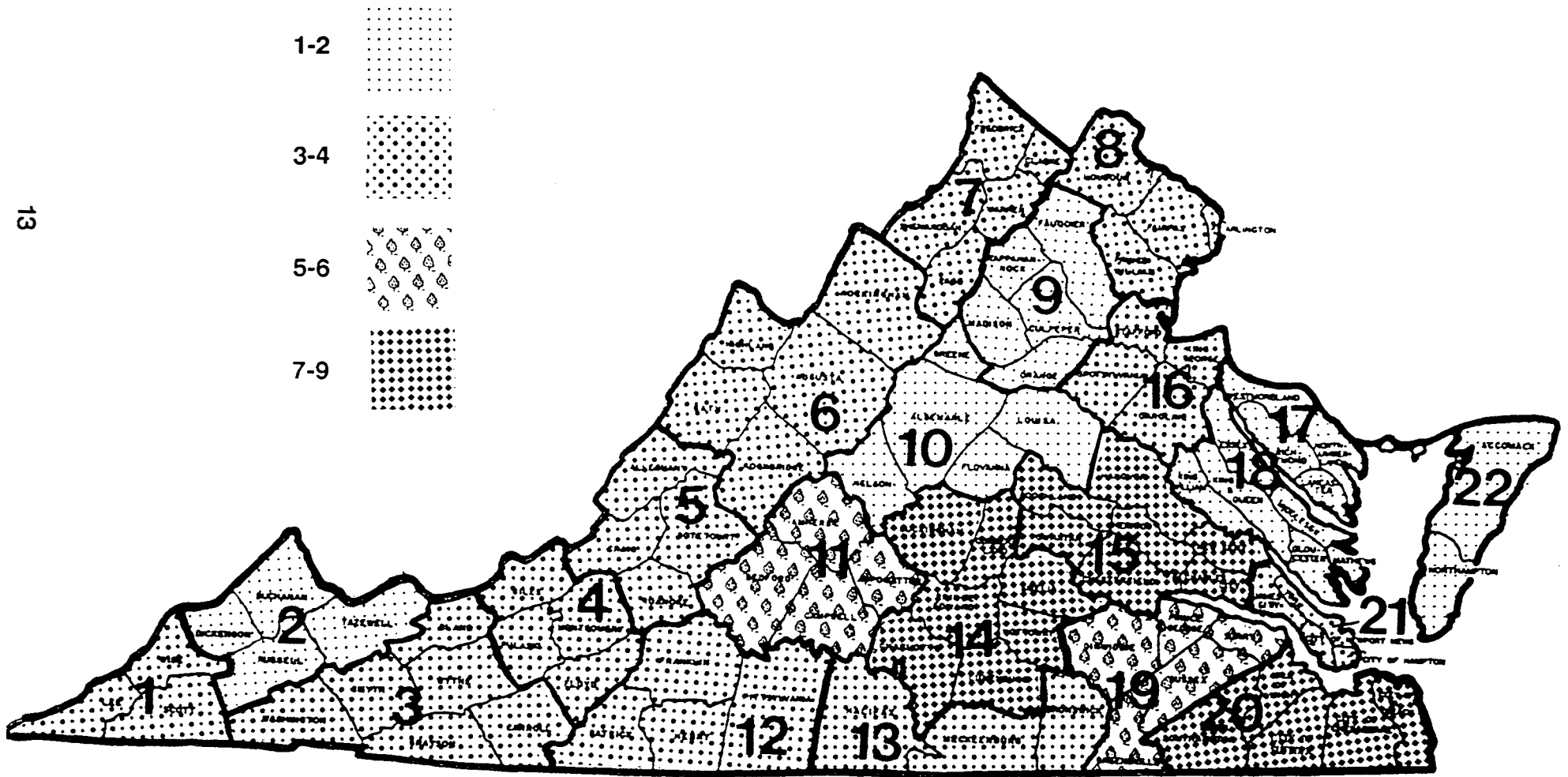
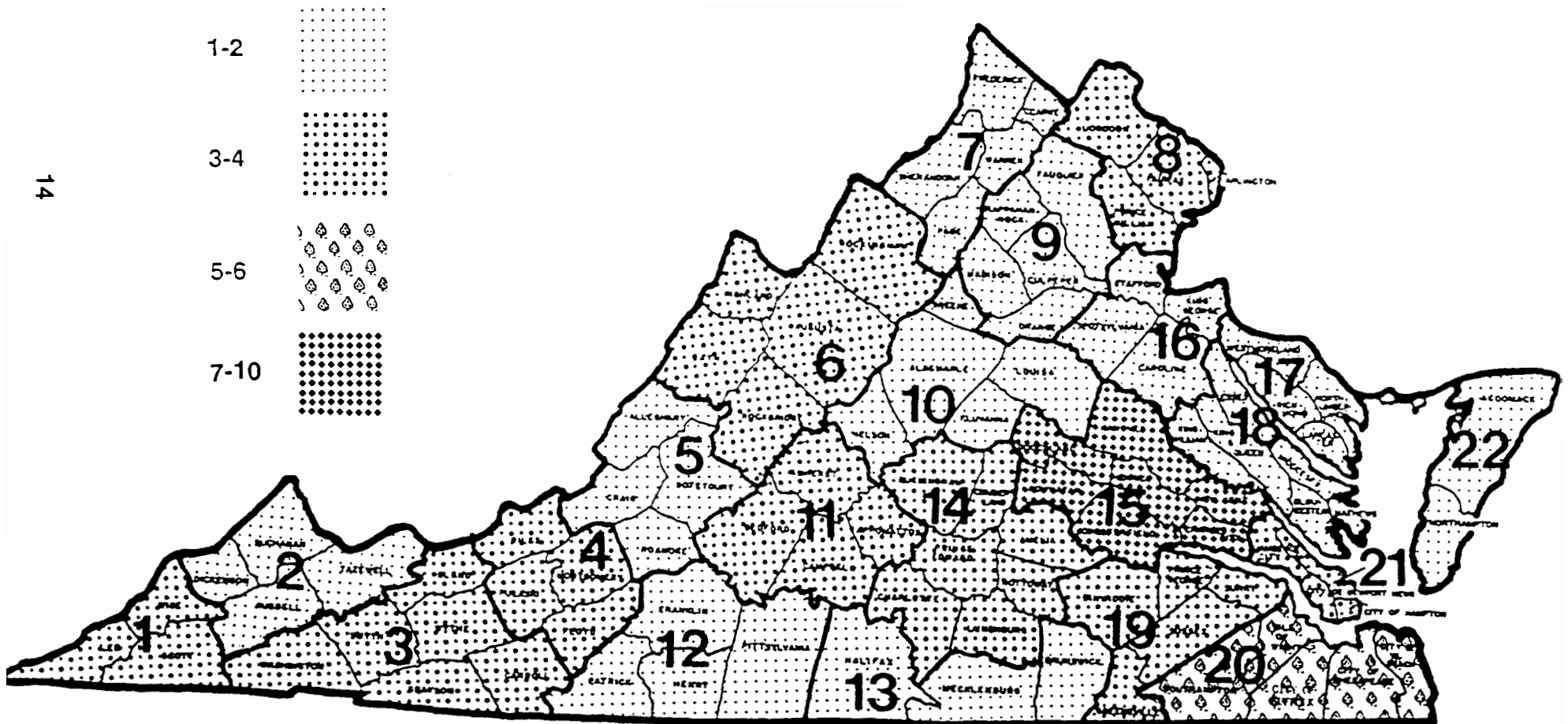


Figure 4.

Landfill Operators by Planning District Interested  
In Additional Information On Composting Yardwaste



## **MARKETS AND USES FOR YARDWASTE COMPOST**

Based on results of surveys sent to Virginia Nursery Operators, a number of organic matter sources currently in use could be replaced by yardwaste compost. Fifty-six percent of the respondents felt compost could be substituted for commercial potting soil mixes and many felt it could be substituted for peat moss. Over 94,000 cubic yards of potting soil mix and 36,000 cubic yards of peat moss are used by respondents per year. If all of the peat and one-half of the potting soil mix could be replaced by compost, a potential market of about 95,000 cubic yards of compost per year would result from survey respondents only.

By replacing all of the peat moss and half of the potting mix sold by responding nurseries, an additional 41,000 cubic yards of compost could be used (only half of the potting mix was assumed replaced since a good potting mix must contain a substantial portion of organic material). This results in a total potential market of 136,000 cubic yards of organic material used or sold by survey respondents. It is not statistically appropriate to directly extrapolate population survey results to the entire population. Therefore, total market volume can only be estimated. It is estimated that a total potential market volume two to three times that reported by respondents, or ranging between 272,000 and 408,000 cubic yards, could be anticipated. However, this assumes that the most commonly used organic materials would be replaced entirely, which is unlikely. Nursery operators and extension agents also felt the material would be suitable for use in lawn establishment/renovation and home garden soil improvement.

There are apparently some misconceptions about potential uses of yardwaste compost even among extension agents and the nursery industry. When finished, yardwaste compost is a very dark, crumbly material, that is fine textured. It would not be a very suitable material to use as a mulch, but many of the nursery operators and extension agents who responded listed mulch as a major compost use, to replace shredded bark. It also is low in nutrients and not well suited as a nutrient source, although some nursery operators and extension agents listed this as a major use.

In addition to replacing potting soil mixes and peat moss, yardwaste compost is an excellent soil conditioner. Incorporation of compost into areas for flower beds or field-grown nursery crops also represents a substantial potential market a potential use for compost. Fifty four percent of the nursery operators felt the material could be used as a soil amendment in field nursery crops.

It is also likely that state and local government agencies could make use of large quantities of the material. In Minnesota, the Governor has issued an executive order requiring use of composted yardwaste when available, of comparable quality and competitively priced. Given the need to increase use of compost in Virginia, the state should require and/or encourage use of yardwaste compost by state and local governments. It is also apparent that the public, including state and local agency personnel, are unaware of the potential uses of yardwaste compost. A public education program on the use of compost should result in substantial increases in the use volume.

Based on the projected total yardwaste volume of four million cubic yards per year, about 800,000 cubic yards of compost could be generated. However, as will be discussed later, technologic constraints make it desirable to minimize the amount of grass clippings in the material to be composted. As a result, programs to minimize grass clipping removal will be recommended. If these programs are successful, annual yardwaste compost volumes should be less than 600,000 cubic yards. Potential use and sales by nursery operators could account for about 50% of that volume. Increased use by state and local government will account for a substantial amount of the remaining compost. A public education program will result in substantial increases in homeowner use. It is estimated that with the programs recommended to increase compost use, backyard composting, and to reduce collection of grass clippings, the total volume of yardwaste generated in Virginia can be recycled and utilized. Care must be taken to minimize market competition among localities in the major metropolitan areas. However adequate use/market appears to exist within reasonable distances to handle the yardwaste compost supply. A list of potential user groups for which markets could be developed is included in Appendix C.



## **REGULATION OF YARDWASTE COMPOST**

In those states with active programs, approaches to regulation of yardwaste compost facilities vary. In several western states, yardwaste only compost facilities are not currently regulated or are accepted as part of the solid waste management operation without amendment to the permit. On the east coast, yardwaste facilities are usually regulated by the state solid waste management regulatory agency. However, in most cases, regulations for yardwaste compost facilities are less stringent than those for other compost operations.

In New Jersey, small to medium yardwaste compost facilities operated by farmers on their farm are exempted from most regulations. Publicly operated minimal technology facilities are loosely regulated primarily concerning management practices to minimize odors. However, larger private facilities without land on which to use the compost are regulated by the state Department of Environmental Quality. Private sector composters in New Jersey are not satisfied with the regulatory framework, particularly with respect to the publicly owned minimal technology facilities. These facilities are low cost but do not generate a high quality product and private operators feel they are a means of long term stockpiling of yardwaste instead of compliance with New Jersey's mandatory yardwaste composting regulations. This reduces the volume of materials available to the private composters and has resulted in an inadequate supply of yardwaste at some facilities.

Minnesota is using the "permit by rule" approach to grant approval to yardwaste compost facilities. In Minnesota, the prospective composter submits a two page form letter requesting approval for a facility. The letter includes information on the location, types of materials to be accepted, maximum annual volume, ownership and operational information. The letter is sent to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency where it is reviewed and approved (if deemed acceptable) within two weeks. The operator must submit an annual report detailing the types and volume of yardwaste received and the volume and disposition of finished compost. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency can require the facility to obtain and operate under a solid waste management permit if substantial environmental or nuisance problems arise.

Currently, yardwaste compost facilities in Virginia are regulated under Section 6.1 of Solid Waste Management Regulations. These regulations were clearly written for general MSW refuse or refuse mixed with sludge and are therefore necessarily restrictive. Section 6.1 requires an impermeable pad, leachate and runoff control, collection and treatment and numerous other site restrictions. In addition, routine monitoring of air, water, waste and compost are required. While such stringent regulations are understandable and necessary for refuse and sludge composting, they represent the most restrictive regulations observed for yardwaste composting facilities.

If Virginia is to implement a statewide yardwaste composting program, separate regulations for yardwaste facilities must be developed. The "permit by rule" approach used in Minnesota provides a rapid and simple means of obtaining approval for a

yardwaste composting facility while still allowing more stringent regulation should problems arise. This approach should be used for approving public and private facilities that do not have land on which to use the compost. Farmers and nursery operators accepting small quantities of yardwaste (less than 5000 cubic yards per year) should only have to notify DWM of their intent to accept yardwaste and their location.

## **YARDWASTE COMPOSTING TECHNOLOGIES**

For any compostable material, there are several technologies available for composting. The most appropriate technology is a function of the material, available land area, nuisance potential, equipment availability, available resources, potential environmental harm and regulatory requirements. Strom and Finstein (1986) classified yardwaste composting procedures into four levels of technology based on equipment and resource requirements, composting time, land area requirement and quality of the finished product. These four levels are discussed below.

### **A. Minimal Technology**

Generally, this technology is best suited to a locality that has a large site, isolated from heavily populated areas. At least one acre for every 4,000 cubic yards of collected leaves is recommended (Strom and Finstein, 1986). This does not include any buffer zone, the size of which will vary for each site dependent upon location and regulatory requirements. The yardwaste is brought to the site and immediately formed into large windrows, (e.g. 12 ft. high by 24 ft. wide) using a front-end loader. Though it is not essential, the yardwaste may be wetted while the windrows are formed. Wetting may be necessary only in dry years, since the large piles will conserve moisture and will be exposed to precipitation. The piles are only turned once a year and it takes 3 years or more to get a finished product.

A serious limitation for this system is that the pile becomes anaerobic in a short period of time and will only receive a new supply of oxygen each time the pile is turned. The center of the pile may also reach inhibitive high temperatures (> 140 F, 60 C) especially during the first year. Also, unpleasant odors will be produced in this anaerobic environment, and will be released into the air even without turning the pile. At one apparently isolated site in New Jersey, ten odor complaints were filed during the first eight months of 1989. A quarter of a mile or more between composting windrows and neighboring land-uses is recommended as a minimum buffer zone.

The main advantage to this system is that it is relatively inexpensive, requiring little equipment and labor. A front-end loader is only needed to form the initial windrows and to do the yearly turning. Screening and grinding of the finished product is required if the compost is to be sold or given to the public. If, however, it were to be incorporated into farm land, screening would be optional to remove large pieces of trash and plastic bags.

The major disadvantages are the odors produced, the length of time required to get a final product, the large land area required, and the low quality of the finished product. Minimal technology is only appropriate for small volume facilities with large land areas where end product use is not a major concern. Minimal technology facilities are not likely to be acceptable for use by many Virginia localities.

## **B. Low-level Technology**

The low-level technology system, in which moisture content, oxygenation, and temperature are all monitored and controlled will increase composting rate with minimal additional capital investment and generate a more useable end product.

To obtain the fifty percent moisture content necessary for optimum decomposition, the yardwaste may need to be sprayed with water prior to, or as the windrows are being formed. Spraying the piles after formation leads to the water running off with little penetrating to the inside of the pile. A rule of thumb for checking for proper moisture level is that it should be possible to squeeze a few drops of water out of a handful of yardwaste. About fifty gallons of water will need to be added per cubic yard of dry collected leaves with that amount reduced as the amount of grass clippings added increases.

The size of the windrows has a direct effect on the amount of oxygen that gets into the windrows, which in turn affects the temperature and the microbial activity inside the piles. The windrows should be large enough to conserve heat and moisture, and minimize area requirements, but not so large as to create anaerobic conditions or increase the temperature above the optimum for microbial growth. No single size pile can meet these seemingly conflicting demands. One possible solution is to start with two moderately sized piles, stacked close to each other, and combine them after one month. Researchers in New Jersey recommend the piles be 6 feet high by 12 to 14 feet wide, but this size may need to be increased in colder areas of the state to maintain internal temperatures. This will allow the first burst of microbial activity to occur, heating up the piles and significantly decreasing their size. The act of combining the windrows will then re-aerate the piles, and maintain adequate pile size to keep temperatures optimum allowing microbial activity to continue.

The windrows may be left as is over the winter, but as early as possible in the spring they should be turned. Again, as with the minimal-level technology, this may be done with a front-end loader. Efforts should be made to turn the piles "inside-out", thoroughly mixing them, which will re-oxygenate the interior, and expose the cooler outer edges to the warmer internal temperatures. At this turning, odors may be detected because the pile has been anaerobic for an extended period. Care must be taken to turn the pile at a time of day when odor complaints are least likely. Also, wind direction must be considered. If the piles are dry, water should be added at this time to maintain the 50% optimal level. Additional turnings during the summer are useful to increase the decomposition rate, but with this level of technology they are optional. Unless the piles are turned once per month or more frequently, the compost will not be stabilized by the time the next leaf season begins, (a finished product can be expected in 16-18 months) and room will need to be made for the incoming leaves.

The best managed low technology sites use temperature probes and turn the piles whenever internal temperatures exceed about 140 F. This may result in weekly turning during the first several weeks particularly if the piles contain a mixture of leaves and grass clippings. However, if the piles are turned more frequently based on internal temperature,

composting time can be reduced to six to twelve months and the end product is usually higher quality.

After composting, the material may be moved to a curing area around the perimeter of the site where it will continue to slowly decompose. This curing pile may be as large as needed to conserve space. At this point, the material's oxygen demands are low and production of odors is unlikely. Again, grinding and screening of the finished material is optional, but is recommended to improve the appearance of the product. Screening can also help to break up large pieces and remove any unwanted materials such as branches, rocks, plastic, cans, etc. This step is fairly labor intensive, and requires the purchase of additional equipment. One way to reduce costs is to share a shredder/screener between neighboring operations.

