

# SPECIALIZED ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGIES, INC.



The **Mulch** Store

Organics Processing • Mulches • Compost

[www.mulchstoremn.com](http://www.mulchstoremn.com)

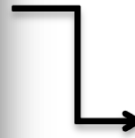




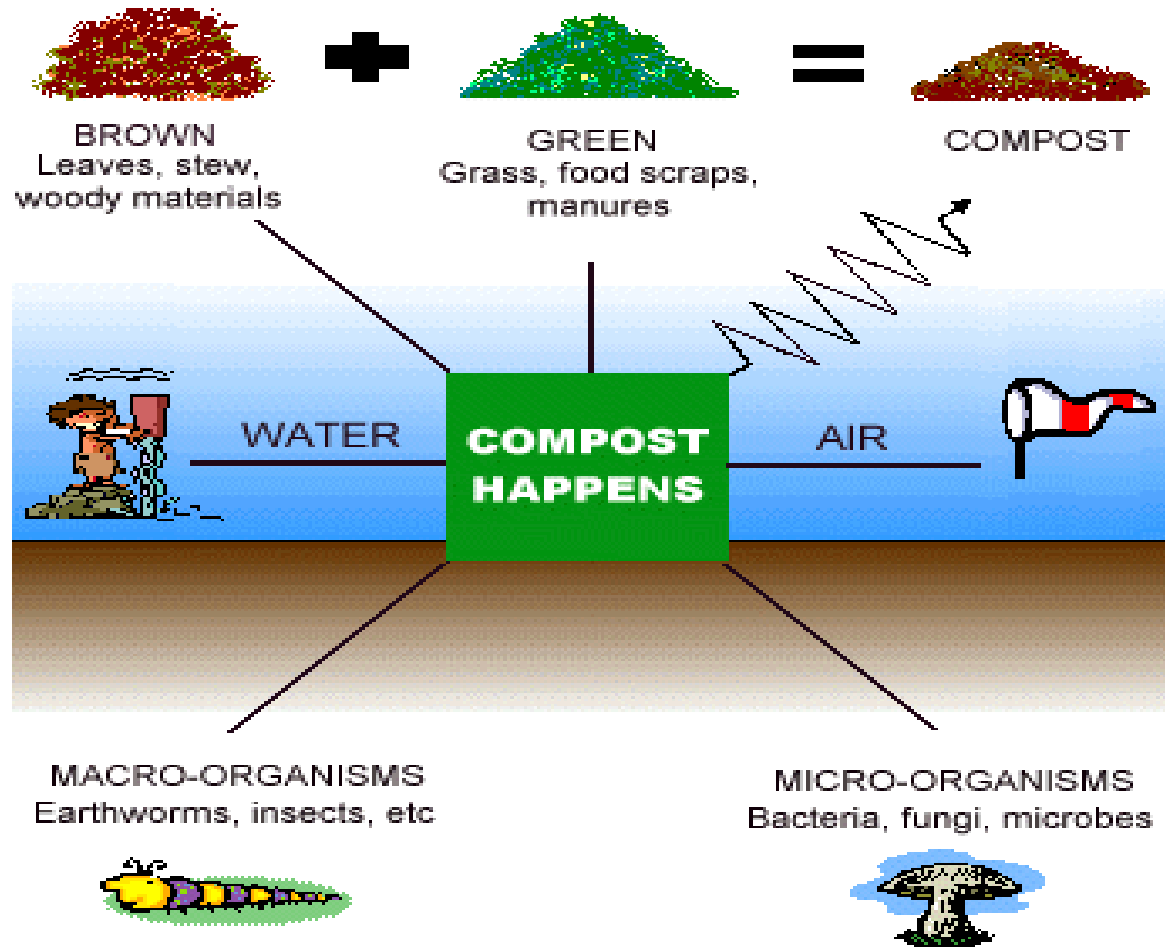
SET/The Mulch Store offers innovative recycling and processing solutions for organics including yard waste, brush, source separated compostables such as food waste mixed with non-recyclable paper and Emerald Ash Borer contaminated materials. SET's processing strategies promote a closed loop system of waste management by recycling organic materials into valuable soil amendments (compost) and mulch. With multiple locations around the Twin Cities metro area, SET processes over 60,000 tons of materials each year. Our environmentally conscientious customer base ranges from commercial waste haulers, governmental units, and corporations to residents, and community gardeners.



