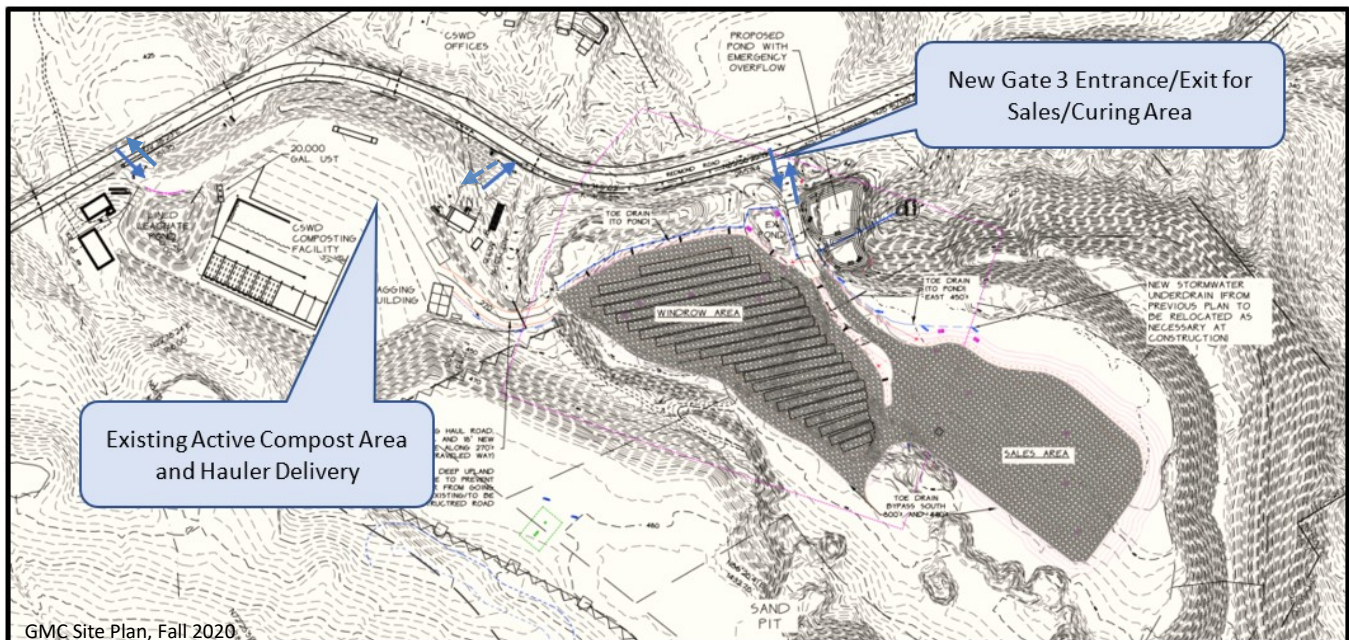


Expanded Sales and Curing Area at Green Mountain Compost (GMC)

CSWD received permits last fall to expand the Sales/Blending and Curing Area at GMC. Construction was completed by SD Ireland over the winter and the new area is ready for a test run (sprint) with spring just around the corner. How does this affect you? By spreading out operations, GMC believes it will be easier for haulers delivering feedstocks to maneuver safely from the scale to the appropriate dumping location. The new curing area is just under 4 acres in size and accommodates several windrows. The Sales/Blending area is just over 2 acres in size and will accommodate stockpiled sales products as well as an area for blending topsoil and garden mix. Both areas were graded and rebuilt to advance run-on and run-off controls including the installation of a new stormwater management system and perimeter road. Feedstock and feedback are appreciated.



By the Numbers

2020 is one number many won't miss. At GMC, the amount of inbound material fell significantly in April, May, and June, down nearly 50% from the 3 previous months. Incoming tonnage rebounded in July yet still topped out roughly 10% lower than the amount received over that same time in 2019. On July 1, 2020, Act 148--the Universal Recycling Law--banned all food scraps from landfill disposal. August through December tonnages increased on average by 20% with the largest increase of 33% occurring in November. Speaking of numbers, the number of licensed food scrap haulers serving our District is currently 17.

By the Hours

If you haven't heard, GMC is reviewing operating hours to allow time for staff to manage materials at the end of the day. Currently, nearly 55% of inbound hauler trips occur before 1pm and 70% before 2pm. At issue are the latecomers or those arriving after 3:30pm – currently about 5% of all trips. GMC is required by permit to manage and store compostable materials to minimize odors and prevent scavenging by birds and other vectors.

Upon arrival, material must be immediately covered and/or incorporated into a mix. This means that if haulers arrive at 3:30 or 3:45, GMC staff often have to stay late to get the material covered. The takeaway... please try to arrive by 3:15pm. If you have thoughts on hours of operation, please contact Dan at dgoossen@greenmountaincompost.com.



Jack and the windrow turner

New Windrow Turner!

This past year, you may have seen a big blue futuristic machine driving around the site at GMC. That is the newly acquired, yet to be named, windrow turner. The turner helps on the front end of processing by breaking down feedstock materials into more readily accessible microbe chow. It helps on the back end by super blending products. And in the middle? Well, it turns windrows.

It's Not Easy Bein' Green

Earlier this year, Green Mountain Compost made the difficult decision to ban food-ware – including certified compostable food-ware – from acceptance at its facility in Williston effective January 1, 2022. The move came after careful consideration of both the advantages and disadvantages of allowing these materials. The main advantage of using compostable products is the move away from single-use plastics to something more sustainable. Unfortunately, sustainable lookalikes and knockoffs abound, and customers understandably have a hard time differentiating one cup/knife/plate from another. If that cup can go in there, why can't mine? The result is a large amount of trash making its way into the mix of soon-to-be compost products.

CSWD will be rolling out a comprehensive messaging campaign over the next 9 months, but as always, we need your help in educating customers. Following is what we will accept starting January 2022:

- Food scraps of any kind
- Certified compostable bags used for lining food scrap containers
- Coffee filters & tea bags (but not "plastic" tea bags)
- Newspaper and untreated paper bags used to line food scrap containers
- Paper towels, napkins, facial tissues – only if they DO NOT contain body fluids or chemicals of any kind
- Wooden or bamboo stirrers, toothpicks (no plastic frills), chopsticks
- Uncoated paper leaf bags*
- Yard and Garden Waste*



Plastic and other 'overs' amongst windrows

*Not to be collected in food waste containers but accepted via drop-off at GMC or CSWD's Drop-Off Centers.

Spotlight on Safety



Green Mountain Compost is in part, a transfer station for organic materials complete with heavy equipment and overly busy personnel. If walking or working around heavy equipment, please make eye contact with and alert the operator to ensure they see you.