Low level technology requires less total land area and produces finished compost in a shorter time than minimal technology. The finished compost is of moderately high quality for use after grinding and shredding. The primary disadvantages are increased labor and equipment use and the fact that more than one year may be required to complete composting. Low level technology in which the materials are monitored and frequently turned so as to achieve composting in less than one year, may provide the most appropriate technology for many small and medium composting facilities.

### **C. Intermediate-Level Technology**

This next level of technology requires the purchase of specialized equipment, but can produce a finished compost in less than 6 months. For this technology, a mechanical windrower is used to turn the piles. The size of the windrows is restricted by the height and width of the windrow-turning machine which is usually not greater than 8 feet high by 12 to 18 feet wide. There are several types of windrowers available, some straddle the windrow, while others turn half of the windrow during each pass. (These will be discussed in more detail in the section on machinery). These machines vary widely in their cost, capabilities and flexibilities. Some can be attached to the PTO of a farm tractor or a front-end loader, while others are self-powered units.

The use of these machines offers several advantages. The time required to produce a finished product is greatly reduced. The machine mixes, aerates and grinds the yardwaste all in one step, which can eliminate the need to grind or shred the compost as a final step.

As the yardwaste is brought to the composting area, it is wetted if necessary and turned and mixed while being formed into windrows by the machine. Additional high nitrogen wastes, such as manures can be added during windrow formation to increase the rate of composting (if leaves only are being composted). During the first few weeks, the windrows may be turned several times a week, then once per week, or once every two weeks. The need for turning should be monitored either by measurement of temperature (or oxygen concentration) within the pile. As the temperature reaches 140-150 degrees F, the pile should be turned. This temperature range is optimum for destroying pathogens and weed seeds, while allowing maximum growth and reproduction of thermophilic bacteria important in the composting process.

This technology offers several advantages. The total area required is less than with the previous technologies. The windrows can be formed close together because the windrower actually requires less turn-around space than a front-end loader. Also, as stated above, the machine will mix, aerate and grind the leaves as it moves along the piles, eliminating any additional grinding. Screening the finished compost is still necessary. The finished product is a very high quality material that is ready for use or marketing after curing.

This technology is the best available for composting leaves, leaf/grass, or leaf/manure mixes. Due to the cost of mechanical windrowers, it is probably only practical for medium to large compost facilities. Because of the shorter composting period, the alleviation of grinding and the high quality end product, it may be desirable for several localities to share a windrower or for a private sector firm to provide windrowing service to multiple localities. The disadvantage, is the cost of the windrower. However, the savings in time, land area required, and the elimination of the grinding step will help offset this cost. This is probably the most appropriate technology for medium and large facilities.

#### **D. High-Level Technology**

This last level of technology is probably not practical for most communities. It was originally used in composting sewage sludge, but has been adapted for yard wastes.

This method consists of using a system of pipes under the piles to run forced air through the piles with a blower controlled by a temperature feedback system. When the temperature inside the pile reaches a preset level, the blower automatically comes on to cool the pile and assure aerated conditions. During the initial start-up period, the blowers would come on frequently under control of a thermocouple. After 2 to 10 weeks, the aeration system would be removed and the piles turned periodically.

Obviously, this type of system is much more expensive to operate, but its advantages include the formation of large windrows to save space and the most rapid composting rate. Anaerobic conditions do not develop in these large piles due to the forced air. Composting can be completed within several months due to the rapid initial decomposition. Additional high nitrogen wastes, such as manures, could be added to the piles easily at this level of technology to speed up decomposition and raise the nitrogen content of the finished compost.

## **Backyard Composting**

Backyard composting is the first logical step in reducing the amount of organic wastes going into our landfills. Processing yardwastes at the point of generation not only has a positive environmental impact, but the costs of collecting, transporting, processing and marketing by the municipality can all be avoided if home composting is encouraged.

Many people, especially organic gardeners, have been engaged in composting for many years as a way to improve their soil. The addition of organic matter rich compost has many beneficial effects for the soil, including:

- 1) increasing the water-holding capacity, and reducing the chance of erosion
- 2) improving soil tilth, making it easier to cultivate
- 3) preventing soil crusting, aiding in seedling emergence
- 4) the added organic matter provides a food source for desirable soil micro-organisms and earthworms
- 5) increasing the fertilizer-holding ability of the soil by increasing the cation exchange capacity (CEC)
- 6) providing some nutrients for plant growth

Overall, compost improves the physical, chemical, and biological properties of soils. Compost is not considered a primary fertilizer source, because it is low in nutrient content, but it is an excellent soil conditioner.

Municipalities should encourage backyard composting as a part of their overall yardwaste management program. Participation in backyard composting will depend in part on the public's understanding of the cost and problems associated with landfilling or otherwise disposing of yardwastes. Seattle, Washington, for example, has a program where they train "master composters" who in turn give demonstrations and advice on backyard composting to other people.

There may be local ordinances in some areas that discourage or prohibit backyard composting. While it is true that not all backyard composting operations are an asset to the neighborhood or the environment, if properly constructed and maintained, a compost bin need not produce objectionable odors or attract unwanted animals.

According to surveys sent to Virginia Cooperative Extension agents, the percentage of Virginians who backyard compost is approximately 11%. Informational pamphlets on backyard composting need to be developed and distributed to increase public participation. The VCES has several publications on the subject. "Composting", publication #426-325, "Mulches For The Home Garden", #426-326, and "Soil Preparation", #426-313, are all good sources of information on the preparation and use of compost.

Efforts should be made to increase backyard composting. Not only are savings made in landfill space but the cost of collecting and transporting the material is avoided. The potential savings are so great that even modest increases in backyard composting would justify a substantial public education effort.



## **The Potential for Composting Yardwaste With Other Organic Wastes**

The microorganisms that actively decompose organic matter have a few simple requirements. Balanced nutrients, adequate moisture, proper temperature range and adequate oxygen are all that is needed to keep the decomposition process moving at a rapid rate. A little attention to and adjustment of these needs will keep the process going and keep odors to a minimum. Microorganisms need nutrients, primarily carbon and nitrogen, for both energy and growth. The ideal carbon:nitrogen ratio is nearly found in any one organic source. While leaves by themselves will compost adequately to oxygen, with temperature and moisture are controlled, they still have a high carbon:nitrogen ratio which can slow the decomposition process. The addition of a high nitrogen source will accelerate the process, but it must be carefully controlled. Yardwaste compost, by itself, is a very low nitrogen-containing soil amendment. The addition of a high nitrogen source would possibly make it more suitable as a fertilizer source. Too much nitrogen can result in too rapid decomposition and anaerobic conditions that create odor problem.

Grass clippings are a high nitrogen yardwaste component that is being studied to determine the appropriate mix with leaves in a compost systems. Research in several locations indicates that a mix of three parts leaves to one part grass may be as optimum for windrow composting. The same research suggests the maximum amount of grass clippings is one half the leaf volume (2 parts leaves to 1 part grass). Any higher amount of grass clippings causes serious anaerobic conditions, leading to odor problems.

The amount of grass clippings collected each year is approximately equal to the amount of leaves collected. The problem of maintaining this 2 to 1 leaves to grass ratio comes from the fact that after leaves are collected in the fall and windrowed, they undergo a substantial reduction in volume due to the burst of microbial activity that occurs within the first month of composting. By the time grass clippings are being collected the following spring and summer, the leaves have been reduced in volume by about 50%. Thus the actual leaf to grass ratio would be 1 to 2 instead of the desired 2 or 3 to 1 if all grass clippings were collected and composted. Such a ratio would result in rotting grass, anaerobic conditions, poor end product quality and intolerable odor.

Efforts must be made to reduce the quantity of grass collected. Research has shown that grass clippings do not need to be removed from lawns. If lawns are mowed frequently, and the clippings allowed to fall back into the lawn, their collection is not necessary. Grass clippings, being high in nitrogen will decompose rapidly and actually return nitrogen to the soil, reducing the need to apply nitrogen in the form of fertilizers. Homeowners and land managers who collect grass clippings should be encouraged or required to manage (compost) their own grass clippings.

Other high nitrogen solid organic wastes, such as poultry litter, have potential to be added to leaf compost windrows. It is estimated that a ratio of 5 to 8 parts leaves to one part poultry litter would be appropriate. Pilot studies need to be conducted in areas of the state where poultry litter is available to determine the optimum mixture of leaves and

poultry litter for composting. Other sources of dry animal manures also need evaluation as possible nitrogen sources for yardwaste composting systems.

Sewage sludge, industrial wastes and liquid animal waste are all suitable for mixing with leaves for composting. However, the use of these materials will require major site modification, leachate and runoff control, ground and surface water monitoring, air and waste monitoring and much better process control. As a result it is generally not desirable to mix these wastes with leaves to increase the rapidness of composting.

## COMPOSTING EQUIPMENT

Equipment requirements for composting vary substantially with the type and size of operation. This section briefly discusses the major types of composting equipment available and provides preliminary cost estimates. Any mention of brand names of equipment does not constitute endorsement of that equipment. (The information in this section is based primarily on "Municipal Yardwaste Composting, A Handbook for Wisconsin Communities", Dane County Dept of Public Works, July, 1988.)

### A. Front-end Loaders

Both track loaders and wheel loaders may be used in composting operations. The track loader operates better in loose or muddy soil, but is not as easily transported if the equipment needs to be moved to another site. The wheel loader is more versatile, more easily maneuvered, and causes less damage to road and ground surfaces.

Both types of loaders come in a variety of sizes with a variety of standard and optional accessories. They are usually equipped with diesel engines, but models using gasoline and other fuels are available. Bucket sizes range from 3/4 to 4 cu. yd. Other attachments, such as a "claw" and a windrow-turning machine are optional. A front-end loader is the one essential piece of equipment for all yardwaste composting operations, and the only equipment used by many .

Prices for a new front-end loader range from about \$50,000 to \$150,000, depending on size and accessories.

### B. Vacuum Leaf Collectors

Vacuum leaf collectors are designed to collect leaves that have been raked into the street or along the curb. Tag-along units are towed behind a truck, into which the leaves are blown. Self-powered units are also available, some with compaction capacity up to 32 cubic yards per load. Most have manually operated intake hoses, ranging from 7 to 18 inches in diameter. Some models include an internal shredding system. This equipment works best with fairly dry leaves and cannot be used for collection of grass clippings.

Trailer vacuum units cost from \$15,000 to \$20,000. Self-contained units cost from \$50,000 to \$110,000.

### C. Grinders

1) Tub grinders are characterized by a rotating tub-type drum intake system. The material is loaded with a front-end loader into the tub and moved across a fixed floor containing hammermills that shear the material. As the material is reduced in size, it is forced through a screen and onto an elevator belt that discharges the material into standing piles or onto a transfer vehicle.

Tub grinders are available in different models, which have significantly different capabilities. Forage grinders are lighter-duty machines designed for grinding crop wastes such as straw, corn stalks, etc. These may be suitable if grinding only yardwastes. Larger heavy-duty grinders are made for grinding large amounts of dry wood and brush. These machines are capable of handling from 10 to 20 tons per hour depending on factors such as type of plant waste, screen size used, and waste moisture content. Although the larger units are capable of grinding pieces of wood up to four inches in diameter, the machine will occasionally jam. Proper mixing of wastes and use of varying screen sizes will reduce jamming and increase efficiency.

Tub grinders cost from about \$60,000 to \$140,000 delivered and require regular maintenance, including rotation and replacement of the hammers. A new set of hammers costs approximately \$900 to \$1400. Down-time to replace hammers is several hours. Hammers need to be rotated after about 50 hours of use and replaced after 140-240 hours of use.

## 2) Special Design Grinders

This type of grinder is similar to a tub grinder in design, but has been built with a special purpose in mind. Alternate Disposal Systems in New Jersey has designed a woody waste grinder that will accept logs and stumps several feet in diameter. The grinder has a set of rollers with teeth and blades to impale and hold the wood. The wood is rubbed against the rollers and reduced to small pieces in a short time. The shredded material is then moved by conveyers to be sized and screened.

There are several models of grinders available, from a small portable model that will accept up to six inch wood, machines with increasing capability up to a model powered by a 350 hp diesel engine, that can handle logs several feet in diameter. They range in price from \$10,000 for the small model to over \$450,000 for the largest model.

## D. Chippers

Chipping machines are designed to chip brush, limbs and other woody debris. Chippers are typically hand-fed and have blades that range in size from 12 to 16 inches, but will only handle material up to about 6 inches in diameter. Some models are equipped with heavy-duty blades that can handle an occasional can or rock without damage to the machine. Chippers produce large chips, suitable for mulch. Chippers are powered with gasoline or diesel engines or from a power take-off shaft.

Chippers cost from \$10,000 to \$40,000. Replacement blades cost from \$70 to \$200 and may last up to a year.

## E. Shredders and Screeners - Finishing Equipment

Shredders and screening devices are frequently used to refine or finish the compost. After the material is loaded into a receiving hopper it is carried to the top of a conveyer. The conveyer drops the material onto a belt, and by a system of adjustable,

variable sweep fingers, the material undergoes a continuous raking action to shred and aerate the load. Oversized pieces are forced back for further shredding while items such as sticks, stones, metal and glass are rejected and discharged through a trash chute. Shredders can process from 25 to 250 cu yd per hour and cost from \$30,000 to \$95,000 depending on size and options selected.

There are a variety of screening devices that can be used in compost operations, including grizzly screens (scalpers), trommels (rotating screens), and shaking/vibrating screens. Grizzly screens are used primarily for crude screening at 2 inches or more, trommels and shaking screens for separations above 1/2 inch. Vibrating screens can be used for coarse or fine screening, depending on the configuration of the screen.

Vibrating screens and trommels come in a wide range of models, sizes, and prices. Units capable of processing from 25 to 50 cu yd per hour range in price from \$35,000 to \$170,000 including screens, feed hoppers, and conveyers.

#### F. Compost Turners

Compost turners are designed especially for windrow turning and aeration. The large models are self-propelled and straddle the windrow. Middlebush Compost in New Jersey uses a Scarab model 18 to turn windrows at a 200,000+ cubic yard per year facility. This machine has metal teeth on a rotating drum and as it moves over the windrows, the teeth shred, break up, and aerate the compost. A skirt or fender reforms the windrows into a pyramidal shape.

Smaller units that are side mounted on front-end loaders or tractors are available. This type is driven down one side of the windrow then up the other, requiring two passes for each pile. These also come in a variety of sizes and are well suited for small and medium operations. A windrow turner is a necessary piece of equipment for a compost operation to rapidly produce a high quality product.

The large, self-contained units can process from 2,000 to 4,000 cu yd per hour and cost from \$100,000 to \$185,000 delivered. The loader/tractor mounted units are designed to turn smaller windrows and cost from \$10,000 to \$60,000. The major maintenance requirement of turners is regular replacement of the flails or teeth that cost from \$375 to \$500 per set.

#### G. Monitoring Equipment

Thermometers may be the only instruments needed to monitor the composting operations. Other testing equipment, such as pH meters, colorimeter tests, moisture monitors, etc are optional.

There are two types of thermometers that are useful for composting: the long-stemmed dial type and the infrared scanner. The long-stemmed type should be 2 to 4 feet long so it can be inserted into the middle of the windrow. Several should be inserted into each windrow for daily readings and removed when the windrows are turned. These

cost about \$50 each. They are also available in a digital read-out model that cost about \$500 each.

The infrared scanner contains a sensor module that converts radiant energy to an electrical signal. They are hand-held and can be used to measure the temperature of all sections of a windrow at a distance. Infrared thermometers cost about \$1200 including the basic accessories. A partial list of equipment manufacturers and venders can be found in Appendix D.

## **Evaluating the Cost of Yard Waste Composting Options**

Since Virginia municipalities vary widely in their size, location, landfill tippage fees and availability of suitable land for a compost site, there is no best approach or strategy for leaf composting. In terms of size and ownership of facilities this section discusses three types of compost facilities that may be needed to serve the various size municipalities. 1) The small farmer or nursery operator facility, with generally 5,000 cubic yards per year of compost or less, 2) the medium size prevator municipal facility accepting 20-30,000 cubic yards per year, and 3) the large private commercial facility accepting 80,000 cubic yards per year or more. [This section is based primarily on an article by Derr (1989)].

1) The smallest and least costly compost operation is the on-farm or nursery operators facility. Small communities that have open agricultural space nearby may want to consider subcontracting with local farm operators or nursery operators to set up yardwaste composting operations on land they own. The leaves would only need to be transported a short distance. This would work especially well for areas of the state that use a bulk system of pickup rather than bags of leaves. Farmers or nursery operators may already have the equipment needed for this type operation, such as front-end loaders to form and turn the windrows. For an investment of \$10,000 to \$40,000, a compost windrow turning machine that can be attached to a tractor may be purchased. This would enable a nursery operator or a farmer to supplement their income at a traditionally slow time of year. The finished compost product could then be utilized on the farm or nursery. In the case of farm operators the compost could be incorporated into the soil on the farm. This may be of particular interest to biological or sustainable farm operations in the state. Nursery operators could utilize the finished product on their field nursery crops, in potting mixes, etc. The municipalities involved in this type arrangement could save money on their tippage fees at the local landfills, and the farmer or nursery operator could have an additional source of revenue as well as the finished compost.

One potential problem may be the presence of non-biodegradable trash in the yardwaste such as aluminum cans, tree branches, rocks, etc. This may not be as much a problem for a farm or nursery operation where the finished product would be reincorporated into the soil on site as it would be if the finished product was going to be marketed. If the finished product was marketed, there would need to be a final screening of the material. Manual separation of some of the nonbiodegradable items in the yardwaste would have to be done by the municipal crews that picked up the material.

The amount of land needed for a small farm or nursery operation would be minimal also. Thirty percent of the nursery operators surveyed expressed an interest in having a facility on their site. They further indicated that they already had land and equipment such as front end loaders available for this type of an operation. The low or intermediate level technology would be most appropriate for farm or nursery based compost facilities that intend on using the material themselves. Intermediate level technology is recommended if the material is to be marketed.