# How do Source Separated Compostable Materials actually turn into Compost?



# Composting Basics



# Step 1- Separate Compostable Materials





Materials are separated at homes, schools and businesses.

## Acceptable materials for organics recycling

- All FOOD scraps
- All grass, leaves, yard trimmings, plant trimmings
- All non-recyclable PAPER products
  - Napkins, paper towels, tissues
  - Paper plates, cups & food containers
  - Paper milk & juice cartons (**recycle these instead if available**)
  - Paper bags & waxed paper (fast food wraps, etc.)
  - Coffee grounds, filters & tea bags
  - Pizza boxes
- All compostable products as certified by the Biodegradable Products Institute ([bpiworld.org](http://bpiworld.org))

**DO NOT include PLASTICS of any kind, styrofoam, foil, plastic bottles, condiment packets, chip bags & candy wrappers.**

## Step 2- Collection & Transportation



Waste haulers collect the materials and deliver it to the SET Empire Organics Processing facility using a variety of trucks.





## Step 3 - Delivery



Source Separated Materials from schools, businesses and homes are delivered.



Lots and.....





Lots and.....





## Lots of Source Separated Materials.



Minnesota State Rules 7035.2836 govern composting operations.

**Source Separated Compostable Materials must be processed on an impermeable pad**

7035.2836 subp.4 item D. The composting, curing, and storage areas for immature compost must be located on a liner capable of minimizing migration of waste or leachate into the subsurface soil, groundwater, and surface water. The liner must have a permeability no greater than  $1 \times 10^{-7}$  centimeters per second and, if constructed of natural soils, be at least two feet thick. The liner must comply with part [7035.2855](#), subparts 3, item A; 4; and 5.



## Step 4- Mixing



Materials are mixed to obtain the proper C:N ratio and moisture levels.



## Step 5 – Creation of Composting Piles





## Step 5 (cont.) – Pile Creation Cont.

Once mixed, materials are placed onto aeration pipes to optimize and maintain proper oxygen levels for composting.



