



July 15, 2015

Policy for product listings on CSWD & Green Mountain Compost websites

The purpose of our websites is to deliver information and tools that encourage and enable District members to manage solid waste in alignment with CSWD's mission. It is not unusual to receive requests from businesses for us to list their products on our websites.

We currently list several businesses, services, and products on our websites. The challenge is to maintain the websites' effectiveness in delivering tools and info – which includes local resources – without straining our own limited resources arising from having to research whether the vast array of products and services may or may not be in alignment with our mission and worthy of note.

Guidelines for listings/mentions:

- Listings on CSWD/GMC websites must be useful in helping District members adhere to our specifications when they bring us material for disposal, AND must require some amount of product knowledge so that customers will be more likely to purchase and/or use them correctly, thereby minimizing contamination in the District's recycling and compostables streams; for example: compostable plastic bags, compostable plastic food service products, etc.
- Products may only be those that we sell, loan, make available through grants, or give away at our facilities to help District members comply with disposal laws and/or best practices; for example: compost bins, recycling containers, etc.

Products that are widely available and require no CSWD-specific information on their use (such as backyard composting bins, recycling bins, etc.), will not be included on our websites. Exceptions could be considered for inclusion as case studies, blog items, etc., as time allows for products and services that both enable desired waste reduction behavior and where a high degree of sustainability is exercised in the sourcing, manufacturing, or delivery of a service; and products or services that are offered directly through CSWD programs, (such as Soil Savers and Green Cones).

We will make our best effort to include acceptable product/service listings, but it must be recognized that staff determines priority, timing, and treatment of products and services on CSWD websites.

If it is determined that there is more cost in staff time than benefit to our members in opening the website to a wider array of product and service listings, then listings will revert to essentials, which will include listings deemed necessary by staff for fulfilling legal diversion responsibilities of District members.