2) The second type of facility is a medium sized private or municipally owned composting operation. This type of operation may be suitable for municipalities that may have open land available for a composting operation. Some of the costs incurred will be; 1) land for the site, 2) site improvements, 3) labor, 4) equipment, 5) buildings to house equipment and the labor force and 6) a water supply. A more centralized location for the facility will help reduce the transportation cost, but this may mean a higher land cost. A buffer zone is generally required because odors can be generated. An acre of land is needed for each 3,000 to 3,500 cubic yards of yardwaste. The site should have good drainage and access for cars or trucks for off loading yardwaste or picking up finished compost. In using a low level technology method, two side-by-side windrows are formed and, after the initial burst of microbial activity (approximately one month later), the windrows are combined into one. The windrows would then be turned in the late fall or winter and again in the spring and the following summer with the front-end loader or they could be turned based on internal temperature. After composting they would be moved to form curing piles at the edge of the site. This is done to provide space for bringing in the next years yardwaste. The curing piles could then be shredded and/or screened and made available for use to the public. Estimates of cost for this size of operation will vary according to tippage fees, the cost of land, the cost of the site improvements, the turning equipment involved, shredding and screening, etc. These costs are said to be a minimum of \$4.00 per cubic yard for 1989 (Derr) and the maximum cost observed was \$12.00 per cubic yard.

If intermediate level technology were to be employed, a windrow turning machine would be used. The largest cost component would then be for the windrow turning machine and the screening operation. Land would still account for a large portion of cost. Shredding is not necessary and the cost of a tub shredder or grinder could be eliminated if a windrow turning machine is utilized in the operation. The screening equipment that is needed only at the end of the process may be shared by nearby localities, since this step can be done over a several month period. A windrow turning machine could possibly be shared by several localities. At a minimum, a locality would need to own a front-end loader to form windrows.

The finished compost product could be used by the locality in landscaping programs or it could be picked up by local residents. Some of it could be sold to local landscapers, nursery operators, and state or local agencies.

3) The third type of composting operation is the large commercial composting operation. This type of operation would be best for municipalities that are highly developed where there would be difficulties in obtaining land at a reasonable cost for a compost operation. In this situation, yardwaste would have to be transported and composted several miles from the municipality and private commercial operators would be employed to handle the yardwaste. These sites would be relatively large facilities that could handle 80,000 cubic yards per year or more. An operation of this size would need to utilize an intermediate level of technology. These types of operations would also have to actively pursue a marketing program for the end product. This type operation is significantly more capital intensive. Some of the cost incurred would be the cost of land,



site preparation, equipment, cost for buildings to house personnel, and the cost of developing a marketing program.

The minimum equipment needed would be a front-end loader, windrow turning machine and a machine to screen the finished compost. A well managed operation in New Jersey, the Middlebush Composting facility, had a Scarab 18 windrow turning machine that was capable of handling a windrow 8 feet high x 18 feet wide, and could turn a row 125 feet long in 7 minutes or less. This was a well managed operation that turned out a superior end product. The finished compost was screened and sold to landscapers who could also opt to buy unscreened compost at a lower price. They had a marketing program and had no problem selling all of their finished product (at \$10.00 per cubic yard for screened compost).

Derr (1989) discusses the diseconomies of scale in compost operations. That is, the large commercial operations have a higher cost per cubic yard to compost yard waste than a medium size facility and a small facility may have the lowest cost. This is because of the amount of equipment and personnel involved as scale increases. Also, a larger operation must have a marketing system which requires a year round facility as opposed to a farm or nursery operated facility that would be in operation primarily during the winter or early spring months. Of course once the marketing program was in place and all the finished products in the large commercial operation could be sold, additional revenues would be generated.

In summary, any composting operation is likely to require some capital cost and will have operating expenses. However, the advantages of extending the life of landfills, composting for less than tippage fees and producing a useful organic material in an environmentally acceptable manner appear to make composting the most efficient means of yardwaste management.

## **Role of The Private Sector in YardWaste Composting**

As landfill costs rise all over the country, municipalities in search of ways of reducing waste management costs are looking towards composting yardwaste. To date, Florida, Illinois, Minnesota, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin have banned leaves and/or grass clipping from going to landfills and incinerators. As the movement toward utilization of yardwaste grows, the management methods are also changing. While some municipalities have the land, equipment and expertise to convert to a composting system, many do not. Increasingly, the private sector is seeing an opportunity to provide municipalities with yardwaste processing services. Based on survey results, 30% of the respondents in the Virginia Nursery Operators Survey expressed an interest in operating a compost facility if a satisfactory contract could be arranged with a locality. Over 70% of those interested have equipment such as tractors and front-end loaders available to form and turn the windrows. An equal number felt they have adequate land available for a compost operation. Nursery and landscape businesses are a natural market for compost, as much of the finished product could be used "in house" for potting soil mixes, field nursery crops, mulches and soil amendments for bedding plants and lawn establishment /renovation. In Seattle, Washington, for example, Pacific Topsoils, Inc. was contracted to accept yardwaste and market the final product. Also in the Pacific northwest, Portland, Oregon contracts its yardwaste to two well established firms, Grimm's Fuel and McFarlene's Bark, who processed more than 300,000 cubic yards of yardwaste in 1987 (Glenn, 1989).

Others in the private sector that may be interested in managing compost operations would be farmers, who probably already have the land available and some type of equipment. As discussed in another section of this report, in Loudoun County, an environmental farmer is accepting land clearing debris to be composted and the finished product utilized on the farm for soil improvement. Other biological farmers may be interested in accepting leaves for composting and use on-farm.

Waste management companies are another area of the private sector that are becoming involved in yardwaste composting. Solid waste collectors view yardwaste processing as a means of reducing their tipping fees or as a way of expanding their services. In Davis, California, a private hauler, Davis Waste Removal, contracts with that city to provide a separate yardwaste collection service. The leaves are then composted and given back to the residents for their own use.

Private companies that provide management services to municipalities with yardwaste composting facilities are becoming more popular. For example, Organic Recycling, Inc., which currently services at least 11 municipal facilities in the northeast, provides the expertise to develop a system that will improve the facility's efficiency. Another company that offers similar services is Middlebush Compost, Inc. Middlebush started their own compost facility in 1987, and this well managed facility currently handles close to 100,000 cubic yards of leaves per year. In addition, they are interested in providing operating services at municipal sites.

In addition to the interested nursery operators in Virginia, this office has been contacted by several private concerns regarding different aspects of yardwaste composting in Virginia. It is apparent that the private sector is extremely interested in yardwaste composting and several firms are positioning themselves to establish medium to large facilities in the near future.

## WOODY WASTE

According to survey information, approximately 11% of the total MSW in Virginia is woody materials, such as shrub and tree prunings, limbs and stumps. This number is lower than anticipated, and may not reflect the large quantity of material placed into debris landfills. Based on information from other states, woody waste may account for 15 to 20% of the total MSW in Virginia. Disposal of woody wastes currently consists of landfilling or burning. In most areas of the state, special debris landfills are used. Since woody materials decompose very slowly and have such a high C:N ratio, composting is impractical in most cases. However, this material can be reduced in size and used in soil mixes, as Resource Derived Fuel (RDF) or as mulch. Other possible future uses would be for processed wood products, such as particle board or as pulp.

In other areas of the country several innovative woody waste disposal operations that recover much of this material have been established. Pacific Topsoils in Everett, Washington, accepts woody wastes from landscapers and homeowners and grinds the material to a small chipped size using a 750 hp hammermill. The material is then screened and stockpiled to be later mixed with soil to produce a material marketed very successfully as topsoil. In another area of the operation, they process demolition debris and separate out the woody wastes to be used as RDF. The material is ground in a tub grinder and sent through a trommel screen to separate out the woody wastes from other materials such as rocks, metal and soil. A subsidiary company, Recovery Systems Technology, Inc. designs and builds equipment for recovering woody wastes as well as segregation and recovery of demolition wastes.

Zanker Resources in San Jose, California also accepts woody wastes from landscapers, land clearing operations and construction and demolition operations. They will not accept any treated or painted wood. Logs and stumps are piled separately from other waste. There is a large log splitter that will accommodate a log or stump up to twelve feet in diameter. The wood is split until it is small enough to be handled by several workers with chain saws. It is then cut into firewood and sold to the public at about one half the market price of other firewood. At another area of this operation, wood consisting of construction debris, pallets, land clearing wastes and yardwastes are ground and screened into different size fractions. The small chips are marketed as mulch, while the over-sized pieces are sold as RDF. Zanker Resources has also developed and patented a complete demolition waste recovery system.

In New Jersey, Alternate Disposal Systems, Inc. accepts land clearing, construction and demolition debris and woody yardwaste. They have designed a specialized grinder that is different than a hammermill or tub grinder. It has a set of free-spinning rollers with teeth and blades to impale and hold the wood. The wood is forced against the rollers as the central shaft holding the wood spins. This design makes it very difficult to jam the grinder. Also, some models can accommodate very large pieces of wood and reduce it to chips in a short time. The material then goes to a conveyer where the fine and intermediate sized materials are screened out and sold as a fine or coarse mulch. These mulch materials are sold as fast as they can be produced. The larger materials are either re-ground or sold as RDF. They also had a system for recovering soil from the stumps

and wood waste. A shaker is used to shake the soil loose from the wood and the soil is then sent to a pile of topsoil. This topsoil is very popular and is usually sold as fast as it can be made.

In Loudoun County, Virginia, Peter Knop, owner of Ticonderoga Farms, is evaluating an alternative technology for utilizing woody wastes. Mr. Knop has a Christmas tree operation in an area of Loudoun County that has very poor soils. He is experimenting with a method for adding organic matter to the soil in an effort to improve its physical condition. He is accepting land clearing debris and piling it in large windrows in areas of the farm with the worst soils. The windrows are irrigated and a viney cover (Wisteria) is being grown over the piles to conserve moisture. Ponds were dug below the piles to catch run-off. Mr. Knop believes the piles will break down in five years. The material will then be spread on the land around the piles to raise the soil organic matter content. Efforts have been made to minimize visibility of the windrows by placing them in isolated areas and maintaining a border of trees around the piles.

As discussed above, the primary uses of woody waste observed were as mulch or RDF. Virginia does not currently have a very good market for RDF so the majority of use would be as a mulch. However, the demand for mulch is currently filled through the use of various waste wood by products such as shredded bark. If landclearing debris and other woody waste were available, it would simply compete with other potential waste for a market share. This is further complicated by the fact that total demand for mulch materials appears to be less than half the volume that is potentially available if all woody waste were converted into mulch.

Some alternative uses of woody waste must be developed if these materials are to be removed from landfills. Future development of RDF facilities may help alleviate this problem in the future. However, the uncertainty in the RDF market makes it imperative that alternative uses of woody waste be developed. These materials are generally not considered suitable for use in pulping or manufactured wood products (pressboard, fiberboard, etc) because of foreign materials (soil, rocks, etc). Additional research is needed to determine the feasibility of making woody waste suitable for these uses or developing other innovative beneficial uses.

## **CONCLUSION - COMPOSTABLE YARDWASTE**

Based on the findings of this study, it should be feasible to eliminate landfill disposal of all compostable yardwaste (leaves and grass clippings) by 1995. This can be accomplished primarily by composting at centralized facilities operated either by the public or private sector. In addition to composting, a reduction in the collection of yardwaste, particularly grass clippings, by home owners and land managers must be realized. The major obstacles that must be overcome to successfully implement a statewide program include: lack of public and governmental awareness, inadequate demand to meet supply, inadequate understanding of composting technologies by local and state officials, complex regulatory requirements, and cost of establishing compost facilities. If the recommended programs and actions are followed, these obstacles can be overcome and a successful program implemented by 1995.

## **CONCLUSION - WOODY WASTE**

Based on the findings of this study, inadequate demand will continue to limit the potential for recycling woody waste until new technologies and/or alternative uses can be developed. However, since woody waste represents a substantial portion of the waste stream, the state should support efforts to identify new technologies and uses to recycle woody waste as identified in the recommendations of this report.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **Yardwaste**

**Recommendation 1:** Prohibit the placement of leaves and grass clippings in landfills by 1995.

Explanation: Leaves and grass clippings constitute 5 to 40% of MSW (estimated average of 15 to 20%). Through the establishment of yardwaste composting facilities concurrent with a strong public education program on yardwaste management and alternative grass clipping disposal, these materials can be managed without landfilling. The 1995 date allows time for pilot, demonstration and public education programs to be completed and for localities and private business to establish yardwaste composting facilities. Based on this study, yardwaste can be composted at a lower cost than the current average tipping fee (\$19.63/ton) which is expected to rise dramatically. Therefore, removing yardwaste from landfills will save localities money. However, initial capital costs may negatively impact some localities choosing to operate a facility. Those localities may be able to obtain assistance through the Virginia Resources Authority. Prohibitions on yardwaste in landfills have already been implemented in several states and are being considered by many others.

Recommended Action: Amend the solid waste management statutes to prohibit the placement of leaves or grass clippings in landfills after January 1, 1995.

**Recommendation 2:** Provision of low interest loans and/or tax incentives for establishment of private yardwaste compost facilities.

Explanation: Capital costs associated with the establishment of a compost facility are substantial. A portion of the benefits accrued from the facility are shared by local and state government through reduced solid waste volumes. To reduce the impact of capital cost and provide incentive for private sector involvement, it would be beneficial to either establish a low interest loan fund or reduce state taxes for compost facilities.

Recommended Action: Reduction in state tax rate or establishment of a low interest loan fund for yardwaste compost facilities.

**Recommendation 3:** Establish clear and simple regulatory procedures for compost facilities accepting yardwaste only or yardwaste mixed with solid animal wastes.

Explanation: Yardwaste compost sites are currently regulated under Section 6.1 of the Solid Waste Management Regulations. This section was designed for composting of refuse or combinations of refuse and sludge. The siting, design, construction and operational requirements are comparable to those for landfills or sewage sludge

composting facilities. This necessitates a detailed application (including a Part B Solid Waste Management Facility application); waste, air and groundwater monitoring; leachate and runoff control; all-weather impermeable pads, and numerous other requirements. Some states have exempted yardwaste composting sites from solid waste management regulations and established a more simple approval process with less stringent requirements. In Minnesota, this consists of a two page form letter requesting approval which is reviewed and returned with a letter of approval (if deemed acceptable) within two weeks of receiving the application. If Virginia is to implement a statewide yardwaste composting program, a simpler approach to permitting or approval must be developed.

Recommended Action: That either the Solid Waste Management statutes or regulations be amended to exempt yardwaste only or yardwaste and solid animal waste compost facilities from the requirements of Section 6.1 of the Solid Waste Management Regulations. Further, that a letter approval procedure be established within DWM to facilitate siting of such compost facilities. These changes should be implemented as soon as possible.

**Recommendation 4:** Establishment of a three year pilot program at six locations around Virginia (FY91, 92, 93).

Explanation: Different composting technologies are applicable depending on quantity of yardwaste, available land area, potential markets and users, availability of equipment and other factors. In addition, various mixes of grass clippings or other high nitrogen wastes result in different composting conditions and compost quality. It is critical that a pilot program with an associated educational program be conducted to familiarize state and local government officials and the private sector about available technologies and options for mixing leaves with grass clippings or other wastes. Further refinement in technologies will likely be necessary under Virginia conditions and regulations. The pilot program will allow evaluation and refinement of technologies. The pilot program will also allow for development of a data base on the chemical composition of various types of finished compost since very limited data is available in the literature. Finally, the pilot program will provide finished compost from various technologies that can be evaluated by users for suitability and used in local demonstration programs as well as those in Recommendation 5.

Recommended Action: Appropriation of \$120,000 in FY91, \$65,000 in FY92 and \$65,000 in FY93 to DWM. The Department will contract with appropriate individuals in VCES to assist in the conduct of the pilot program. The localities for the pilot programs will be selected by a joint committee from DWM and VCES based on interest expressed during this study and geographic diversity.



**Recommendation 5:** Establishment of a demonstration and public education program on uses of finished compost at 10 additional locations (FY92, 93).

Explanation: For the statewide yardwaste composting program to succeed, major increases in market demand for the finished product will be required. By having demonstration areas at parks, municipal buildings, etc. and conducting field days at the demonstration sites, users will gain confidence in the suitability of the materials. Secondly, publications need to be developed and distributed on the material and on the appropriate ways to use it.

Recommended Action: Appropriation of \$40,000 to the DWM in FY92 and in FY93. A joint committee from DWM and VCES will award extension agents in 10 localities (not part of pilot program) grants of \$2,000 per year to establish a yardwaste utilization demonstration program. The localities will be selected based on merit of the proposed program and geographic diversity. Each locality will be required to conduct field days open to representatives from adjacent localities. The remaining \$20,000 each year will be awarded to appropriate individuals in VCES to develop publications on the use of composted yardwaste.

**Recommendation 6:** Establishment of a public education program on backyard composting (FY91, 92).

Explanation: Backyard composting not only results in savings in landfill space but also eliminates the very high cost of collection of yardwaste and other compostable solid waste. There appears to be significant potential to increase the number of homeowners who backyard compost through a public education program. Because of savings by not collecting and handling the waste as well as savings in landfill space, savings from even modest increases in backyard composting may be substantial.

Recommended Action: Appropriation of \$30,000 per year for FY91 and 92 to DWM. These funds will be awarded on a competitive basis for the conduct of a two year public education program. Proposals will be evaluated on merit but must include publications, media exposure and demonstrations.

**Recommendation 7:** Establishment of a program on alternative management of grass clippings (FY91, 92).

Explanation: Grass clippings usually amount to the same annual volume of solid waste as leaves. However, they should be mixed at a ratio of about three parts leaves to one part grass clippings. This is further complicated by the fact that fall and spring leaves are partially composted by the time grass clippings are collected. Thus, successfully composting grass clippings, at current volumes, would be extremely difficult. Research has shown that, with frequent mowing, grass clippings do not need to be removed. It is critical that the public be educated on alternative clipping management prior to implementation of Recommendations 1 and 9.

Recommended Action: Appropriation of \$30,000 per year for FY91 and 92 to DWM. These funds will be awarded on a competitive basis for the conduct of a two year public education program. Proposals will be evaluated on merit but must include publications, media exposure and demonstrations.

**Recommendation 8:** Development of a Yardwaste Composting Manual for Virginia (FY91).

Explanation: If a statewide program is to be implemented, every locality and/or private composter will need to know how to plan, design and operate a compost facility. In addition, they must understand the potential uses and market opportunities for the finished compost. Many states that have mandatory composting requirements have, or are developing, composting manuals. Due to differences in regulations, climate, soils and yardwaste composition, it is important that Virginia have a composting manual.