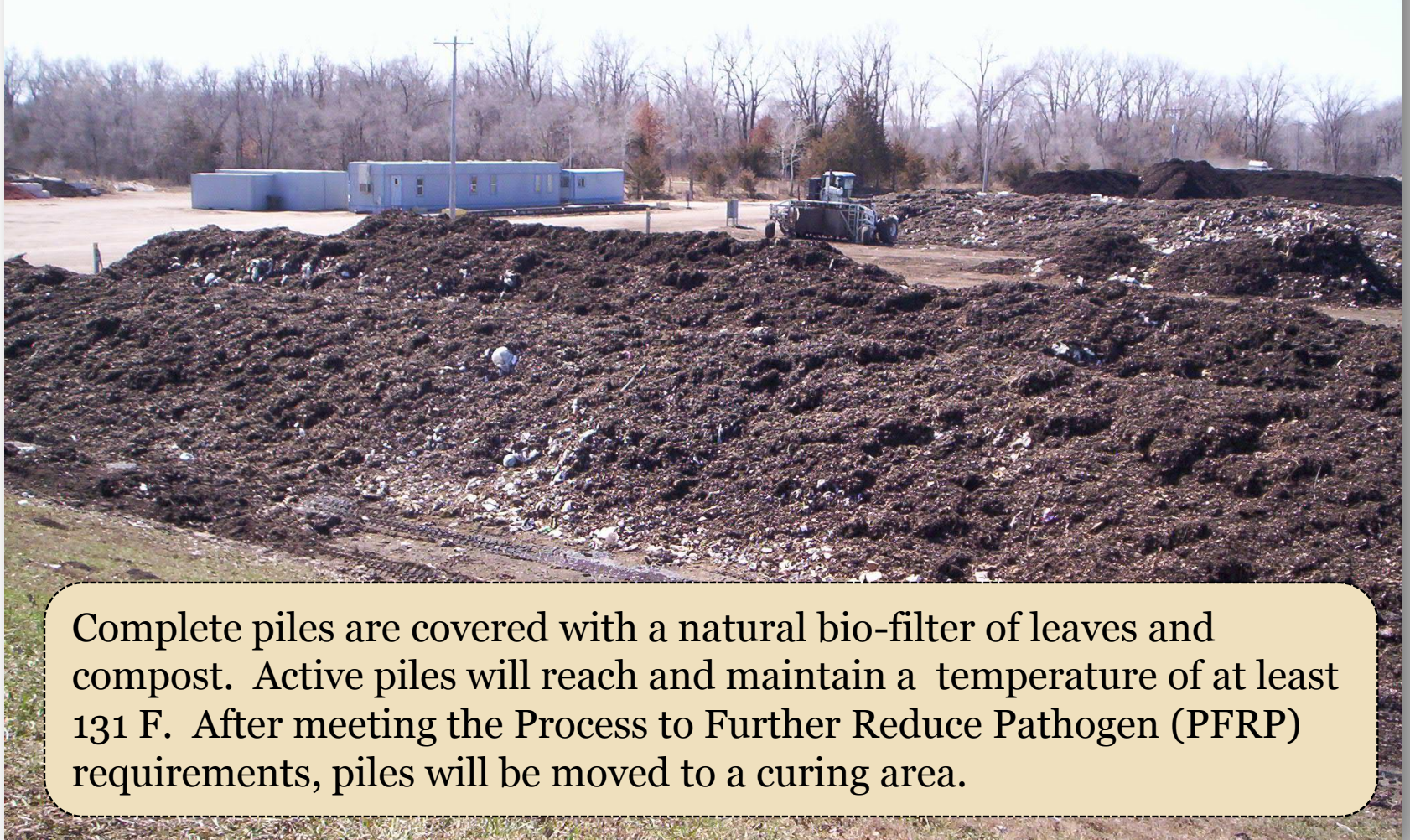




Blowers cycle on and off to keep adequate oxygen levels in piles and maintain an aerobic environment.



## Step 6 – Active Composting



Complete piles are covered with a natural bio-filter of leaves and compost. Active piles will reach and maintain a temperature of at least 131 F. After meeting the Process to Further Reduce Pathogen (PFRP) requirements, piles will be moved to a curing area.



## Step 7 - Screening



Finished compost is screened to remove contaminants.



## Step 8 – Testing Finished Compost



SET is a member of the US Composting Council (USCC) and participates in its Seal of Testing Assurance Program ('STA') which is a compost testing, labeling and information disclosure program.

## Bringing Compost Back to the Community



SET is working on new ways to get our finished compost back to the communities that are participating in organics recycling.





For the second year, The Mulch Store and ISD 197 are teaming up to offer compost to families and staff, just in time for spring gardening! The compost is from our own lunch rooms, bringing our recycling efforts full circle!! Use nutrient rich compost to fertilizer lawns, gardens and pots.

Compost opportunity for the whole community!  
"Turning Your Lunch into food for the Earth"

### PICK UP DATES:

April- 21, 28,  
May- 4, 5, 12, & 19

### TIME:

10:00 am - 1:00 pm

### LOCATION:

Sibley High School  
west of the track  
& field.

### COST:

\$2.00 per 5 gallon pail  
\$5.00 per 15 gallons

### WHAT TO BRING:

Your own bags, pails or tarp  
for pick up.



Henry Sibley  
students will be  
available to  
help load.

Contact Lisa Johnson if you  
have any questions.

