



NEWS RELEASE

2nd June 2009

Yorwaste reports big demand for recycled compost

Green waste collected from thousands of homes in the Richmondshire and Hambleton areas is now finding its way back into the gardens of people who recycled it in the first place.

Yorwaste, the North Yorkshire recycling and waste management company, has received national accreditation to sell the compost it produces at its Tancred site near Scorton.

Staff at Tancred had to continually improve the standard of compost it was producing in order to meet the strict criteria needed for the national accreditation, known as PAS 100 Quality Protocol.

The compost is being sold to the general public and farmers/horticultural workers in 50-litre bags for just £2.50, and can be used as a soil conditioner in the garden.

A total of 12,000 tonnes of green waste (grass, leaves, weeds, branches etc) collected from kerbsides in the Richmondshire and Hambleton area each year is taken to Tancred for composting, so people who buy the compost from the site are effectively putting it back in their gardens and helping the environment.

Lindsey Skelton, Yorwaste's Site Manager at Tancred, said: "We only received the accreditation to begin selling the compost at the end of April and it is literally flying off the shelves.

"People are very conscious about the need to reuse and recycle and the fact that this is green waste that was originally collected from their own doorstep provides them with an added incentive to buy the product we have produced.

"We spent a year fine tuning our process to meet the very challenging national specification so we are delighted that this labour of love has paid off."

When garden waste is brought into the site at Tancred it is shredded and put onto concrete pads known as windrows. These rows are turned once a week to help oxygen get into it. As it generates heat in the process water is also added to ensure it remains moist.

At the end of the process, the material is then screened according to customer requirement and is then ready to sell as composted soil conditioner. Any larger material is then fed back into the start of the composting process.

The Yorwaste compost is also available for sale at Yorwaste's Household Waste Recycling Centres in Seamer Carr, Scarborough, and Hazel Court, York. The Tancred site can be reached off the B6271 Catterick to Northallerton road. From Catterick turn left at the sign marked waste transfer station.

ENDS.

Notes to Newsdesks/Reporters: A photograph of Yorwaste Site Manager Lindsey Skelton with the compost produced at Tancred is attached on email. In the other photograph Lindsay is pictured putting the compost into bags with the help of Paul Cushley, Yorwaste Plant Operative.

For more information contact:

Neil Shaefer

Email: Shaefer@tiscali.co.uk

Tel: 07732 210262

About Yorwaste:

Yorwaste is an innovative waste management and recycling company owned by North Yorkshire County Council and City of York Council. Managing more than one million tonnes of waste each year, it provides a comprehensive range of services from engineered landfill and recycling to liquid waste treatment and supply landfill gas for power generation.

The company's Yorventure operation supports local communities and has provided more than £7m in grants for approved projects over the past ten years. Further information can be found at www.yorwaste.co.uk