Recommended Action: Appropriation of \$25,000 for FY91 to DWM. These funds would be used to contract for the development of a yardwaste composting manual. The manual should include discussions of technologies, costs, uses and regulatory requirements.

**Recommendation 9:** Encourage localities to restrict collection of grass clippings either bagged or bulk.

Explanation: Grass clippings are extremely difficult to compost unless mixed with large quantities of leaves or other bulking agents. Grass clippings are the primary generator of odors at yardwaste compost facilities. Currently, the timing of collection and volume of clippings do not allow the proper blend of leaves and clippings for composting. With proper frequency of mowing, grass clippings do not need to be removed. Further, homeowners desiring to remove clippings can use an alternative management technique such as backyard composting. If yardwaste composting is to be successful, the volume of collected grass clippings must be greatly reduced. A complete ban on collection of grass clippings may provide the only mechanism to adequately reduce clipping volumes in some locations.

Recommended Action: The DWM and VCES work with local governments to develop model ordinances, local education programs and implementation plans for discontinuing the acceptance of grass clippings at landfills.

**Recommendation 10:** Minimize regulatory requirements for farmers and nursery operators managing compost facilities accepting less than 5000 cubic yards of yardwaste only per year and using all the finished compost in their own farming or nursery operation.

**Explanation:** Potential environmental contamination from small yardwaste composting sites is minimal. In several states small compost facilities are exempted from most regulations. This could be particularly important for smaller municipalities who may find it more difficult to successfully operate a full scale compost operation. Minimizing regulatory requirements for small scale composters who will use the end product in their own operation will provide incentives and cost reductions to them. This will help assure that composting facilities will be available for smaller municipalities. Further it will assure private sector involvement and provide additional income to farmers (and nursery operators) who may need the additional revenues to remain in business.

**Recommended Action:** Change the Solid Waste Management Regulations to exempt farmers and nursery operators who accept for composting less than 5000 cubic yards per year of yardwaste only from the yardwaste compost regulations. However, require such operators to notify DWM of their intent to operate a facility and its location. In addition, the operator shall submit an annual report on the volume and types of yardwaste accepted and a statement certifying that only yardwaste was accepted for composting.

**Recommendation 11:** Require state government and encourage local government to use yardwaste compost.

**Explanation:** For the statewide yardwaste composting program to succeed, the potential market volume of compost must be increased. State and local governments through needs for highways, parks and institutional grounds may be the largest potential users of composted yardwaste. If all public sector demand for comparable organic materials was supplied by yardwaste, it is likely that all demand problems would be alleviated.

**Recommended Action:** 1) That the Governor issue an executive order to all state agencies requiring the use of composted yardwaste in place of other organic materials when available, competitively priced and of acceptable quality for all state contracts and bids. That this order go into effect January 1, 1991.

2) That DWM and VCES work with local governments to develop model ordinances requiring local agencies and departments to use or require the use of locally available composted yardwaste where appropriate.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Woody Waste

**Recommendation 1:** Evaluate what changes in practices or new technologies are needed to allow use of woody waste in manufactured wood products and pulping operations.

Explanation: There is currently inadequate demand for woody waste as mulch and the market for mulch is already dominated by wood by-products such as shredded bark. Thus alternative uses of woody waste must be developed. Woody waste is currently considered too "dirty" for use in manufactured wood products or pulping operations. However, if the large volume of woody waste is to be recycled, technologies to allow its use in these processes must be developed.

Recommended Action: 1.) Appropriate \$25,000 to DWM in FY91 to fund a state of the art project on alternative uses of woody waste to determine technologic limitations on potential alternative uses of woody waste.

2.) Appropriate \$100,000 per year to DWM for FY92, 93, 94 to fund research and pilot programs on technologies to make woody waste acceptable for manufactured wood products or pulping. Projects should be awarded on a competitive basis and no one project should exceed \$40,000 per year. The types of research funded should be based on the state of the art project results.

**Recommendation 2:** Determine the market potential for chipped woody waste as a Resource Derived Fuel (RDF).

Explanation: There currently appears to be a limited market for RDF in Virginia. However, observations of activities other states indicate this may be an important future market for woody waste.

Recommendation Action: Appropriate \$25,000 to DWM in FY91 to fund a study on the current and future potential market for woody waste as RDF. The study should also identify any factors that may limit the suitability of woody waste as RDF and recommend research or application of existing technologies to overcome such limitations.

**Recommendation 3:** Evaluate the feasibility of long term decomposition of woody waste with subsequent utilization as a soil amendment.

Explanation: A private firm in Virginia is currently conducting a study to determine the feasibility of windrowing land clearing debris, prunings, and soil and allowing long term decomposition of the wood. Decomposition is accelerated by growing a viney cover over the windrow, irrigating to maintain moisture and inoculating with decomposing fungus.

Care is taken in placement of the windrows to minimize their visibility and to limit the number based on the amount of material needed to cover a field area with finished decomposed materials. It is anticipated that decomposition will take five to ten years. Although this is an unproven technology, it may have practical application when limits on windrow location and density are required.

Recommended Action: That DWM and VCES closely observe the pilot program and that DWM determine the applicability of this technology including needed restrictions and monitoring.

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**APPENDIX A.**      **Contacts for Site-Visit Locations and Out of State Telephone Interviews.**

## SITE VISIT CONTACTS

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SNOHOMISH COUNTY SOLID WASTE DIVISION  
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## Telephone Interviews

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California Dept of Conservation  
Sacramento, CA  
(916) 323-3508

**APPENDIX B. Surveys Sent to Nursery Operators, Extension Agents and Landfill Managers.**



## VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY

*Blacksburg, Virginia 24061-0404*

DEPARTMENT OF CROP AND SOIL ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

425 Smyth Hall

July 17, 1989

TO: Virginia Nursery Operators

FROM: T. W. Simpson, Associate Professor,  
Soil-Environmental Quality  
Jim May, Graduate Research Assistant, Horticulture

We are currently conducting a feasibility study for the Virginia Department of Waste Management at the request of the General Assembly on the potential for large scale composting of yard waste (primarily leaves and grass clippings). Currently much of this material is collected and buried in landfills using valuable landfill space. Work done in other states has shown that these materials can be composted into a low nutrient value compost with physical properties similar to peat or composted sewage sludge. The material will be made from leaves with some grass clippings or a higher nitrogen organic waste (such as poultry litter) added to increase composting rate and nutrient content. In some states, localities have contracted with private sector businesses (such as nurseries) to do the composting operation. The contract fee is sufficient to provide a profit to the compost operation but is generally lower than the cost to landfill the yard waste. The composter then has the finished material to use or market.

Our study will help determine both the feasibility of making the compost and of developing uses or markets. We are also interested in assessing private sector involvement in both the composting and marketing of the materials. As a nursery operator, you are potentially a user, wholesaler and/or retailer of the material and you may have the interest and means to develop a compost site.

We need to know your opinions on yard waste composting and potential uses for the material. Please answer the questionnaire on the following pages and return it to us in the enclosed self addressed, stamped envelope. All answers will be strictly confidential. It should take you less than 15 minutes. The results will enable us to recommend to the General Assembly a sound yard waste composting program that will save Virginia localities millions of dollars. It will also provide you an opportunity to learn more about a product that may save you money and/or provide a profitable addition to your business.

We thank you in advance for your assistance with this project.

TWS/lap

SURVEY OF  
NURSERY OPERATORS CONCERNING YARD WASTE  
COMPOST PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION  
JULY 1989

**Part A. Current use of compost-like materials**

1. Is your nursery operation: a) wholesale b) retail c) rewholesale
2. Please check below all the types of organic matter sources you use and estimate the volume you use per year.

<u>Material</u>	Annual Use Estimate (cubic yards)	<u>Material</u>	Annual Use Estimate (cubic yards)
<input type="checkbox"/> a) peat moss	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> e) aged sawdust	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> b) sludge compost	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> f) shredded bark	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> c) manure compost	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> g) commercial potting mix	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> d) leaf compost	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> h) other (identify)	_____

3. Check below all the ways in which you use the materials from 1 above and estimate your use volume.

<u>Use</u>	Annual Use Estimate (cubic yards)	<u>Use</u>	Annual Use Estimate (cubic yards)
<input type="checkbox"/> a) potting mix	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> d) hydroseeding	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> b) field nursery crops	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> e) lawn establishment/ renovation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> c) mulches	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> f) other (identify)	_____

**Part B. Sale of compost-like materials.**

1. What types of organic materials do you offer for sale? (If none, go to Part C)

<u>Material</u>	Estimated Annual Sales Volume (cubic yards)	<u>Material</u>	Estimated Annual Sales Volume (cubic yards)
<input type="checkbox"/> a) peat moss	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> e) aged sawdust	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> b) sludge compost	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> f) shredded bark	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> c) manure compost	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> g) commercial potting mix	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> d) leaf compost	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> h) other (identify)	_____

2. By your own best estimate, rank the list below from most common (1) to least common (6 or 7) customer use of the materials in question 1.

<input type="checkbox"/> a) potting mix	<input type="checkbox"/> c) mulches	<input type="checkbox"/> e) lawn establishment/ renovation
<input type="checkbox"/> b) nutrient source	<input type="checkbox"/> d) home garden soil amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> f) other (identify)

**Part C. Uses of coarse mulching materials**

1. If you sell coarse mulching materials, check all types below that you sell and estimate the volume of sales for each material.

	Annual sales volume (cubic yards)		Annual sales volume (cubic yards)
<input type="checkbox"/> a) wood chips	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> e) decorative	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> b) bark - pine chips	_____	stone mulch	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> c) bark - hardwood	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> f) pine straw	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> d) bark - shredded	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> g) other	_____

**Part D. Interest in using or selling composted yard waste.**

1. Would you be interested in using composted yard waste, if the price is well below that of comparable material and it can be delivered in bulk to your nursery?

a) yes                       b) no

2. Would you be willing to go to a compost site within 30 miles of your nursery to obtain bulk quantities of compost, if the cost, including transport, was less than that of comparable materials.

a) yes                       b) no

3. For which of the following uses could you substitute compost for your current organic matter source. (Check all that apply)

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. potting mix         | <input type="checkbox"/> 3. mulches      | <input type="checkbox"/> 5. lawn establishment/<br>renovation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2. field nursery crops | <input type="checkbox"/> 4. hydroseeding | <input type="checkbox"/> 6. other (identify)                  |

4. Assuming it can be sold at a profit, would you be interested in selling bulk quantities of composted yard waste and, if so, what do you estimate your annual sales volume to be.

a) yes - Volume Estimate \_\_\_\_\_yds.                       b) No

5. If available, would you be interested in selling bagged or baled composted yard waste and, if so, what do you estimate your annual sales volume to be.

a) yes - Volume Estimate \_\_\_\_\_yds.                       b) No

6. Would you be interested in obtaining bulk quantities of compost and having your own bagging or baling operation?

- a) yes, bagging for your retail sales only
- b) yes, bagging for wholesale distribution and retail sales
- c) yes, baling for wholesale distribution and retail sales
- d) no

**Part E.** Interest in composting, distributing and marketing yard waste.

1. Would you be interested in operating a compost facility, if a satisfactory contract could be made with a locality?  
 a) yes                       b) no (go to Part F)
  2. Generally 2 to 5 acres are needed for a compost site. Do you currently have land that could be used as a compost site?  
 a) yes                       b) no
  3. Do you have tractors with front-end loaders or other means of mixing and turning the compost?  
 a) yes                       b) no
  4. Capital costs in the range of \$25,000 to \$100,000 may be needed to start a compost facility. Would the availability of low interest loans from the state and/or a tax credit program be of interest to you to help reduce the impact of start-up costs?  
 a) yes                       b) no                       c) maybe
  5. Yard waste composting will probably be regulated which will necessitate some monitoring and record keeping. Even if the operation could still be profitable, would the amount of regulatory activity influence your interest in operating a yard waste composting facility?  
 a) yes                       b) no                       c) maybe (to a limited extent)
- 

**Part F.** Do you want further information? (optional)

1. Would you be interested in being placed on a mailing list at Virginia Tech to receive additional information about yard waste compost/composting as it becomes available?  
 a) yes    Name: \_\_\_\_\_                      (This information will be blacked out  
                  Address: \_\_\_\_\_                      as soon as we add it to our mailing list  
                  City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_                      and will not be readable when responses  
                  Zip: \_\_\_\_\_                              to survey questions are compiled.)  
 b) no (**Thanks for completing the survey**)
2. If you answered yes to question 1, in what aspects of yard waste compost/composting are you interested (check all that interest you)?  
 a) wholesaling or retailing compost                       c) using compost in your nursery operation  
 b) bagging or baling and distributing                       d) operating a compost facility  
                  compost    (**Thanks for completing the survey**)





VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY

*Blacksburg, Virginia 24061-040*

DEPARTMENT OF CROP AND SOIL ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

425 Smyth Hall

July 28, 1989

TO: Virginia Landfill Managers

FROM: T. W. Simpson, Associate Professor,  
Soil-Environmental Quality  
Jim May, Graduate Research Assistant, Horticulture

We are currently conducting a feasibility study for the Virginia Department of Waste Management at the request of the General Assembly on the potential for a statewide composting program for yard waste (primarily leaves and grass clippings). As you know much of this material is being landfilled in Virginia. Work done in other states has shown that these materials can be composted into a low nutrient value material similar to composted sewage sludge. With the extreme pressures on landfill space and mandatory source reductions, composting of yard waste may offer important money and space savings.

Our study will help determine both the feasibility of making the compost and of developing uses or markets. We are also interested in assessing private sector involvement in both the composting and marketing of the materials. As a manager of a municipal solid waste landfill, you can provide us with essential information concerning yard waste collection in your locality and your opinions on the potential for composting these materials.

Please answer the questionnaire on the following pages and return it to us in the enclosed self addressed, stamped envelope. All answers will be strictly confidential. We will only compile and present information at the planning district or larger geographic area. If you would like a copy of the results of this study, be sure to fill in the information at the end of the survey. It should take you less than 15 minutes to complete. The results will enable us to recommend to the General Assembly a sound yard waste composting program that will save Virginia localities tens of millions of dollars. It will also provide you an opportunity to learn more about a process that may save you money and landfill space.

We thank you in advance for your assistance with this project.

TWS/lap

**SURVEY OF MUNICIPAL  
SOLID WASTE LANDFILL MANAGERS  
CONCERNING YARD WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL  
JULY 1989**

**Selection A. Geographic Location**

- 1) Name or number of planning district \_\_\_\_\_  
(For geographic location only)

**Section B. Landfill Information**

- 1) Ownership of landfill in which your solid waste is disposed  
 a. Publicly owned and operated  
 b. Publicly owned and privately operated  
 c. Privately owned and operated
- 2) Projected life of current landfill in years (circle one)  
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 to 15 16 to 20 more than 20
- 3) If projected life of landfill is less than ten years, circle any of the steps below that have been taken towards replacement of current landfill.  
 a. Planning committee/group formed    e. Design completed  
 b. Siting activities begun                    f. Landfill construction begun  
 c. Site selected                                 g. Landfill completed, ready for use  
 d. Design work begun                         h. No current activities
- 4) A. Amount of municipal solid waste handled per week? (Circle one) based on 5 day week or 7 day week?)
- |                 |                        |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| a. 0-10 tons    | g. 500-750 tons        |
| b. 10-25 tons   | h. 750-1000 tons       |
| c. 25-50 tons   | i. 1000-1250 tons      |
| d. 50-100 tons  | j. 1250-1500 tons      |
| e. 100-250 tons | k. more than 1500 tons |
| f. 250-500 tons |                        |
- 5) The standard tipping fee is \$\_\_\_\_\_ per ton or  
 \$\_\_\_\_\_ per yard or  
 \$\_\_\_\_\_ per truck or  
 \$\_\_\_\_\_ other method (describe)
- 6) Percent of municipal solid waste that is:
- |             |    |       |    |        |    |        |    |         |
|-------------|----|-------|----|--------|----|--------|----|---------|
| Landfilled  | a. | 0-25% | b. | 25-50% | c. | 50-75% | d. | 75-100% |
| Incinerated | a. | 0-25% | b. | 25-50% | c. | 50-75% | d. | 75-100% |
| Composted   | a. | 0-10% | b. | 10-25% | c. | 25-50% | d. | 50-100% |
| Recycled    | a. | 0-10% | b. | 10-25% | c. | 25-50% | d. | 50-100% |

**Section C. Organic Yard Waste Information**

- 1) A. What percent of total municipal solid waste do you estimate to be organic yard waste? (Leaves, grass clippings, shrub and tree prunings - do not include stumps and tree trunks)

<u>Jan-Mar</u>	<u>Apr-Jun</u>	<u>July-Sept</u>	<u>Oct-Dec</u>	<u>% of Total Annual Solid Waste</u>
a. 0-5%	a. 0-5%	a. 0-5%	a. 0-5%	a. 0-5%
b. 5-10%	b. 5-10%	b. 5-10%	b. 5-10%	b. 5-10%
c. 10-15%	c. 10-15%	c. 10-15%	c. 10-15%	c. 10-15%
d. 15-20%	d. 15-20%	d. 15-20%	d. 15-20%	d. 15-20%
e. over 20%	e. over 20%	e. over 20%	e. over 20%	e. over 20%

- B. Estimate the percentage of the total yard waste that is:

- 1) leaves \_\_\_\_\_%
- 2) grass clippings \_\_\_\_\_%
- 3) shrub and tree prunings \_\_\_\_\_%

- 2) What percent of your total municipal solid waste do you estimate to be stumps, limbs and other land clearing waste?  
a. 0-5% b. 5-10% c. 10-15% d. 15-25% e. 25-35% f. 35% or more

- 3A) Do you have a curbside collection program for leaves? a) Yes b) No  
Collection period (months) \_\_\_\_\_

- 3B) How do you currently dispose of leaves?  
a. landfill  
b. stockpile on county lands  
c. give-a-way program (please estimate % of leaves collected that are used \_\_\_\_\_)  
d. composting (please estimate % of collected leaves that are composted \_\_\_\_\_)  
e. other (please describe)

- 4A) Do you have curbside collection of grass clippings or shrub prunings?  
a. Yes b. No

- 4A) Do you allow bulk disposal of grass clippings or shrub prunings? a) yes b) no

- 4B) If yes, how do you dispose of clipping and pruning wastes?  
a. landfill  
b. stockpile on county lands  
c. composting (please estimate % of clippings that are composted \_\_\_\_\_)  
d. other (please describe)

**Section D Composting Feasibility**

- 1) Are you aware of the use of composting systems for recycling organic yard wastes in some other states?  
a. Yes    b. No
  
  - 2) Have you established a group to study alternative uses for yard waste (such as composting)?  
a. Yes - (Optional: Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_)  
b. No
  
  - 3) What is your perception of the feasibility of yard waste composting in your locality? (Circle one)  
a. unlikely    b. possibly    c. likely    d. very likely  
Comments \_\_\_\_\_
  
  - 4) Do you think your local government would pay a private yard waste facility a fee that is less than your tipping fee to take your yard waste on a contractual basis?  
a. Yes    b. No
  
  - 5) What are/would be the most likely uses for compost in your locality.  
a. Parks and golf courses  
b. Community landscaping  
c. Make available to public  
d. Sell to private landscapers, nurserys, etc.  
e. Others (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_
  
  - 6) Do you think there is public land available for a compost facility? (estimated need is minimum of 2 acres or about 5 acres per 20,000 yards of yard waste)  
a. Yes    b. No
- 

**Section E Request for Study - Results**

- 1) Would you be interested in receiving a copy of the final results of this study?

a. Yes

Name \_\_\_\_\_ (This information will be blacked out as  
Title \_\_\_\_\_ soon as we add it to our mailing list  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ and will not be readable when  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ responses to survey questions are  
compiled)

b. No

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE!!**

# VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

VIRGINIA  
TECH

VIRGINIA  
STATE

DEPARTMENT OF CROP AND SOIL ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES  
424 SMYTH HALL  
BLACKSBURG, VA 24061-0403

July 28, 1989

TO: Extension Agents-Agriculture

FROM: T. W. Simpson, Associate Professor,  
Extension Soil Scientist  
Jim May, Graduate Research Assistant, Horticulture

RE: Yard Waste Compost/Composting Survey

We are currently conducting a feasibility study for the Virginia Department of Waste Management at the request of the General Assembly on the potential for large scale composting of yard waste (primarily leaves and grass clippings). Much of this material is collected and buried in landfills using landfill space. Work done in other states has shown that these materials can be composted into a low nutrient value peat-like material similar to composted sewage sludge, cow manure, etc.