# Compost for Sale!

ISD 197 compost opportunity for the whole community!  
"Turning Your Lunch into food for the Earth"

For the second year, The Mulch Store and ISD 197 are teaming up to offer compost to families and staff, just in time for spring gardening! The compost is from our own lunch rooms, bringing our recycling efforts full circle!! Use nutrient rich compost to fertilizer lawns, gardens and pots.

**Pick up Dates:** April 21st, 28th, May 4th, 5th, 12th and 19th

**Time:** 10:00 pm -1:00 pm

**Location:** Sibley High School, west of the track & field

**Cost:** \$2.00 per 5 gallon pail \$5.00 for 15 gallons

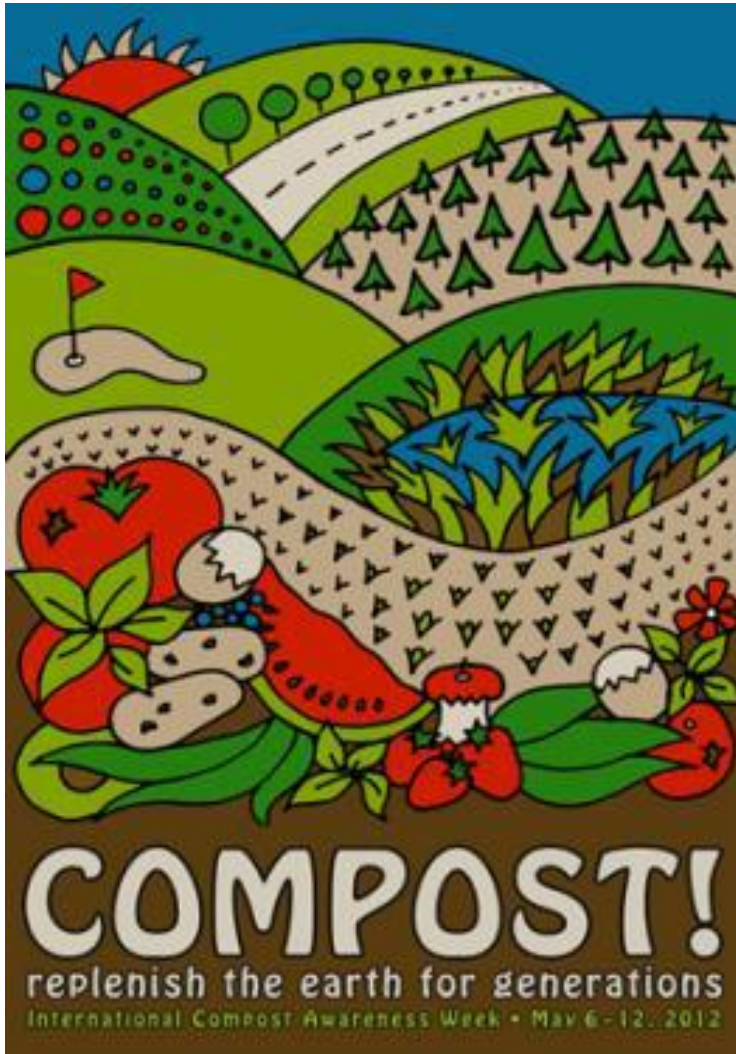
**What to Bring:** your own bags, pails or tarp for pick up

Henry Sibley students will be available to help load

Contact Lisa Johnson if you have any questions, [lisa.johnson@isd197.org](mailto:lisa.johnson@isd197.org)







Celebrate!

International Compost  
Awareness Week

May 7-12, 2012

# Community Garden Compost Rates 2012

The Mulch Store will be offering a special discounted rate of \$8/yd for all Community Gardens this season. Normal delivery fees will apply.

## Gardening Matters!

Gardening Matters is a nonprofit dedicated to promoting and preserving community gardening across the Twin Cities by connecting gardeners to each other and to the communities in which they reside. We provide training and resources to support community gardeners in achieving community gardens that are successful and sustainable.

<http://www.gardeningmatters.org/>



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