



NEWS RELEASE

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Yorwaste reports record compost sales

Yorwaste, the North Yorkshire recycling and waste management company, is reporting record sales of its nationally accredited compost.

With more people than ever before now recycling their garden waste - helped largely by the kerbside collection services provided by Hambleton and Richmondshire District Councils – Yorwaste is producing more compost at its Tancred site, near Scorton, than at any time in its history.

The quality of this compost is also very high as people are now very careful to ensure that nothing else other than garden waste is put in their green bins.

Along with the mixture of sunny and wet weather, which further improves the quality of compost, this has helped Yorwaste to sell thousands of tonnes compost, which it received national accreditation for in May 2009.

And the company is predicting that sales of the compost will remain high during autumn and winter as people maintain and prepare their gardens for spring/summer 2010.

Lindsey Skelton, Yorwaste's Site Manager at Tancred, said: "We received the national accreditation for the compost in May this year and this has had a major impact on our sales.

"This is because to meet the strict criteria needed for the accreditation we had to continually improve the standard of our compost, and we are now at the stage where we have a high quality product that is sought after by amateur and professional gardeners alike.

"You would expect it to become quieter during the colder months but we are gearing up for it being just as busy as more people continue to work in their gardens over the autumn/winter months.

"Also, the process of taking in the garden waste and then producing the final composted product takes three months, so we effectively do not ever stop producing it."

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.

Councillor Bob Baker, Cabinet Member for Waste, said: "The green waste collections introduced by Hambleton District Council are already removing a huge amount of waste from landfill sites.

"We urge our residents to keep on recycling and take advantage of Yorwaste's compost offer at Tancred, which helps to close the loop on recycling."

The PAS 100 Quality Protocol accredited compost is sold to the general public and farmers/horticultural workers in 50-litre bags for just £2.50.

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.

Yorwaste's Tancred recycling facility can be reached off the B6271 Catterick to Northallerton road, and is open to members of the public. There is now a sign advertising the compost at the entrance to the facility, which is signposted waste transfer station.

The Yorwaste compost is also available for sale at Yorwaste's Household Waste Recycling Centres in Seamer Carr, Scarborough, and Hazel Court, York.

Green waste collections undertaken by Hambleton District Council are suspended over the winter months – the last collection is week commencing 7th December and they restart on week commencing 1st March. There will be one special collection during week commencing 18th January to take Christmas trees.

ENDS.

Notes to Newsdesks/Reporters: A photograph of Yorwaste Site Manager Lindsey Skelton with the compost produced at Tancred is attached on email.

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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