Our study will help determine both the feasibility of making the compost and of developing uses or markets. We are also interested in assessing private sector involvement in both the composting and marketing of the materials.

We need to know your opinions on yard waste composting and potential uses for the material. Please answer the questionnaire on the following pages. It should take you less than 15 minutes. The results will enable us to recommend to the General Assembly a sound yard waste composting program that may save Virginia localities tens of millions of dollars. It will also provide you an opportunity to learn more about an activity that may save your county money, substantially reduce landfill space needs, and provide a compost product for commercial and home use.

We thank you in advance for your assistance with this project.

TWS/lap

Virginia Cooperative Extension Service programs, activities, and employment opportunities are available to all people regardless of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, handicap, or political affiliation. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, and September 30, 1977, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. James F. Johnson, Acting Director, Virginia Cooperative Extension Service, and Acting Vice Provost for Extension, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia; Clinton V. Turner, Administrator, 1890 Extension Program, Virginia State University, Petersburg, Virginia.

**Extension Agent Survey  
on Yard Waste Compost/Composting**

**Part A. Demographics and Contact Information**

1. Name of City/County \_\_\_\_\_
2. Name of Agent Responding \_\_\_\_\_
3. Population of City/County \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Which of the following would you say best describes your city/county?  

<input type="checkbox"/> a) urban	<input type="checkbox"/> d) suburban-rural
<input type="checkbox"/> b) urban-suburban	<input type="checkbox"/> e) rural-suburban
<input type="checkbox"/> c) suburban	<input type="checkbox"/> f) rural

**Part B. Estimates of current yard waste management, uses and disposal practices.**

1. If your city/county has a leaf collection program, what is done with the leaves?  

<input type="checkbox"/> a) landfilled	<input type="checkbox"/> d) give away program
<input type="checkbox"/> b) composted	<input type="checkbox"/> e) other
<input type="checkbox"/> c) stockpiled	
2. If your locality has a give away program, estimate the percent of total collected leaves that are used (removed from central site) each year.  

<input type="checkbox"/> a) < 10%	<input type="checkbox"/> d) 50-75%
<input type="checkbox"/> b) 10-25%	<input type="checkbox"/> e) 75-90%
<input type="checkbox"/> c) 25-50%	<input type="checkbox"/> f) 90-100%
3. Does your locality allow bulk disposal of grass clippings at the landfill?  

<input type="checkbox"/> a) yes	<input type="checkbox"/> b) no
---------------------------------	--------------------------------
4. What percent of your households do you think remove grass clippings from their lawns?  

<input type="checkbox"/> a) 0-10%	<input type="checkbox"/> d) 50-75%
<input type="checkbox"/> b) 10-25%	<input type="checkbox"/> e) 75-100%
<input type="checkbox"/> c) 25-50%	
5. For households that remove clippings, rank the following list for what you think to be the most common (identify as 1) to the least common (identify as 6) means of disposing of clippings.  

<input type="checkbox"/> a) bag for regular garbage collection	<input type="checkbox"/> d) use in backyard composting
<input type="checkbox"/> b) bulk transport to landfill	<input type="checkbox"/> e) mulch garden
<input type="checkbox"/> c) backyard/woodland stockpile	<input type="checkbox"/> f) mulch ornamentals

6. Rank the following list for what you perceive to be the most common (1) to the least common (5) means of disposing of pruning materials from woody ornamentals.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a) bag for regular garbage collection | <input type="checkbox"/> d) chip and use as mulch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> b) bulk transport to landfill         | <input type="checkbox"/> e) burn                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> c) backyard/woodland stockpile        |   |

7. What percent of the households in your locality do you estimate to have a backyard compost bin/pile?

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a) 0-10%  | <input type="checkbox"/> d) 30-40%        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> b) 10-20% | <input type="checkbox"/> e) 40-50%        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> c) 20-30% | <input type="checkbox"/> f) more than 50% |

### Part C City/County Interest in Yard Waste Composting

1. Are you aware of any interest/plans by your locality to initiate recycling programs for yard waste?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a) no                              | <input type="checkbox"/> d) yes - plans being formed                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> b) yes - some interest/discussion  | <input type="checkbox"/> e) yes - plan in place                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> c) yes - committee formed to study | <input type="checkbox"/> f) yes - recycling/composting program in operation |

2. If you answered yes (in any form) to question one, what types of yard waste recycling programs do you perceive/know to be likely for your locality? (check all that apply)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a) leaf giveaway   | <input type="checkbox"/> d) chipping woody materials |
| <input type="checkbox"/> b) leaf composting   | <input type="checkbox"/> e) other (identify)         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> c) grass clipping composting/<br>co-composting with leaves |  |

### Part D Interest in using composted yard waste

1. Rank the following lists from what you think to be the most likely use to the least likely use for a good quality leaf and/or grass compost material in your locality.

a) Based on your expertise and experience, rank the following list from most appropriate (1) to least appropriate (9 or 10) use of composted yard waste.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> home garden mulch               | <input type="checkbox"/> lawn establishment/renovation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ornamental/flower mulch/bedding | <input type="checkbox"/> mulches                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> landfill revegetation           | <input type="checkbox"/> organic nutrient source       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> potting mix                     | <input type="checkbox"/> home garden soil amendment    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> roadside revegetation           | <input type="checkbox"/> other (identify) _____        |

b) Uses by homeowners (Rank from most (1) to least (6) likely use).

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ornamental mulch      | <input type="checkbox"/> lawn establishment/renovation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> garden mulch          | <input type="checkbox"/> organic nutrient source       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> garden soil amendment | <input type="checkbox"/> bedding material/mix          |

c) Uses by nurseries/landscapers. (Rank from most (1) to least (7) likely use)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> potting mix         | <input type="checkbox"/> lawn establishment/renovation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> mulch               | <input type="checkbox"/> hydroseeding                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> field nursery crops | <input type="checkbox"/> organic nutrient source       |

d) Uses by local government/institutions

1. County departments that may use compost (Rank from most (1) to least (5 or 6) likely to use compost).

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parks and Recreation  | <input type="checkbox"/> Roads and Streets      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buildings and Grounds | <input type="checkbox"/> Landfill Management    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Schools        | <input type="checkbox"/> other (identify) _____ |

2. Type of uses (Rank the types of uses by local government from most (1) to least (6 or 7) likely.)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> landfill revegetation           | <input type="checkbox"/> roadside revegetation         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> flower/ornamental bedding mulch | <input type="checkbox"/> fertilizer source             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> potting mix                     | <input type="checkbox"/> lawn establishment/renovation |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> other _____                   |

e) Uses by farmers (5 or more acres in production of agronomic, vegetable or fruit crops). Rank from most likely (1) to least likely (6 or 7) use.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> organic nutrient source                 | <input type="checkbox"/> mulch - vegetable                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> soil physical conditioner-<br>agronomic | <input type="checkbox"/> mulch - small fruit                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> soil physical conditioner-<br>vegetable | <input type="checkbox"/> soil physical conditioner-<br>fruit |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> other _____                         |

**Part E Potential for Privatization of Yard Waste Composting**

1. Do you think your city/county would be interested in contracting with a private firm to accept and compost bulk collected leaves and grass clippings for a fee less than your landfill tipping fee.

- a) Yes    b) No

2. Rank your perception of the interest of the following business people in running a yard waste composting operation. Assume a profit generating contract can be developed with your locality (Rank from most interest (1) to least interest (7 or 8).

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> nursery operator      | <input type="checkbox"/> farmer                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> greenhouse operator   | <input type="checkbox"/> farm and garden supply     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> landscaping firm      | <input type="checkbox"/> biological farmer/supplier |
| <input type="checkbox"/> waste management firm | <input type="checkbox"/> other _____                |



**Part F. Use volume and need for educational program**

1. Do you think that there exists adequate demand to use all yard waste compost that would be generated from collected leaves and grass clippings in your locality. At this time, assume a giveaway program at a central site.

- a. more demand than supply       d. much less demand than supply  
 b. adequate demand for supply       e. almost no demand compared to supply  
 c. somewhat less demand than supply

2. Rank each of the following areas relative to the need for an educational program before a successful yard waste recycling (and source reduction) program can be implemented (Rank need as High (H), Medium (M), Low (L), Unimportant (U)).

- a. educate local government on composting and other recycling technologies  
 b. educate private sector on composting technologies, regulations and business opportunities  
 c. educate farmers on possible uses  
 d. educate landscapers on uses  
 e. educate homeowners on uses  
 f. educate homeowners on proper handling of yard waste to facilitate collection and composting  
 g. educate homeowners to not remove grass clippings  
 h. educate homeowners on backyard composting

3. For those items in question 2 that you ranked as high, what types of activities and materials do you feel would be most helpful in the public education program. Rank the need for this type of activity as high (H), medium (M) or low (L). (Check all that apply)

- a. demonstrations/pilot programs on large scale composting  
  b. seminars/workshops for government officials  
  c. publications on composting technologies  
  d. brochures for homeowners  
  e. radio and television spots  
  f. press releases/newspaper articles  
  g. video tapes  
  h. demonstrations on compost use  
  i. field days at demonstration sites  
  j. slide sets  
  k. teleconferences  
  l. presentations to nursery assoc., landscapers, etc.

4. If pilot/demonstration sites and other educational programs are established, would you and your city or county like to be considered as a location of one of the pilot programs (a positive response does not obligate either you or me).

- a. yes       c. maybe  
 b. probably       d. no

**Thanks for Your Assistance!!**

**APPENDIX C. Potential User Groups of Yardwaste Compost and Specific Potential Users in the Nursery Industry.**

## **Yardwaste Compost**

### **User Groups**

1. Nursery Operators
2. Landscapers
3. Biological/Sustainable Farmers
4. Commercial Grounds Managers
5. County Building and Grounds Departments
6. County Parks and Recreation Departments
7. Landfill Managers
8. Turfgrass Producers
9. Virginia Department of Transportation
10. Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
11. Homeowners, Gardeners
12. State Land/Grounds Managers

- \* -

Loudoun Nursery, Inc.  
Route 1, Box 346  
Hamilton VA 22068  
45  
Loudoun

- \* -

Great Big Greenhouse & Nursery  
3435 Western Branch Boulevard  
Chesapeake VA 23321  
1  
Chesapeake

- \* -

Bowen & Young  
J & J Treeland  
Route 1, Box 251  
Cumberland VA 23040  
30  
Cumberland

- \* -

Keswal, Inc.  
Greenspire Nursery  
Route 2, Box 131  
Christiansburg VA 24073  
1  
Montgomery

- \* -

J.C. Ackerman  
Blue Ridge Botanicals  
RD 1, Box 318 A  
Bluemont VA 22012  
1  
Loudoun

- \* -

Arthur W. Allison  
1719 Avondale Avenue  
Richmond VA 23227  
1  
Hanover

- \* -

Eddie Anderson  
McDonald Nurseries, Inc.  
1139 W. Pembroke Ave.  
Hampton VA 23361  
6  
Hampton

- \* -

J.T. Clevengers Nursery  
HC38 Box 126  
Winchester VA 22601  
1  
Frederick

- \* -

Middletown Nurseries  
Box 337  
Melfa VA 23410  
500  
Accomack

- \* -

F.C. & G, Inc.  
Great Big Greenhouse & Nursery  
1276 Great Neck Road  
Virginia Beach VA 23664  
5  
Hampton

- \* -

Monroe & Morris  
Grandview Nursery  
24 Canal Road  
Hampton VA 23664  
5  
Hampton

- \* -

Julian R. Adams  
Adams Bonsai  
4628 Locksview Road  
Lynchburg VA 24503  
1  
Lynchburg

- \* -

Ken Alphin  
Rillhurst Farm Nursery  
PO Box 1276  
Culpeper VA 22701  
15  
Culpeper

- \* -

Richard T. Antony  
Long Mountain Nursery  
Route 1, Box 893  
Washington VA 22747  
1  
Rappahannock

- \* -

Pine Top Farm & Nursery  
Box 35 C  
Topping VA 23169  
3  
Middlesex

- \* -

W. G. L. Farms, Inc.  
Route 3, Box 197  
Floyd VA 24091  
40  
Floyd

- \* -

Harris & Moss  
H & M Nursery  
Route 1, Box 1044  
Danville VA 24541  
4  
Danville

- \* -

Audrey S. Dahle & R.M. Sprinkle  
Green Acre Nursery  
3901 Holland Road  
Suffolk VA 23434  
1  
Suffolk

- \* -

A.S. Allen  
Caledonia Gardens  
Route 3 Box 46  
Amelia VA 23002  
1  
Amelia

- \* -

George Ames  
G & G Nursery  
Box 815  
Eastville VA 23347  
1  
Northampton

- \* -

W.J. Arguin  
McLean Nurseries  
1821 Kirby Road  
McLean VA 22101  
1  
Fairfax

- \* -  
Walter D. Arnold  
Haynesfield Nurseries  
PO Box 846  
Bristol TN 37621  
50  
Smyth

- \* -  
M. A. Bacher  
760 Applewood Lane  
Great Falls VA 22066  
1  
Fairfax

- \* -  
Walter E. Barbee  
Evergreen Farm  
10644 Gunston Road  
Lorton VA 22079  
2  
Fairfax

- \* -  
Stuart Barrell  
Route 2, Box 185  
Etlan VA 22719  
1  
Madison

- \* -  
Robert Bauserman  
Bauserman Conifer Farm  
North Main St., PO Box 55  
Edinburg VA 22824  
30  
Shenandoah

- \* -  
Dannie Beebe  
Beebe Landscape Design  
Route 4, Box 238-C  
Charlottesville VA 22901  
1  
Charlottesville

- \* -  
Gordon Bennett  
Bennett's Nursery, Inc.  
PO Box 216  
Vienna VA 22180  
4  
FAirfax

- \* -  
Ms. James E. Askew  
Askew's Nursery  
1665 Old Buckroe Road  
Hampton VA 23664  
2  
Hampton

- \* -  
Thomas Bagwell  
D & M Nursery  
RFD 1, Box 285  
Onancock VA 23417  
1  
Accomack

- \* -  
C. Keeton Barnes  
Route 1, Box 530  
Washington VA 22747  
4  
Rappahannock

- \* -  
David M. Bartley  
Long Meadow Nursery  
Route 2, Box 340  
Waynesboro VA 22980  
1  
Waynesboro

- \* -  
Richard C. Beaton  
laurelton Greenhouses  
Route 4, Box 424  
Gretna VA 24557  
1  
Pittsylvania

- \* -  
Frederick L. Belden  
Ewell Farm Nurseries  
PO Box 87  
Norge VA 23127  
5  
James City

- \* -  
J. Edward Bennett  
Bennett Evergreen Gardens  
1712Collingwood Road  
Alexandria VA 22308  
1  
Alexandria

- \* -  
R.W. Askew  
R.W. Askew Nurseries  
108 Longwood Ave  
Suffolk VA 23434  
75  
Suffolk

- \* -  
Donald Bakker  
Bakker's Acres  
Route 3, Box 787  
King George VA 22485  
2  
King George

- \* -  
Ernest L. Barnett  
Barnett & Son Tree Company  
128 Club Drive  
Quinton VA 23141  
1  
New Kent

- \* -  
Charles Batcheler  
Northern Virginia Nursery, Inc.  
Route 2, Box 310  
Hokesville VA 22123  
22  
Prince William

- \* -  
Dr. Peter Beckjord  
Sweet Chaos Farm  
Route 1 Box 172  
Bluemont VA 22012  
1  
Loudoun

- \* -  
Walter C. Bell, JR.  
Bell's Farm Nursery  
4038 Harborwood Road  
Salem VA 24153  
3  
Salem

- \* -  
Pearson B. Bennett  
1903 Beullah Road  
Vienna VA 22180  
1  
Fairfax

- \* -  
 Harold M. Brown  
 Buffalo Creek Nursery  
 Route 1  
 Forest VA 24551  
 2  
 Bedford

- \* -  
 Lloyd N. Browning  
 Lloyd's Plant Farm  
 1524 Hickory Hill Road  
 Petersburg VA 23802  
 1  
 Prince George

- \* -  
 Thomas Burford  
 Burford Brothers Nursery  
 Route 1  
 Monroe VA 24574  
 2  
 Amherst

- \* -  
 Lee S. Burnop  
 Lee S. Burnop Nursery  
 Route 1  
 Marion VA 24354  
 8  
 Smyth

- \* -  
 Mrs. Scot Butler  
 Bluemont Boxwoods  
 PO Box 190  
 Bluemont VA 22012  
 1  
 Loudoun

- \* -  
 Marvin Carden, II  
 Blue Ribbon Christmas Farms  
 P.O. Box 208  
 Christiansburg VA 24073  
 20  
 Floyd

- \* -  
 J.E. Cartwright  
 Cartwright's Nursery  
 Box 745, Route 1  
 Saluda VA 23149  
 3  
 Gloucester

- \* -  
 Irene Brown  
 6942 Connie Drive  
 Roanoke VA 24019  
 50  
 Floyd

- \* -  
 J.G. Bruce  
 Hanover Farms Nursery  
 Route 1, Box 1120  
 Rockville VA 23146  
 5  
 Hanover

- \* -  
 E.D. Burgin  
 Woodland Hill Tree Farm  
 Route 1, Box 214  
 Woolwine VA 14185  
 50  
 Patrick

- \* -  
 W. & B. Butcher  
 Shenandoah Nursery  
 PO Box 213  
 Broadway VA 22815  
 1  
 Rockingham

- \* -  
 Pauline M. Buxton  
 Buxton's Sugar Hollow Nursery  
 Route 2, Box 330  
 Crozet VA 22932  
 1  
 Charlottesville

- \* -  
 George Carter  
 Ivy Nursery, Inc.  
 570 Broomley Road  
 Charlottesville VA 22901  
 7  
 Charlottesville

- \* -  
 Billy Jean Carty  
 The Greenway Nursery  
 Box 56  
 Rocky Gap VA 24366  
 1  
 Bland

- \* -  
 Ormonde Brown  
 Little Elf Nursery  
 102 Pine Cone Drive  
 Huddleston VA 24104  
 3  
 Bedford

- \* -  
 Jim Burch  
 Landscape Development Company  
 16307 Carrs Mill Road  
 Woodbine MD 21797  
 5  
 Accomack

- \* -  
 G. Burkhardt  
 Burkhardt's Nursery, Inc.  
 Route 1, Box 365  
 Hurt VA 24563  
 40  
 Pittsylvania

- \* -  
 J.T. Butler  
 J.T. Butler Nursery  
 920 Oklahoma Drive  
 Chesapeake VA 23323  
 1  
 Chesapeake

- \* -  
 E.A. Byrne  
 Prosper Pine Farms  
 8924 Ox Road, Route 123  
 Lorton VA 22079  
 1  
 Fairfax

- \* -  
 C.P. Cartwright  
 2701 Mark Street  
 Chesapeake VA 23324  
 2  
 Chesapeake

- \* -  
 E. & W. Carwile  
 Carwiles Nursery  
 11423 Scotland Lane  
 Glen Allen VA 23060  
 2  
 Henrico

<p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Cecil Case Cases Nursery 8521 Woodlawn Court Alexandria VA 22309 5 Alexandria</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Robin B. Chase Highlander Nursery Route 1, Box 206 Pilot VA 24138 12 Montgomery</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Reginald Clark Copper Hill VA 24079 150 Floyd</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Stephen Cockerham Betty's Azalea Ranch 12507 Lee Highway Fairfax VA 22030 2 Fairfax</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>William &amp; J. Cole Cole Nurseries 5012 Lee Highway, RT. 15 Bristol VA 24201 30 Washington</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Howard Conklin Conklin's Nursery Route 1, Box 1119 Weems VA 22576 1 Lancaster</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Edward F. Connor Blandy Experimental Farm Boyce VA 22620 1 Clarke</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Cecil C. Case Hybla Valley Nursery 2801 Beacon Hill Road Alexandria VA 22306 3 Alexandria</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>C.D. Chittum Chittum's Greenhouses Route 1, Box 50 Hayes VA 23072 1 Gloucester</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Woodrow W. Clark Copper Hill Nursery Route 1 Box 12 Copper Hill VA 24075 1 Floyd</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Mrs. E.E. Colbert 4733 Old Dominion Drive Arlington VA 22207 1 Arlington</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Edmund M. Coleman Rapidan Berry Gardens PO Box 55 Rapidan VA 22723 6 Culpeper</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Howard Conklin Conklin's Nursery Route 1, Box 1119 Weems VA 22576 1 Lancaster</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Bertram Cooper Chota Koti Garden 8524 Overbrook Road Fairfax VA 22030 1 Fairfax City</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>K. &amp; B. Charnock The Charnock's Nurseries Box 437 Belle Haven VA 23306 1 Accomack</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Lewis D. Clark 2026 Mayfield Dr SE Roanoke VA 24014 1 Roanoke County</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>J.S. Coartney White Oak Grove Nursery Routl Riner VA 24149 200 Montgomery</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Thomas I. Cole C/O Audrey E. Cole 2903 Chain Bridge Road Oakton VA 22124 1 Fairfax</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>John G. Collins Hedgerow Hill Nursery 5060 Lee Highway Bristol VA 24201 3 Washington</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>R.L. Connelly Connelly's Nursery 4912 Hickory Road Petersburg VA 23803 1 Chesterfield</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Ronald Cooper York Ridge Tree Farm &amp; Nursery Route 2, Box 284 Mouth of Wilson VA 24363 10 Grayson</p>
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- \* -  
 Union Camp Corporation  
 Union Camp Nursery  
 Routel, Box 129  
 Capron VA 23829  
 22  
 Southhampton

- \* -  
 David Cox  
 Cox's Nursery  
 3500 Prices Fork Road  
 Blacksburg VA 24060  
 3  
 Montgomery

- \* -  
 M. D. Crosby  
 3517 Prosperity Avenue  
 Fairfax VA 22030  
 1  
 Fairfac City

- \* -  
 Elizabeth Cummings  
 Wild Gardens  
 PO Box 277  
 Aldie VA 22001  
 5  
 Loudoun

- \* -  
 Jim Curtis  
 Lost Corner Nursery, Inc.  
 Route 4, Box 196  
 Leesburg VA 22075  
 10  
 Loudoun

- \* -  
 A. & V. Daughtry  
 Blue Ridge Nursery  
 1505 Blue Ridge Rd.  
 Chesapeake VA 23322  
 2  
 Chesapeake

- \* -  
 T.W. Davis/M.L. Hardy  
 Davis & Hardy Nursery  
 Route 6, Box 1922  
 Danville VA 24541  
 10  
 Danville

- \* -  
 Harry E. Corr  
 Roadview Farm Nursery, Inc.  
 PO Box 966  
 Gloucester VA 23061  
 15  
 Gloucester

- \* -  
 John C. Cox  
 Route 3, Box 383  
 Hillsville VA 24343  
 10  
 Carroll

- \* -  
 Richard Crouch  
 Crouch's Nursery  
 Route 5, Box 498  
 Bassett VA 24055  
 1  
 Henry

- \* -  
 Blair W. Cupp  
 Wolftrap Nursery, Inc.  
 9439 Leesburg Pike  
 Vienna VA 22180  
 1  
 Fairfax

- \* -  
 Bob Daley  
 C.F. Daley & Son  
 PO Box 162  
 Tasley VA 23441  
 5  
 Accomack

- \* -  
 Claude & James Davis  
 Davis Bros. Nursery, Inc.  
 Route 2, Box 340  
 Rose Hill VA 24281  
 70  
 Lee

- \* -  
 Tom De Baggio  
 Earthworks  
 923 North Ivy Street  
 Arlington VA 22201  
 1  
 Arlington

- \* -  
 Everett S. Cortright  
 Route 1, Box 301C  
 Marshall VA 22115  
 1  
 Fauquier

- \* -  
 Victor L. Crim  
 Crim's Nursery  
 Route 1, Box 146-G  
 Clearbrook VA 22624  
 4  
 Frederick

- \* -  
 Thomas M. Crowell  
 Crowell Nursery  
 1622 10 St. NW  
 Roanoke VA 24012  
 5  
 Roanoke

- \* -  
 Kevin Currie  
 Evelynnton Associates  
 Route 2, Box 145  
 Charles City VA 23030  
 10  
 Charles City

- \* -  
 William M. Daley  
 Broadleaf Gardens  
 RD#2, Box 7-B  
 Onancock VA 23417  
 10  
 Accomack

- \* -  
 Ray C. Davis  
 Davis Lawn Services, Inc.  
 PO Box 1  
 Mechanicsville VA 23111  
 1  
 Hanover

- \* -  
 John B. Deaton  
 Manakin VA 23103  
 75  
 Goochland



- \* -  
 Charles S. Dehaven  
 Dehaven Nursery, Inc.  
 Route 8, Box 690  
 Winchester VA 22601  
 5  
 Frederick

- \* -  
 H.J. Devos  
 Mountain View Nursery  
 Route 1, Box 39  
 Greenville VA 24440  
 8  
 Augusta

- \* -  
 George E. Dodrill  
 6003 Balsam Drive  
 McLean VA 22101  
 1  
 Fairfax

- \* -  
 Fred Duis  
 The Duis Nursery  
 Route 1, Box 387-A  
 Bedford VA 24523  
 20  
 Bedford

- \* -  
 James E. Mays  
 Virginia Beach Vineyards  
 5320 Gale Drive  
 Virginia Beach VA 23462  
 1  
 Virginia Beach

- \* -  
 Lloyd C. Edwards  
 Pee Wee Nursery  
 3221 Grove Avenue  
 Chester VA 23831  
 1  
 Chesterfield

- \* -  
 Elliot & Elliot  
 Cedarville Nursery  
 3217 Cedarville Road  
 Chesapeake VA 23320  
 1  
 Chesapeake

- \* -  
 W.E. Dennis  
 Dennis Nursery  
 Box 88  
 Mattsville VA 23483  
 10  
 Accomack

- \* -  
 C.M. & B.S. Dixon  
 Shenandoah Valley & F.N.  
 Route 1, Box 142  
 McGaheysville VA 22840  
 1  
 Rockingham

- \* -  
 James R. Doughty  
 Forest Grove Nursery  
 RFD Box 487  
 Painter VA 23420  
 2  
 Accomack

- \* -  
 W.E. Dunton  
 W.E. Dunton Nursery  
 RFD 1, Box 163  
 Exmore VA 23350  
 1  
 Northampton

- \* -  
 Byard Early  
 Early Nursery  
 Route 3, Box 111  
 Dayton VA 22821  
 2  
 Rockingham

- \* -  
 Norman V. Edwards  
 Rolling Oaks Farm  
 5500 Twin Hickory Lane  
 Glen Allen VA 23060  
 5  
 Henrico

- \* -  
 R. Emory  
 Holiday Tree Farm  
 4701 Cheverly Court  
 Virginia Beach VA 23464  
 4  
 Virginia Beach

- \* -  
 Margaret Dereski  
 Arlington Road  
 Hopewell VA 23860  
 1  
 Hopewell

- \* -  
 H. Walter Dobyms  
 Allison's Greenhouse  
 Route 4, Box 66  
 Dublin VA 24084  
 1  
 Pulaskie

- \* -  
 C.M. Driver  
 Driver Brothers, Inc.  
 Route 6, Box 486-C  
 Staunton VA 24401  
 2  
 Staunton

- \* -  
 Gary H. Duren  
 Danville landscape Nursery  
 PO Box 206  
 Danville VA 24541  
 15  
 Danville

- \* -  
 Byard Early  
 Early Nursery  
 Route 3, Box 111  
 Dayton VA 22821  
 2  
 Rockingham

- \* -  
 Henry Eiden  
 Blumenbau Nursery  
 Route 1, Box 186  
 Earlys ville VA 22936  
 2  
 Albemarle

- \* -  
 Wm. H. Englander  
 Beech Hill Farm  
 Route 1, Box 281  
 Remington VA 22734  
 20  
 Fauquier

- \* -  
 Sally A. Evans  
 Evans Evergreen Nursery  
 Route 1, Box 60C  
 Providence Forge VA 23140  
 2  
 New Kent

- \* -  
 J. Ferrara  
 Campbell & Ferrara Nursery  
 6651 Little River Turnpike  
 Alexandria VA 22312  
 60  
 Fairfax

- \* -  
 C.F. Flemer III,  
 Ingleside Plantation Nursery  
 PO Box 1038  
 Oak Grove VA 22443  
 800  
 Westmoreland

- \* -  
 Randy & Terry Fogle  
 Fort Valley Nursery  
 HC-60 Box 3766  
 Fort Valley VA 22652  
 16  
 Shenandoah

- \* -  
 Arthur W. Frazer  
 Columbia Nursery  
 1903 Marthas Road  
 Alexandria VA 22307  
 1  
 Fairfax

- \* -  
 R.B. Fuller  
 Fuller Nursery  
 501 North Ivy Avenue  
 Highland Spring VA 23075  
 1  
 Henrico

- \* -  
 Robie Gallimore  
 Horse Ridge Nursery  
 Route 1, Box 30  
 Indian Valley VA 24105  
 25  
 Floyd

- \* -  
 J.B. Farrar  
 Route 1, Box 76  
 Blackstone VA 23824  
 1  
 Nottoway

- \* -  
 Nancy V. Firestone  
 Homewood Nursery  
 PO Box 428  
 Troutville VA 24175  
 6  
 Botetourt

- \* -  
 Herman Fletcher  
 Little Five Azalea Farm  
 4303 Fauquier Ave  
 Richmond VA 23227  
 8  
 Henrico

- \* -  
 Randy & Terry Fogle  
 Fort Valley Nursery  
 Fort Valley Route, Box 311  
 Saint Davids Ch. VA 22652  
 16  
 Shenandoah

- \* -  
 Linda Frederick  
 Blue Ridge Wood Nursery  
 Route 1, Box 246  
 Pilot VA 24138  
 38  
 Floyd

- \* -  
 Samuel M. Gaddy  
 Colesville Nursery, Inc.  
 PO Box 208  
 Ashland VA 23005  
 10  
 Hanover

- \* -  
 Manning Gasch  
 Orchard Spring Nursery  
 8501 Georgetown Pike  
 Mclean VA 22102  
 2  
 Fairfax

- \* -  
 Lee Fentress  
 London Bridge Greenhouses  
 105 N. Great Neck Road  
 Virginia Beach VA 23454  
 1  
 Virginia Beach

- \* -  
 John Fitzpatrick  
 Thomas Jefferson Mem. Foundation  
 PO Box 316  
 Charlottesville VA 22902  
 1  
 Charlottesville

- \* -  
 Paul O. Flynn  
 Flynn Azalea Garden, Inc.  
 3000 Skipwith Road  
 Richmond VA 23229  
 4  
 Henrico

- \* -  
 Jack Foster  
 J.P. Foster Nursery, Inc.  
 442 S. Battlefield Blvd.  
 Chesapeake VA 23320  
 1  
 Chesapeake

- \* -  
 James R. Frith  
 Skyline Evergreen Farm  
 4919 North 14TH Street  
 Arlington VA 22205  
 40  
 Arlington

- \* -  
 Monroe Gallimore  
 Gallimore's Nursery  
 Indian Valley VA 24105  
 2  
 Floyd

- \* -  
 William H. Gaskins, Jr.  
 Gaskins Nursery  
 Route 3, Box 173  
 Emporia VA 23847  
 1  
 Emporia

- \* -  
 William F. Geier  
 Atlantic Landscape Nursery  
 Route 1, Box 1303  
 White Stone VA 22578  
 1  
 Lancaster

- \* -  
 Mr. & Mrs. George Cadiero  
 Kelso Station Nursery  
 Route 2, Box 108  
 Bedford VA 24523  
 1  
 Bedford

- \* -  
 R.V. Gillispie, Jr.  
 Junction Nursery  
 Route 1  
 Cascade VA 24069  
 5  
 Pittsylvania

- \* -  
 Ralph L. Godwin  
 Ralph L. Godwin Nursery  
 Box 1  
 Bloxom VA 23308  
 2  
 Accomack

- \* -  
 D. Grandstaff  
 Hayfield Nursery  
 Route 2, Box 408  
 Winchester VA 22601  
 8  
 Frederick

- \* -  
 David Greene  
 Greene House Nursery  
 RFD Box 119  
 Parksley VA 23421  
 2  
 Accomack

- \* -  
 Don Hager  
 Hager Nurseries, Inc.  
 RFD 5, Box 2000  
 Spotsylvania VA 22553  
 5  
 Spotsylvania

- \* -  
 General Booth, Inc.  
 Great Big Greenhouse & Nursery  
 1291 Ferrell Parkway  
 Virginia Beach VA 23454  
 10  
 Virginia Beach

- \* -  
 James E. Gillespie  
 Gillespie Gardens  
 401 Pelham Drive  
 Waynesboro VA 22980  
 1  
 Augusta

- \* -  
 Leonard C. Goad  
 Goad's Nursery  
 PO Box 8  
 Indian Valley VA 24105  
 50  
 Floyd

- \* -  
 Clyde Goode  
 Swift Creek Berry Farm  
 17210 Genito Road  
 Moseley VA 23120  
 1  
 Chesterfield

- \* -  
 Wilburn B. Graves  
 Graves Plant Farm  
 Route 1, Box 498-B  
 Mechanicsville VA 23111  
 5  
 Hanover

- \* -  
 Richard Griffith  
 Aslan Nursery  
 Route 1, Box 111-B  
 Pamplin City VA 23958  
 1  
 Appomattox

- \* -  
 David W. Hale  
 Beaver Creek Nursery  
 Route 2, Box 407  
 Floyd VA 24091  
 50  
 Floyd

- \* -  
 Paul Genovese  
 Plant Factory & Nursery  
 PO Box 64157  
 Virginia Beach VA 23464  
 3  
 Virginia Beach

- \* -  
 Frances C. Gillispie  
 PO Box 474  
 Chase City VA 23924  
 1  
 Mecklenburg

- \* -  
 Robert Godsey  
 Flatridge Farms, Inc.  
 Route 1, Box 66  
 Troutdale VA 24378  
 62  
 Grayson

- \* -  
 Richard Goode  
 Chesterfield Berry Farm  
 20501 Skinquarter Road  
 Moseley VA 23120  
 1  
 Chesterfield

- \* -  
 W.A. Gray  
 Brecknock Nursery  
 485 Gillums Ridge Road  
 Charlottesville VA 22901  
 2  
 Albemarle

- \* -  
 W.T. Grunwell  
 3701 Prosperity Avenue  
 Fairfax VA 22031  
 1  
 Fairfax City

- \* -  
 Granville L. Hall  
 Route 6, Box 7365  
 Gloucester VA 23061  
 4  
 Gloucester

- \* -  
 E.T. Hickman, JR.  
 Hickman Nursery  
 Box 2A  
 Oak Hall VA 23416  
 1  
 Accomack

- \* -  
 Richard M. Hicks  
 PO Box 580  
 North VA 23128  
 7  
 Mathews

- \* -  
 J. & H. Hill  
 Hills Nursery & Camelia Garden  
 1722 N. Glebe Rd.  
 Arlington VA 22207  
 17  
 Fairfax

- \* -  
 Richard M. Hobgood  
 PO Box 437  
 Buffalo Junction VA 24529  
 1  
 Mecklenburg

- \* -  
 K. Hollandsworth  
 Hollandsworth Nursery  
 Route 2  
 Willis VA 24380  
 125  
 Floyd

- \* -  
 Lanzia Horton, Sr.  
 Horton's Nursery & Tree Farms  
 Route 1, Box 29  
 Hillsville VA 24343  
 10  
 Carroll

- \* -  
 D.M. Hubbard  
 Hubbard's Landscape Service  
 Route 3, Box 315  
 Troutville VA 24175  
 2  
 Botetourt

- \* -  
 James T. Hicks  
 Hicks Tree Farm  
 Route 1, Box 290  
 Saltville VA 24370  
 10  
 Smyth

- \* -  
 Mrs. F.M. Hickson  
 F.M. Hickson & Son  
 Route 3  
 Nathalie VA 24577  
 HALIFAX  
 30

- \* -  
 Mike Hinson  
 Meadow Creek Tree Farm  
 RT. 1, Box 188  
 New Castle VA 24127  
 18  
 Craig

- \* -  
 R.A. Hoenig  
 Indian Creek Nursery  
 3300 Indian Creek Road  
 Virginia Beach VA 23457  
 1  
 Virginia Beach

- \* -  
 Tom Holman  
 Boulderbrook Gardens  
 Route 1, Box 758  
 Dinwiddie VA 23841  
 1  
 Dinwiddie

- \* -  
 Russell Howell  
 Howell's Evergreen Nursery  
 HC67, Box 43A  
 Floyd VA 24091  
 100  
 Floyd

- \* -  
 W. M. Hudgins  
 Box 28  
 Hayes VA 23072  
 3  
 Gloucester

- \* -  
 Mrs. Jack H. Hicks  
 Route 2, Box 505  
 Evington VA 24550  
 1  
 Campbell

- \* -  
 Donald G. Hile  
 Gla-Don Plants  
 Route 3, Box 1159  
 Gloucester VA 23061  
 2  
 Gloucester

- \* -  
 Wiley A. Hinson  
 Salem Nursery  
 2275 Salem Road  
 Virginia Beach VA 23456  
 1  
 Virginia Beach

- \* -  
 Eugene Hogge  
 Greenbrier Farms, Inc.  
 201 Hickory Road West  
 Chesapeake VA 23322  
 675  
 Chesapeake

- \* -  
 Jean Holt  
 Ashland Greenhouses  
 PO Box 874  
 Ashland VA 23005  
 3  
 Hanover

- \* -  
 Donovan Hower  
 Gobbler's Nob  
 Route 3, Box 14A  
 McDowell VA 24458  
 40  
 Highland

- \* -  
 William T. Hudgins  
 Clay's Garden Center  
 Route 1, Box 11-F  
 Blackstone VA 23824  
 3  
 Nottoway

- \* -  
 Frank L. Huerta  
 Frank L. Huerta Nursery  
 3001 Bray Road  
 Virginia Beach VA 23452  
 1  
 Virginia Beach

- \* -  
 Wayne Hughes  
 Lilac Farms  
 Route 1, Box 1117  
 Rhoadesville VA 22542  
 6  
 Orange

- \* -  
 D.W. Hyatt  
 Stonehouse Creek Nursery  
 1948 Lorraine Avenue  
 McLean VA 22101  
 2  
 Fairfax

- \* -  
 Ron Jenkins  
 New Kent Forestry Ct.  
 Route 2, Box 42-A  
 Providence Forge VA 23140  
 125  
 New Kent

- \* -  
 Mrs. J.M. Johnson  
 1817 West 45th Street  
 Richmond VA 23225  
 1  
 Chesterfield

- \* -  
 D.J. Jones  
 Olive Hill Farm Nurseries  
 7301 River Road  
 Matoaca VA 23803  
 2  
 Chesterfield

- \* -  
 H. Dean Jones  
 Jones Nursery Company  
 PO Box 13571  
 Roanoke VA 24035  
 1  
 Roanoke

- \* -  
 Clarence Huff  
 Route 1, Box 53  
 Indian Valley VA 24105  
 28  
 Floyd

- \* -  
 Bob Hurst  
 Timbercreek Farm  
 Route 5, Box 339  
 Charlottesville VA 22901  
 40  
 Albemarle

- \* -  
 Mike Jackson  
 Panorama Farms Nursery  
 Route 1, Box 11  
 Ashburn VA 22011  
 10  
 Loudoun

- \* -  
 C.V. Johnson  
 Johnson's Nursery  
 Box 85  
 Crewe VA 23930  
 2  
 Nottoway

- \* -  
 Raymond Johnson  
 Johnson's Flowers, Inc.  
 3201 Holland Road  
 Suffolk VA 23434  
 2  
 Suffolk

- \* -  
 David W. Jones  
 Blackwater Nursery  
 PO Box 465  
 Boones Mill VA 24065  
 2  
 Franklin

- \* -  
 Henry B. Jones  
 Stringwood Landscape Nursery  
 Route 1, Box 242  
 Carrsville VA 23315  
 1  
 Isle of Wight

- \* -  
 H.B. Huggins  
 Historyland Nursery, Inc.  
 Route 1, Box 485  
 Montross VA 22520  
 15  
 Westmoreland

- \* -  
 Gary M. Hutt  
 Red Oak Nurseries  
 Rt 2 Box 374  
 Montross VA 22520  
 3  
 Westmoreland

- \* -  
 C.D. Jefferson  
 Glen Mary Nursery, Inc.  
 PO Box 208  
 Nellysford VA 22958  
 130  
 Nelson

- \* -  
 Inez S. Johnson  
 Coves Head Nursery  
 Box 127  
 Kinsale VA 22488  
 1  
 Westmoreland

- \* -  
 Bill K. Jones  
 Riverview Farm  
 PO Box 82  
 Hiltons VA 24258  
 15  
 Scott

- \* -  
 E. W. Jones  
 Jones Nursery  
 PO Box 103  
 Woodlawn VA 24381  
 10  
 Carroll

- \* -  
 Lester Jones  
 Jones Greenhouse  
 Route 2, Box 437  
 Cana VA 24317  
 1  
 Carroll

- \* -  
Nancy Letteri  
Springwood Gardens  
4300 Springwood Drive  
Free Union VA 22940  
1  
Albemarle

- \* -  
Jim Lewis  
J. Lewis & Sons  
Route 1, Box 44  
Cascade VA 24069  
1  
Pittsylvania

- \* -  
Raymond Lewis  
Accawmacke Ornamentals  
P.O. Box 4  
Tasley VA 23441  
4  
Accomack

- \* -  
E.T. Lilliston  
E.T. Lilliston Nursery  
Box 125  
Onancock VA 23417  
1  
Accomack

- \* -  
John L. Machen  
Mobjack Nurseries  
Route 660  
Mobjack VA 23118  
50  
Mathews

- \* -  
Randy Marks  
Garden Design Company  
Route 1, Box 144  
Culpeper VA 22701  
11  
Culpeper

- \* -  
Mr. Marsland  
Frank Marsland Nursery  
25 Balmoral Dr.  
Hampton VA 23669  
1  
Hampton

- \* -  
A.H. Lewis  
Sea Bay Nursery  
PO Box 8  
Bloxom VA 23308  
4  
Accomack

- \* -  
Leo Lewis  
Holly Hill Nursery  
2509 Horner Road  
Woodbridge VA 22191  
2  
Prince William

- \* -  
E.G. Lewis, Inc.  
Yeatts Nursery  
Route 1, Box 66  
Martinsville VA 24112  
17  
Henry

- \* -  
John Link  
Belvins Nursery  
3005 Bray Road  
Virginia Beach VA 23452  
2  
Virginia Beach

- \* -  
R. D. Mahone  
Williamsburg Nursery  
Box 751  
Williamsburg VA 23187  
3  
James City

- \* -  
CJ & DC Marshall  
Native Evergreen Nursery  
Willis VA 24380  
200  
Floyd

- \* -  
Mrs. Walter L. Massie  
225 Woodson Lane  
Lynchburg VA 24503  
1  
Campbell

- \* -  
Herbert Lewis  
Lewis Nurseries  
Cascade VA 24069  
100  
Pittsylvania

- \* -  
Leo Lewis  
Holly Hill Nursery  
2509 Horner Road  
Woodbridge VA 22191  
2  
Prince William

- \* -  
J.H. Lewis, Jr.  
Lewis Landscape Service  
Cascade VA 24069  
3  
Pittsylvania

- \* -  
Mrs. Harold Little  
Box 757  
Tappahannock VA 22560  
1  
Essex

- \* -  
M.W. & Diane Mann  
Maple Hollow Greenhouse  
Route 4, Box 132  
Gretna VA 24557  
1  
Pittsylvania

- \* -  
Ernie Marshall  
Marshall Nurseries  
PO Box 92  
Riner VA 24149  
600  
Radford

- \* -  
Plato P. Mathews  
Mathews Greenhouse, Inc.  
2737 Bunch Walnuts Road  
Chesapeake VA 23322  
3  
Cheapeake

- \* -  
 Rich Mathis  
 Brook Hill Landscapes  
 PO Box 15239  
 Richmond VA 23227  
 5  
 Richmond City

- \* -  
 Ed Maurer  
 Westmoreland Davis Memorial  
 Route 3, Box 50  
 Leesburg VA 22075  
 1  
 Loudoun

- \* -  
 L. McAllister  
 McAllister Landscape Service  
 Route 3, Box 49  
 Wytheville VA 24382  
 1  
 Wythe

- \* -  
 Michael McConkey  
 Edible Landscaping  
 PO Box 77  
 Afton VA 22920  
 1  
 Nelson

- \* -  
 Stanley Mercer  
 Mercer's Nursery  
 Route 1, Box 717  
 Atkins VA 24311  
 25  
 Pittsylvania

- \* -  
 G.B. Midkiff  
 "Bob Pond" Blueberry Farm  
 P.O. Box 331  
 Rich Creek VA 24147  
 5  
 Giles

- \* -  
 Gilbert Miles  
 The Greenhouse  
 PO Box 66  
 Glen Allen VA 23060  
 2  
 Henrico

- \* -  
 Archie Matthews  
 C & M Nursery  
 1668 Mt. Pleasant Road  
 Chesapeake VA 23322  
 2  
 Chesapeake

- \* -  
 Mrs. L.H. Maynard  
 Spring Hill Farm  
 Route 2, Box 1275  
 Hanover VA 23069  
 4  
 Hanover

- \* -  
 Patricia McBee  
 Five Corners Nursery  
 1117 Brookwood Lane  
 Waynesboro VA 22980  
 1  
 Waynesboro

- \* -  
 Jeff McCormack  
 Southern Exposure Seed  
 PO Box 158  
 North Garden VA 22959  
 1  
 Albemarle

- \* -  
 William B. Meredith, Jr.  
 Route 2, Box 314  
 Mineral VA 23117  
 2  
 Louisa

- \* -  
 Jean Mihalyka  
 Cherrycore  
 Cheriton VA 23316  
 1  
 Northampton

- \* -  
 David L. Miller  
 Millers' Nurseries  
 Route 2, Box 127 B  
 Moneta VA 24121  
 1  
 Bedford

- \* -  
 Thomas J. Matthews  
 Matthews Nursery  
 PO Box 47  
 Mattsville VA 23483  
 3  
 Accomack

- \* -  
 William N. Mays  
 Sunnyside Boxwood Farm  
 PO Box 68  
 Amherst VA 24521  
 35  
 Amherst

- \* -  
 Wayne McBee  
 Augusta Forestry Ct.  
 PO Box 9028  
 Crimora VA 24431  
 88  
 Augusta

- \* -  
 K. McDonald, Jr.  
 Lemac Nurseries, Inc.  
 PO Box 268  
 Hampton VA 23669  
 25  
 Hampton

- \* -  
 Steven P. Middleton  
 Turpin Nursery  
 PO Box 38  
 Floyd VA 24091  
 30  
 Floyd

- \* -  
 Dave W. Milam  
 Three Springs Farm  
 7249 Wilson Road  
 Boones Mill VA 24065  
 10  
 Franklin

- \* -  
 Jeff Miller  
 Laurel Creek Nursery  
 PO Box 10291, Route 114  
 Blacksburg VA 24062-0291  
 460  
 Montgomery

- \* -  
S.L. Miller  
Canna International of Melfa  
Box 487  
Melfa VA 23410  
10  
Accomack

- \* -  
James H. Montgomery  
Montgomery's Nursery  
Route 1  
Boones Mill VA 24065  
2  
Franklin

- \* -  
J.M. Moseley,  
The Marshall Place  
Route 2, Box 93  
Dillwyn VA 23936  
1  
Buckingham

- \* -  
Corry Mulligan  
Pinesong Azaleas  
107 Quaker Meeting House Rd.  
Williamsburg VA 23185  
1  
James City

- \* -  
William K. Neal  
The Tankard Nurseries  
PO Box 649  
Exmore VA 23350  
500  
Northampton

- \* -  
Lynnwood Norris  
Norland Nursery  
PO Box 535  
Wakefield VA 23888  
1  
Sussex

- \* -  
Robert T. O'Keefe  
Rifton Farm & Nursery  
Route 1, Box 245  
Pilot VA 24138  
20  
Floyd

- \* -  
Bill Minor  
Smalts Garden Center  
422 National Ave.  
Winchester VA 22601  
2  
Frederick

- \* -  
A.J. Moody  
Wayside Nursery & Craft Shop  
Route 1, Box 9  
South Hill VA 23970  
1  
Mecklenburg

- \* -  
Dorothy Mueller  
1350 N. Washington Street  
Highland Spring VA 23075  
1  
Henrico

- \* -  
John & Susan Mullin  
Ridgeway Farm  
Route 2, Box 80  
Brookneal VA 24528  
25  
Charlotte

- \* -  
Thomas F. Neil  
White Oak Nurseries, Inc.  
12521 Lee Highway  
Manassas VA 22110  
1  
Prince William

- \* -  
William G. O'Brien  
117 Magnolia  
Franklin VA 23851  
1  
Southampton

- \* -  
VA Department Of Forestry  
Garland Gray Forestry Center  
Route 2, Box 111  
Courtland VA 23837  
80  
Southland

- \* -  
Kerry Moles  
Willow Tree Nursery, Inc.  
Route 1, Box 108  
Penhook VA 24137  
5  
Franklin

- \* -  
C.T. Mooney  
Crowder & Mooney Nursery  
Route 1 Box 43  
Baskerville VA 23915  
1  
Mecklenburg

- \* -  
Margaret Lee Mulick  
Williston Nursery  
Orange VA 22960  
5  
Orange

- \* -  
Emmett M. Myers  
Myers Nursery  
1460 Bridge Point Trail  
Suffolk VA 23432  
1  
Suffolk

- \* -  
D.R. Nichols  
Route 1, Box 89  
Floyd VA 24091  
30  
Floyd

- \* -  
Mrs. Susan O'Hara  
Littlefield Gardeners  
2115 White Oaks Drive  
Alexandria VA 22306  
1  
Alexandria

- \* -  
Randy Osborne  
Old Towne Gardens  
Route 1, Box 245  
Independence VA 24348  
10  
Grayson



- \* -  
J.R. Prillaman  
Prillaman Nursery  
Box 987 Figsboro Road  
Martinsville VA 24114  
16  
Henry

- \* -  
F.W. Quaiff  
7232 Hopkins Road  
Richmond VA 23237  
1  
Chesterfield

- \* -  
Harold E. Rapczyk  
Hal & Bea Nursery  
RT 1, Box 98  
White Post VA 22663  
3  
Clarke

- \* -  
Claude Reeson  
C.W. Reeson Nursery  
Spring Grove VA 23881  
1  
Surry

- \* -  
Jack Richardson  
Dancing Creek Nursery  
2067 Logan Street  
Bon Air VA 23235  
1  
Chesterfield

- \* -  
Janipher Robinson  
PO Box 86  
Ashland VA 23005  
3  
Hanover

- \* -  
David F. Sauer  
14201 Ramblewood Drive  
Chester VA 23831  
2  
Chesterfield

- \* -  
HL & MN Pruitt, Jr.  
Pruitt Landscape Service  
440 Keller Lane  
Marion VA 24354  
20  
Smyth

- \* -  
Ray Quillen  
Waynesboro Nurseries  
PO Box 987  
Waynesboro VA 22980  
1000  
Waynesboro

- \* -  
Roger E. Rardin  
The Tyler Rose  
PO Box 864  
Salem VA 24153  
1  
Roanoke

- \* -  
S. Michael Reynolds  
Crabtree  
1036 Dandridge Drive  
Lynchburg VA 24501  
2  
Lynchburg

- \* -  
Robin A. Rinaca  
Eastern Shore Nursery of Virginia  
Box 69  
Keller VA 23401  
50  
Accomack

- \* -  
Fred Rotenberry  
Rotenberry Plant Farm  
Route 1, Box 72  
Hillsville VA 24343  
1  
Carroll

- \* -  
Paul M. Saunders  
Piney River VA 22964  
15  
Nelson

- \* -  
Philip Purrington  
Commonwealth Nursery  
PO Box 220  
Merry Point VA 22513  
2  
Lancaster

- \* -  
S.E. Quillen  
Waynesboro Landscape Service  
2032 W. Main Street, Box 717  
Waynesboro VA 22980  
15  
Waynesboro

- \* -  
Gabriele Rausse  
Simeon Vineyard, Ltd.  
RFD 9, Box 293  
Charlottesville VA 22901  
2  
Charlottesville

- \* -  
Glenn Richardson  
The Plant Man Ltd.  
3411 Kingsland Road  
Richmond VA 23237  
10  
Chesterfield

- \* -  
Robert E. Lee  
Memorial Association, Inc.  
Stratford Hall  
Stratford VA 22558  
1  
Westmoreland

- \* -  
Benjamin J. Russo  
Benarr Nursery  
PO Box 405  
Winchester VA 22601  
1  
Frederick

- \* -  
E. Martin Schara  
The Great Big Greenhouse  
5405 East Indian River Road  
Virginia Beach VA 23464  
3  
Virginia Beach

- \* -  
James E. Sellers  
Sellers Company Nursery  
1163 Hillwell Road  
Chesapeake VA 23320  
1  
Chesapeake

- \* -  
C.H. Shaffer  
11037 Timberlake Road  
Lynchburg VA 24502  
1  
Lynchburg

- \* -  
Edward A. Shelton, Sr.  
27 Robinson Drive  
Newport News VA 23601  
1  
Newport News

- \* -  
A.J. Shoosmith  
Southside Nurseries, Inc.  
9040 Dorsey Rd.  
Richmond VA 23237  
48  
Chesterfield

- \* -  
Steve Shreckhise  
Shrickhise Shrubbery  
Route 1, Box 230  
Weyers Cave VA 24486  
2  
Augusta

- \* -  
S.F. Simpson, Sr.  
Edgewood Farm Nursery  
318 Poplar Road  
Falmouth VA 22405  
2  
Stafford

- \* -  
Wright Smith  
Blue Ridge Tree Farms  
PO Box 1746  
Wilson NC 27894  
50

- \* -  
Brooks Semple  
Suffield Farm Nursery  
Route 6, Box 271  
Warrenton VA 22186  
24  
Fauquier

- \* -  
R. W. Sharp  
Route 2, Box 566  
The Plains VA 22171  
2  
Fauquier

- \* -  
B.B. Sheppard  
4117 Park Avenue  
Richmond VA 23221  
1  
Henrico

- \* -  
Armen Showalter  
Indian Valley Nursery  
Box 170  
Indian Valley VA 24105  
8  
Floyd

- \* -  
Benji Shumaker  
Buckingham Nurseries  
PO Box 185  
Dillwyn VA 23936  
10  
Buckingham

- \* -  
David A. Sirna  
Walnut Ridge Farm  
PO Box 187  
Clearbrook VA 22624  
15  
Frederick

- \* -  
Archie M. Smith, Jr.  
Meredyth Vineyards  
PO Box 347  
Middleburg VA 22117  
1  
Loudoun

- \* -  
F. Sexauer, Jr.  
Belle Haven Azalea Farm Inc.  
PO Box 367  
Belle Haven VA 23306  
5  
Accomack

- \* -  
W.R. Shelton  
Rural Plains Nursery  
Rt. 7 Box 20  
Mechanicsville VA 23111  
5  
Hanover

- \* -  
P. & T. Sheuchenko  
Lazy S's Farm  
Route 1, Box 334  
Barboursville VA 22923  
8  
Orange

- \* -  
Denise Shreckhise  
Shreck's Ornamentals  
PO Box 43  
Grottoes VA 24441  
10  
Rockingham

- \* -  
Shumaker & Southall  
English Boxwoods of Virginia  
3838 Faculty Drive  
Lynchburg VA 24501  
1  
Lynchburg

- \* -  
Homer G. Smith  
Colonial Garden Nursery  
PO Box 474  
Drakes Branch VA 23937  
10  
Charlotte

- \* -  
Duane E. Snow  
Snow's Garden Center  
Avon Street Extd.  
Charlottesville VA 22901  
2  
Albemarle

<p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Jim Snyder Riverbend Nursery Route 1, Box 204A Riner VA 24149 18 Montgomery</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Keith A. Stanley The Gardner 12685 Broad Street Road Richmond VA 23233 1 Goochland</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>N. Stettinius White Oak Farm Route 1, Box 256 Middleburg VA 22117 30 Loudoun</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>George Stockner Stockner's Rockville Nursery PO Box 82 Rockville VA 23146 17 Hanover</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>J. Nelson Stuart Towles Point Holly Route 1, Box 93 Reedville VA 22539 4 Northumberland</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Robert Sturgis Big Pine Box 11 Belle Haven VA 23306 5 Accomack</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Nancy Swell Swell Azaleas 505 Baldwin Road Richmond VA 23229 1 Henrico</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Carl W. Spillers 6398 Vale Street Alexandria VA 22312 1 Fairfax</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Glen Sterling Nursery Growers Keller VA 23401 4 Accomack</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Bruce E. Stevens 1035 White Oak Lane Christiansburg VA 24073 1 Montgomery</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Timothy Strickler Bluebird Orchard &amp; Nursery Route 1, Box 352-A Fries VA 24330 1 Grayson</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Stuart-Averette Tidewater Landscape Service PO Box 1010 Chesapeake VA 23322 21 Chesapeake</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Joe Sublett Sublett's Nursery Route 1, Box 261 Newport VA 24128 30 Craig</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Joe E. Swinson, Jr. Swinson's Nursery Route 3, Box 24-A Champlain VA 22438 2 Essex</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Dorothy A. Sproles Holly Creek Nursery Box 232 Keller VA 23401 15 Accomack</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>James Stern Machipongo Nurseries Box 191 Machipongo VA 23405 1 Northampton</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>McHenry L. Stiff, III Round Hill Garden Route 7 Box 196 Round Hill VA 22141 1 Loudoun</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>J.H. Strite Sunshine Plant Farm Route 2, Box 272 Mineral VA 23117 1 Louisa</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>G. and A. Stuck Stuck's Nursery Route 2, Box 141F Franklin VA 23851 6 Southampton</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>Fay S. Sullivan 1112 Little Neck Road Virginia Beach VA 23452 1 Virginia Beach</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- * -</p> <p>David B. Tankard David's Nursery PO Box 926, Route 183 Exmore VA 23350 105 Northampton</p>
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<p>- * - Daniel Taylor Taylor's Nursery Route 6, Box 617 Bristol VA 24201 3 Bristol</p> <p>- * - W.H. Taylor, Jr. Taylor's Nursery RFD 1 Painter VA 23420 20 Accomack</p> <p>- * - Richard Titus Doug's Christmas Tree Farm 1032 Centerville Turnpike Chesapeake VA 23320 45 Chesapeake</p> <p>- * - H.L. Tucker, Jr. Schloss Tucker-Ellis Vineyard RD 1, Box 125-B Waterford VA 22190 3 Loudoun</p> <p>- * - Elmer Vaughan Elmer Vaughan Nursery 29 Robinson Drive Newport News VA 23601 1 Newport News</p> <p>- * - Andre Viette Andre-Viette Farm &amp; Nursery Route 1, Box 16 Fishersville VA 22939 40 Augusta</p> <p>- * - Robert Warren Robert A. Warren Nursery 10708 Timberidge Road Fairfax Station VA 22039 1 Fairfax</p>	<p>- * - R.C. Taylor Clay's Trees and Shrubs 71 Sunset Drive Bristol VA 24201 2 Bristol</p> <p>- * - Robert L. Thomas Fernvale Farms Route 1, Box 163 Rustburg VA 24588 1 Campbell</p> <p>- * - James E. Truitt Mandua Container Nursery 10 Hill Street Onancock VA 23417 1 Accomack</p> <p>- * - D. &amp; S. Vaughan Vaughn's Nursery Route 1, Box 636 Radford VA 24141 1 Radford</p> <p>- * - Elmer Vaughan Elmer Vaughan Nursery 29 Robinson Drive Newport News VA 23601 1 Newport News</p> <p>- * - Joseph Vinsh Old Dominion Tree Farm 6512 West Quaker Road Disputanta VA 23842 3 Prince George</p> <p>- * - Byron E. Mates, Jr. Area Landscaping, Inc. 4118 Olley Lane Fairfax VA 22032 3 Fairfax</p>	<p>- * - W.H. Taylor Taylor Azalea, Inc. RFD Painter VA 23420 4 Accomack</p> <p>- * - Wilbur G. Thorton Thorton's Greenhouse Route 1, Box 188 Hiwassee VA 24347 2 Pulaski</p> <p>- * - D. &amp; V. Tubbs Wilderness Road Farm 407 East Ben Oaks Drive Severna Park MD 21146 50 Mythe</p> <p>- * - Elmer Vaughan Elmer Vaughan Nursery 29 Robinson Drive Newport News VA 23601 1 Newport News</p> <p>- * - Vavin, Inc. Prince Michel Vineyards Star Route 4, Box 77 Leon VA 22725 3 Madison</p> <p>- * - John F. Hampler Algoma Nursery Company Route 4, Box 590 Rocky Mount VA 24151 10 Franklin</p> <p>- * - C. Watkins Watkins Nurseries, Inc. 15001 Midlothian Pike Midlothian VA 23113 600 Chesterfield</p>
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- \* -  
 William W. Watkins  
 Green Hill Nursery  
 401 Old Hundred Road  
 Midlothian VA 23113  
 1  
 Chesterfield

- \* -  
 Dorothy Webb  
 Whayes End Nursery  
 PO Box 310  
 Burgess VA 22432  
 1  
 Northumberland

- \* -  
 Richard P. Wesley  
 12676 River Road  
 Richmond VA 23233  
 1  
 Goochland

- \* -  
 W.T. West, Jr.  
 West Nursery, Inc.  
 Route 10, Box 135  
 Mechanicsville VA 23111  
 3  
 Hanover

- \* -  
 James B. White  
 Whiteoak Gardens  
 Route 4, Box 206-C  
 Lynchburg VA 24503  
 2  
 Lynchburg

- \* -  
 Steve Wilkerson  
 Rainfrost Nursery  
 Route 1, Box 313  
 Forest VA 24551  
 1  
 Bedford

- \* -  
 John D. Williamson  
 Williamson Landscaping, Inc.  
 PO Box 8763  
 Richmond VA 23226  
 1  
 Chesterfield

- \* -  
 Evelyn F. Watts  
 Breezemont Plants  
 PO Box 57  
 Brightwood VA 22715  
 1  
 Madison

- \* -  
 Mike Weber  
 Weber's Nursery  
 99 Lee Avenue  
 Winchester VA 22601  
 1  
 Frederick

- \* -  
 John Wessel  
 Wessel Nursery  
 505 Gawain Court  
 Virginia Beach VA 23464  
 1  
 Newport News

- \* -  
 S & D Wheelbarger  
 Shades of Green Nursery  
 Route 1, Box 317 A  
 Bridgewater VA 22812  
 15  
 Rockingham

- \* -  
 Hugh C. Whitehead  
 Whitehead's Azalea Garden  
 1149 Olive Road  
 Virginia Beach VA 23464  
 1  
 Virginia Beach

- \* -  
 E. Williams, Jr.  
 Dover Nurseries, Inc.  
 111 Deer Keep  
 Richmond VA 23233  
 6  
 Goochland

- \* -  
 Homer S. Willie, Sr.  
 R.R. 11 Box 151  
 Petersburg VA 23803  
 3  
 Petersburg

- \* -  
 Kenneth Weakland  
 Green Planters Garden Center  
 Box 687  
 Hayes VA 23072  
 1  
 Gloucester

- \* -  
 Harry Wells  
 Honesuch Nursery, Inc.  
 Route 1, Box 176  
 Pamplin VA 23958  
 80  
 Prince Edward

- \* -  
 Mrs. D. C. West  
 Woodley Hills Nursery  
 4005 Laurel Road  
 Alexandria VA 22309  
 1  
 Alexandria

- \* -  
 Bob Wherry  
 Bob Wherry's Nursery, Inc.  
 5045 Lee Highway  
 Bristol VA 24201  
 9  
 Washington

- \* -  
 B. J. Whitehurst  
 Whitehurst Landscapes, Inc.  
 536 Clearfield Avenue  
 Chesapeake VA 23320  
 10  
 Chesapeake

- \* -  
 E.S. Williams, Jr.  
 Cherotuck Nurseries, Inc.  
 111 Deer Keep  
 Richmond VA 23233  
 30  
 Goochland

- \* -  
 Earl Wilson  
 2901 Holland Road  
 Virginia Beach VA 23456  
 5  
 Virginia Beach

- \* -  
Joan Wilson  
Jim's Greenhouse  
Route 2, Box 1485  
Chase City VA 23924  
2  
Mecklenburg

- \* -  
Ralph S. Woodruff  
Yule Log X-mas Tree Farm  
7308 Lois Lane  
Lanham MD 20706  
5

- \* -  
M,N & C Wulin  
Hickory Hill Nursery  
Route 1, Box 390-A  
Fishersville VA 22939  
27  
Augusta

- \* -  
T.E. Zeiger  
Zeiger & Sons Greenhouse  
Route 1, Box 180  
Cape Charles VA 23310  
4  
Northampton

- \* -  
Gianni Zonin  
Barboursville Winery, Inc  
PO Box F  
Barboursville VA 22923  
5  
Albemarle

- \* -  
Michael Winesett  
Winesett Nursery  
1853 Plane Circle  
Virginia Beach VA 23454  
1  
Virginia Beach

- \* -  
Frank Worrell  
Kings Dominion Nursery  
Route 1, Box 166  
Doswell VA 23047  
15  
Hanover

- \* -  
William Yagle  
Yagle Nursery, Inc.  
18 Sawyer Drive  
Salem VA 24153  
24  
Salem

- \* -  
Mr. Mark A. Zettel  
Azalea Acres Nursery & L.S.  
6401 Wolf Shoals Road  
Fairfax Station VA 22039  
2  
Fairfax

- \* -  
Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg  
708 Noblin Street  
Radford VA 24141  
2  
Radford

- \* -  
William Winn, Jr.  
Winn Nursery of VA., Inc.  
6926 Granby St.  
Norfolk VA 23505  
215  
Norfolk

- \* -  
Robert D. Wright  
300 Heil Street  
Blacksburg VA 24060  
1  
Montgomery

- \* -  
Charles F. Young  
Glenwood Nurseries & Garden Cen.  
Box 12 Creighton Road  
Richmond VA 23223  
120  
Henrico

- \* -  
Mr. John D. Zirkle  
Zirkle's Evergreens & L.S.  
Route 2, Box 21-A  
Elkton VA 22827  
5  
Rockingham

**Appendix D. Yardwaste Equipment Manufacturers and Vendors (listing does not constitute endorsement).**

## **MATERIALS PREPARATION**

Bandit Industries  
6750 Millbrook Rd.  
Remus, MI 49340  
517-561-2270

Fuel Harvesters Equipment  
12759 Loma Rica Dr.  
Grass Valley, CA 95945  
916-272-7664

Iggesund Recycling  
P. O. Box 380  
Nissawa, MN 56468  
218-963-4343

Jones Manufacturing  
Rt. 1, Box 80  
Beemer, NE 68716  
402-528-3861

Lindig Manufacturing  
Box 106  
St. Paul, MN 55113  
612-633-3072

Promark Products, Inc.  
330 9th Ave.  
Industry, CA 91746  
818-961-9783

Recycling Systems  
P. O. Box 364  
Winn, MI 48896  
517-866-2800

Stumpmaster, Inc.  
P. O. Box 103  
Rising Fawn, GA 30738  
404-462-2445

Valby Woodchippers  
Northeast Implement Corp.  
Box 402, Spencer, NY 14883  
607-589-6160

Farmhand, Inc.  
6421 Hazeltine Blvd.  
Excelsior, MN 55331  
612-474-1941

The Heil Co.,  
Engineered Systems Div.  
P. O. Box 593  
Milwaukee, WI 53201  
414-647-3333

Jacobson, Inc.  
2445 Nevada Ave. North  
Minneapolis, MN 55427  
612-544-8781

Lindemann Recycling  
500 Fifth Ave., Suite 1234  
New York, NY 10110  
212-382-0630

Olathe Manufacturing, Inc.  
100 Industrial Parkway  
Industrial Airport, KS 66031  
913-782-4396

Recomp, Inc.  
1500 East 79th St., Suite 102  
Bloomington, MN 55420  
612-854-6211

Shredding Systems, Inc.  
P. O. Box 869  
Wilsonville, OR 97070  
503-682-3633

Universal Engineering, Div.  
of Pettibone Corp.  
800 First Ave., NW  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405  
319-365-0441

West Salem Machinery Co.  
P. O. Box 5288  
Salem, OR 97304  
503-364-2213



## COMPOST TURNERS

Brown Bear Corp.  
P. O. Box 148  
Lenox, IA 50851  
515-333-4551

Resource Recovery Systems  
of Nebraska, Inc.  
Rt. 4  
Sterling, CO 80751  
303-522-0663

Scarab Manufacturing  
Rt. 2, Box 40  
White Deer, TX 79097  
806-883-7621

Wildcat Manufacturing Co.  
Box 23  
Freeman, SD 57029  
605-925-4512

Eagle Crusher Co., Inc.  
(Cobey Composter)  
4250 S.R. 309  
Galion, OH 44833  
419-468-2288

Kolman/Athey  
P. O. Box 806  
Sioux Falls, SD 57101  
605-336-2610

Scat Engineering  
P. O. Box 266  
Delhi, IA 52223  
319-922-2981

## FINISHING EQUIPMENT

The Heil Co.,  
Engineered Systems Div.  
P. O. Box 593  
Milwaukee, WI 53201

Lindemann Recycling  
500 Fifth Ave.  
New York, NY 10110  
212-382-0630

Parker Manufacturing, Inc.  
18012 Bothell Highway, SE  
Bothell, WA 98012  
206-486-3547

Recycling Systems  
P. O. Box 364  
Winn, MI 48896  
517-866-2800

Royer Industries  
P. O. Box 1232  
Kingston, PA 18704  
717-287-9624

Hobbs-Adams Engineering  
1100 Holland Rd.  
Suffolk, VA 23434  
804-539-0231

Lindig Manufacturing  
Box 106  
1877 West County Rd.  
St. Paul, MN 55113  
612-633-3072

Powerscreen of America  
11300 Electron Dr.  
Louisville, KY 40299  
502-255-5330

Resource Recovery Screens  
P. O. Box 32035  
Detroit, MI 48232  
519-977-9852

West Salem Machinery Co.  
P. O. Box 5288  
Salem, OR 97304  
503-364-2213





